CALENDAR

Tuesday January 2
9:30am
Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five, Rte 134 Dennis

Tuesday January 16
10:30am
Guest Speaker Nancy Brumback
LWVMA Legislative Chair
speaking on State Legislative Process
Sponsored by our Legislative Committee
Sandwich Library

Monday January 22
6pm
County Government 101
Cape Media Center, Shad Hole Road, Dennis Port

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday February 6
9:30am
Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five, Rte 134 Dennis

Saturday February 10
5:30 - 8:30pm
Forum “On The Media”
Cape Media Center, Shad Hole Rd., Dennis Port

www.lwvcapecod.org

www.facebook.com/LWV

www.members.lwvcapecod.org
Nancy Brumback, Chair of LWVMA Legislative Action Committee
coming to speak to us in Sandwich, January 16 at 10:30am
From Renate Sands, Legislative Committee

“Mass Action – Your Voice in Legislation” is the title Nancy Brumback has chosen for her talk to us on the 16th of this month at the Sandwich Library.

As chair of the LWVMA Legislative Action Committee, Nancy is planning to talk about how bills make their way through the Legislature’s two-year session, each followed by a designated League legislative specialist who researches the bill, recommends League action and writes testimony on the League’s position to submit to the relevant committee of the Legislature. She will also share with us how we, as individual members, can support/advocate for those bills.

The meeting will be held in the basement of the library (coffee will be available).

There are many fine restaurants in Sandwich (Dan’l Webster Inn, Beth’s Bakery and Café, Café Chew, Uncommon Café. (Belfry Bistro is closed on Tuesdays. Fisherman’s View Seafood Market and Restaurant is located overlooking the Canal, (5 minute drive). Other sights: Thornton Burgess Museum, Glass Museum, antique shops, The Sandwich Boardwalk, Dexter Grist Mill.

The Library is located in the middle of Sandwich Village, across from Dan’l Webster Inn, where Main Street and Route 130 converge.

Tuesday, January 16th, 10:30 AM
Sandwich Library
142 Main St, Sandwich, MA 02563
www.sandwichpubliclibrary.com
508.888.0625

All LWV members and guests welcome.
RSVP Amy Harris

“COUNTY GOVERNMENT 101”
Everything you need to know about Barnstable County and how it’s governed
On Monday, January 22nd at 6pm, we’ll gather at the Cape Media Center on Shad Hole Road in Dennis to meet with the leaders of Barnstable County -- County Commission Chair Leo Cakounes, Assembly of Delegates Chair Suzanne McAuliffe and Jack Yunits, County Administrator. Please join us ~ bring a guest as well as your questions about what’s going on at the County.
RSVP amyharrisjge@gmail.com

Cape Cod Community Media Center
17 Shad Hole Rd., Dennis Port -- Rte 134 south to Rte 28, left at lights, 2nd right. 508.394.2388
FROM CO-PRESIDENT SCOTTI FINNEGAN

Happy New Year! I hope this issue of the Voter finds you and your family well and looking ahead to a joyful and prosperous 2018!

Just before Christmas the emails poured into our homes faster than could be read. Not holiday greetings but messages about social issues: the Safe Communities Act; announcement of a public hearing on Proposed Resolution 17-10: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) 287g as it relates to the Barnstable County Sheriff’s Office; Automatic Voter Registration (AVR); questions on the date for the Mass. Fall primaries; agenda for the LWVCCA January Board Meeting, and requests for donations to non-profits and social associations, including the LWV, committed to doing good.

On December 24, I stopped reading not only to focus on my family and friends but also because I had no idea where to begin. Then a colleague on the LWVMA board reminded me of the following quote on the LWVMA Facebook page: "For 97 years, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts has led the way in Massachusetts. Today, the League's calm, unbiased, and informed voice is more important than ever." I knew where I would begin - with you.

LWVCCA needs every member to commit to the words: “...calm, unbiased, and informed voice…” Every issue that comes into our email or snail mail reminds us of the reality that democracy is not a spectator sport – is an issue we must understand then determine if our individual voices and/or our collective League voice needs to be heard. We cannot take on every issue, but through the dynamic work of our committees we can and will impact issues of importance to our democracy. Please reconsider your active engagement in the League. Long time members and new members all have a place at the table. Consider chairing a committee or participating actively in the work of a committee. Check our handbook and review each committee and its work. We will be discussing the re-formation of our Environmental Committee, while committees that have been inactive can be revitalized with new focus and re-energized commitment. Many committees continue to fully impact the conversation on voting, youth services, and improving communication. Member Services, Youth Services, Voter Services, and Legislation can serve as models for other committees that need leadership and member participation. We need to streamline important work in order to fully engage you in an issue that fits your commitment to civic education and advocacy. Also, it is vital to our growing membership that the role of town liaison be re-defined. The LWVCCA represents 15 towns. Often events and meetings are held on the mid- and lower Cape—leaving members on the upper and outer Cape to commute to everything. This must change if the LWVCCA is to be fully committed to the mission and principles of the LWV. I ask that you consider this role or join with another member as co-liasons. The role is simple: personal outreach to members in your town about League positions, committee work, events, and accomplishments. Organize a breakfast, lunch, or wine and cheese to connect to neighbor-members and to be informed about the LWVCCA.

