

## November 2019

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# CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 6 7:00 pm	The Human Element Movie on Human causes of Climate change. Free and open to the Public	Plymouth Public Library
Saturday, November 9, 2019 10:00 to 2:00 PM	Mass. Memories Road Show Plymouth Public Library has invited the Plymouth Area League to participate in day of collecting memories of Plymouth in photography form. We are asked to bring 3 photos and can give and oral description of their importance.	Plymouth Public Library 132 South Street
Saturday, December 12, 5:30 pm	<b>Plymouth Area LWV Holiday Party</b> Join other League members for a casual evening of merry making and celebrate our accomplishments. RSVP required.	Kathy Dunn's home
Saturday, January 4, 2020 9:15 AM	Monthly Board Meeting Meeting of the Board of Directors, all members welcome	TD Bank Pinehills downstairs conference rm
Thursday, February 6, 2020 7:00 PM	Monthly Board Meeting Meeting of the Board of Directors, all members welcome. Facilitator: Deanna Neale	Mary LeSueur's home
Thursday, February 27, 2020 7:00 PM	<b>Diversity Event</b> LWV and No Place for Hate present a program on "Implicit Bias and It's Effect on Communities"	Great Hall, Plymouth Town Hall
Tuesday, March 3, 2020 6:00 PM	Iron Jawed Angels Movie about the final year of effort to earn the right to vote for Women. Free!	Plymouth Public Library
March 7, 2020 , 9:15	Monthly Board Meeting Meeting of the Board of Directors, all members welcome.	TD Bank Pinehills downstairs conference rm
Saturday, March 14, 2020 2:00 PM	Women's History Month Community Tea Celebrate Women's History Month, the 100th Anniversary of Women's right to vote and the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters. Susan B Anthony Portrayer will entertain at a lovely community tea. Come Dressed in period costume.	Plymouth Public Library 132 South Street
Saturday, March 21, 2020 11:00 am	<b>Books 'n Brunch reads "The Women's Hour"</b> Book discussion of "The Women's Hour" by Elaine Weiss. Enjoy a light brunch and interesting discussion.	Plymouth Public Library 132 South Street
Sunday, March 29, 2020 1:00 PM	6th Annual Civics Bee Friendly contest between local high school teams to show off their knowledge of Civics.	PCIS Little Theatre Long Pond Road
Thursday, April 2, 2020 7:00 PM	Monthly Board Meeting Meeting of the Board of Directors, all members welcome. Fac: Judy Savage	Mary LeSueur's home
Saturday, May 2, 2020 9:15 AM	Monthly Board Meeting Meeting of the Board of Directors, all members welcome. Facilitator: Martha Vautrain	TD Bank Pinehills downstairs conference rm
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SFFILM FESTIVAL

WE ARE A FORCE OF NATURE. AS WE CHANGE THE ELEMENTS, THE ELEMENTS CHANGE US.

HUMAN ELEMENT

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **TONIGHT!**

League of Women's Voters and Citizens' Climate Lobby

# **Free Film Screening**

followed by

# Discussion

Wed, November 6, 2019

### 7:00pm

**Plymouth Public Library** 

132 South St., Plymouth, MA

#### Light Refreshments

We humans are a force of nature. At the same time human activities alter the basic elements of life – earth, air, water, and fire – those elements change human life in turn.

In this riveting and visually rich drama, blending art and science, we follow renowned environmental photographer James Balog as he explores wildfires, hurricanes, sea level rise, a struggling coal mining community, and our changing air supply. With rare compassion and heart, **THE HUMAN ELEMENT** highlights Americans who are on the frontlines of climate change, inspiring us to re-evaluate our relationship with the natural world.

Plymouth Area League of Women Voters – <u>www.plymouthlwv.org</u> South Shore & Cape Chapter, Citizens' Climate Lobby: @CCLSouthShore

# March in the Thanksgiving Parade



Saturday morning November 23, 2019. Anyone wanting to walk as a suffragist in the parade with the Antiquarian Society and their float, please contact Martha Vautrain at 508 746 8606. We hope to march again in the 2020 parade, 100 suffragists strong.

There's a <u>Victorian Suffragette Costume Kit</u> with sash and rosette cheap at amazon, or make yourself a sash and join the parade!