2018 will be an important moment in our democracy. Educating citizens to: register to vote, be informed voters, and to vote must be the focus of LWVCCA work this year. The commitment of every member counts. Your activism is necessary. I look forward to working, learning and advocating with you in 2018.

Scotti
MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
From Membership Chairs Phyllis Walsh & Matti Ligon

As we’re sure you’ve noticed, our membership numbers have soared in this election year. We are now 104 and growing! We of the Membership Committee, with the entire Board, are doing our best to keep our information accurate and up to date. You can help by notifying us immediately of any mistakes in your listing in the Handbook or website. Listed below are some corrections we ask you to make in your Handbook…as well as information about new members--also for the Handbook.

Corrections:
Jane Beaudin, Brewster -- Add email
Jan Hively, Yarmouth -- Correct email
Mary Utt, Orleans -- Correct email to

And welcome new members:
Suzanne Brock, S. Dennis -- Suzanne has an extensive professional background in the biological and environmental fields and chairs a number of non-profits here on the Cape. And, as of our latest board meeting, she has agreed to chair a revitalized LWVCCA Environment Committee! (THANK you, Suzanne!) If you have an interest in helping this committee, please contact Suzanne at

Christina Joyce, Harwich Port -- Christine hails from Madawaska, Maine, which is about as far north as you can get in Maine. (See her email address below.) But after attending college in Maine, she moved to the other side of the continent, to San Francisco, where she lived for the next 40 years, vacationing frequently on the Cape. In 2011, she retired here permanently, living in Harwich and becoming involved in the community. Active on the Harwich Conservation Trust, Christina is also a member of the town’s Voter Information Committee, where she met Judy Thomas who was moderating a candidates’ debate and encouraged her to join LWVCCA.
Please add Christina to your Handbook:

Valerie Lee, Mashpee -- Valerie attended Stanford in her native California. Over ten years of married life, she lived in Paris, Abu Dhabi and West Africa. Her marriage ended and she attended Harvard Graduate School of Education where she earned her PhD -- and moved on to Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan, where she taught for the next 25 years, teaching doctoral students and publishing some eighty-five articles and books on social equity (race, class, gender) in education. In 2007, Valerie moved to the Cape and built a home in Mashpee where she quickly got to know some of our active Mashpee member and joined our League. Valerie can be reached at

Ann Ryan, Chatham -- Though born in Cambridge, Ann was raised and educated in California. Her career there was as a true entrepreneur, founding and participating in a variety of successful business ventures. She was CEO for a video post-production firm serving, among others, PBS. She was active in the financial services field for a number of years. She founded and ran an
Continued from page 4

organic ice cream company called Beachy Cream (sic) before taking off with her two Chihuahuas on a cross-continent trek to Cape Cod and specifically Chatham, where she and her family had vacationed throughout their lives. Ann is an avid cook, walker, reader and dog lover. She’s also a writer and plans to publish a memoir this spring titled, “Dream House: Growing Up with the Father of Barbie”. Watch for it come spring.

Ann is living at

HIGHLIGHTS
LWVCCA Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 2, 2018, 9:30 AM
Cape Cod Five Conference Room, Dennis MA

The January Board meeting was well attended including new member Suzanne Brock. Co-President Amy Harris announced that program planning (National, State and Local) will take up most of the February agenda. All members are encouraged to attend any and all Board meetings, and are particularly urged to attend and participate in local planning. Membership is at 104; finances are good.

Upcoming events:
● January 9: Field Service meeting at Mattapoisett Library.
● January 16: “Mass Action – Your Voice In Legislation,” Sandwich Library, 10:30 AM. Nancy Brumback, Chair, LWVMA Legislative Action Committee, will speak on how the state committee works within the legislative process.
● January 22: County Government Forum, Media Center (Dennis), 6 PM.
● January 31: Advocacy Day at the State House.

Recent activities:
● A LWVCCA-approved statement was read at the January 3 Assembly of Delegates meeting re: opposition to ICE 287(g) and endorsement of proposed Resolution 17-10.
● The Board approved upgrading the website to a new framework that offers improved security and features. Members are encouraged to comment and suggest changes.
● Reviving the Environment committee is important and the Board will be canvassing members for interest in participation.
● The Youth Service committee is working with towns to put on debates for contested elections. Currently 3 towns on the Cape do this.

Get involved:
● Members are encouraged to advocate with state legislators for passage of the Safe Communities Act (S1305/H3269) and to support Automatic Voter Registration (H2091/S373), urging House Speaker DeLeo to bring it to the floor for a vote.
SOME WAYS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN LEAGUE EFFORTS
HELP US MAKE DEMOCRACY WORK!

HELP THE VOTER SERVICE TEAM
Contact: Debbie Beal and/or Anita Rogers
1. Offer debates for candidates at election time; members help by serving as timekeepers, greeters, card sorters and as a moderator. We train people to serve as moderators.
2. Register voters
3. Help underrepresented populations in voter participation to become more active and informed (Continues…)

PARTICIPATE IN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY
Contact: Renate Sands
1. Based on League legislative action alerts, contact our state and national legislators.
2. Participate in our Legislative Breakfast in the Spring
3. Attend the state League Day on the Hill
4. Help our legislative liaisons follow bills at the state level.
5. Monitor key issues at the local level

HELP US PLAN PROGRAMS THAT EDUCATE OUR MEMBERS AND VOTERS ON IMPORTANT POLICY ISSUES
Contact: Scotti Finnegan
Help organize educational forums on relevant policy issues with experts on the topic
1. Identify speakers for public forums and membership meetings
2. Plan programs for local cable access

HELP US SUPPORT YOUTH
Contact: Karen Mazza
1. Raise money to provide grants to schools to support action civics projects
2. Offer voter preregistration and registration at the schools for students who are 16 – 18
3. Help students plan a forum for their school on an important policy issue
4. Help students understand local government by helping to create awareness of what local government does through speakers and local civic awareness activities

MONITOR COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Contact: Scotti Finnegan Study History Judy Thomas
1. Observe county government meetings and keep the Board posted on any major new developments
2. Help inform the public about what county government does  

Continues...
How you can get involves, cont’d

PARTICIPATE IN HEALTH ISSUES
Contact: Amy Harris
1. Monitor proposed changes to ACA
2. Ensure inclusion of behavioral health as part of a basic level of care
3. Attend Health Committee meetings

BECOME A TOWN LIAISON FOR YOUR TOWN
Contact: Phyllis Walsh Scotti Finnegan
1. Update the board and the membership on issues in your town.
2. Act as a liaison with League members in your town by contacting them by phone and/or email about upcoming LWVCCA events/activities

OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY-- TO EXPAND CIVIC PARTICIPATION
1. Maintain communication with other civic education and advocacy groups and form partnerships where desirable – Scotti Finnegan
2. Recruit members – Phyllis Walsh or Matilda Ligon
3. Get creative with other League members at the Cape Cod Community Media Center to create a video Public Service Announcements and other civic education video programming – Pat Ryle

PARTICIPATE IN LWV STUDIES
Contact: Amy Harris or Scotti Finnegan The League at the national, state and local level develops policy position statements through the process of participating in a study on the policy issue in question. This involves reading study materials provided and meeting with your local League to reach consensus on the study questions. In the coming year, the Massachusetts League will begin preparation of materials to support a study on the ballot question process and ballot campaigns. This study was initiated because of the large sums of money now being spent on ballot questions.

ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS
1. Board Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month September – June and are open to all members. This is a good way to become aware of the activities of the League (“what’s going on”).
2. Volunteer to serve on the Board.

LEND YOUR SKILLS TO HELP US MANAGE THE LEAGUE
1. Communications
2. Fundraising/Development
3. Finance/Accounting
To the Editor:

By adopting early voting last year, Massachusetts took an important step in making our electoral process work better for everyone. We now have the chance to take another key step to expand our democracy with **Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)**.

AVR automatically registers eligible Massachusetts residents to vote when they interact with the Registry of Motor Vehicles or another state agency which offers voter registration. Residents can always choose to opt out. Updates to a voter's information is also possible during these AVR interactions, ensuring the most accurate voting rolls possible.

Nine states and Washington, D.C. have already passed AVR, and the early results are very promising. In Oregon, over 230,000 new voters were added to the rolls, and more than 97,000 of these new voters participated in the 2016 election. AVR also corrected 570,000 inaccurate addresses in Oregon.

AVR makes our electoral process more secure. By eliminating the need for paper registration forms and by increasing security procedures, AVR lessens the chance of human error and increases the accuracy and security of our voter rolls.

The League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area urges the Legislature to pass Automatic Voter Registration. Please contact your state Senator and Representative and ask them to support this important election reform.

Scotti Finnegan
Amy Harris

Co-Presidents, League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area
## 2017-2018 LWVCCA BOARD

### Officers (one-year term)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Presidents</td>
<td>Scotti Finnegan</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Amy Harris</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Carlyn Carey*</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Mary Hunter Utt</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ira Seldin</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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### Directors (two-year term)

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<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Carlyn Carey</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Phyllis Walsh</td>
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<td>Matti Ligon</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
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<td>Voter Service</td>
<td>Debbie Beal</td>
<td>2016-2018</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Anita Rogers</td>
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<td>Voter Editor</td>
<td>Nancy Erskine</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative</td>
<td>Renate Sands</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>Amy Harris</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
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<td>Youth Service</td>
<td>Karen Mazza</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>County Government</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Large</td>
<td>Florence Seldin</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Large</td>
<td>Jari Rapaport</td>
<td>“ “</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Large</td>
<td>Judy Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Large</td>
<td>Richard Utt</td>
<td>“ “</td>
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**REMEMBER that ALL members are welcome at our Board meetings, first Tuesday of each month at the Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank branch on Route 134 in Dennis. (You’ll be amazed at what you’ll learn!)**