**MEMBERS – STEP UP – VOLUNTEER – WE NEED YOU** to get involved. Please Volunteer to Chair the Voter Service Committee. If you can't do that, please join a committee.

# 2020 February Event...Save the Date

# Implicit Bias and its Effect on Communities

On Thursday, February 27th at the Great Hall of Plymouth Town Hall, the LWV and No Place for Hate will present a program on "Implicit Bias and It's Effect on Communities". We will have a keynote speaker and panel representing several communities who are often victims of implicit bias.

The keynote speaker will address the topic of bias and ways to recognize it within ourselves. The panel will discuss personal experiences with bias and the ways it effects members of their community. We intend to have panelists representing the Moslem, LGBTQ, Jewish, Wampanoag and Disabled Communities. Plymouth Area League of Women Voters cordially invites you to its Annual Holiday Social

# December 12, 2019 5:30pm At the home of Kathy Dunn 85 Warren Avenue, Plymouth R.S.V.P. Ph 781-588-3074 or email: gordod1@comcast.net See Next Page for Directions

The PALWV Holiday Social offers members ,old and new, the time to share a relaxing moment during the holiday season. We will be serving appetizers, beverages, finger sandwiches and desserts. Feel free to bring a friend who might be interested in learning more about the League. We look forward to this informal social gathering and hope you will put it on your calendar.

Directions: We are on the non water side off Warren Ave up an access rd with no designation. Coming from the South (beach) we are on the left, the second access rd. after Sunrise Ave. You will see our post with the # 85. From Jabez Corner, we are 1/2 mile on the right. You will see a natural picket fence and turn right. at the end of the fence. We are the second driveway on the left. Feel free to park in the driveway along the road or on our grass. Ph 781-588-3074

# MARCH 2020 WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE 19th AMENDMENT

The Plymouth Area LWV is collaborating with the Plymouth Public Library to commemorate the centennial of the 19th amendment passage by Congress in 1920--The events planned in March 2020 at the library are:

- Throughout the month of March, books on the Suffragists movement will be on display made available for reading
- March 3, Tuesday--6pm--Film-"IRON JAWED ANGELS" -- OTTO FEHLOW ROOM--This compelling film tells the story of Alice Paul and her group of suffragists working in DC for women's right to vote...It is a powerful narrative starring Hilary Swank as Alice Paul--depicting their struggle and the resistance they met as they persisted for the cause of women's rights.
- March 14, Saturday-2pm-- TEA AND SUFFRAGISTS -- We encourage sashes and dresses in the suffragists style--colors white, purple and gold. Tea and refreshments will be served--Re-enactor, Susan B. Anthony, by Jessica Piaia, will give an authentic presentation of Anthony's life and dedication to women's right to vote.
- March 21 Saturday--11 am-BOOKS N' BRUNCH--Book--"THE WOMEN'S HOUR' by Elaine Weiss will be discussed--Other book clubs are encouraged to read the book and join in the discussion. Brunch will be served.

All of these events will be held in the Otto fellow Room at the main Plymouth Public Library. Thank you Director, Jennifer Harris and Asst. Director, Jen Jones for their generous help in planning this program with the Plymouth LWV.



# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# NUCLEAR

#### **Developments since the last Bulletin:**

On September 25th, Attorney General Maura filed a suit in the D.C. Court of Appeals demanding that the NRC stay the license transfer until outstanding issues of concern—e.g. financial accountability, security, monitoring, and emergency plans—-be fully aired and resolved. See local coverage: <u>https://plymouth.wickedlocal.com/news/20190926/plymouth-officials-praise-ag-lawsuit-over-pilgrim-decision</u>.

In the meantime, Holtec, which took over the plant in late August, has received a permit from the Conservation Commission to build a "haul path" of about a half mile, so as to be able transport the 17 dry casks from their current site (on a concrete slab known as an ISFSI pad) that lies barely 150' from the shore of Cape Cod Bay, to a site further back and higher. Ultimately all the dry casks—63 of them—will be placed on the new ISFSI pad some 350 ' from Rocky Hill Road. That is a problem because as currently designed, the casks will stand out in the open, visible and easily accessible by bad actors. At the very least, they must be screened. In truth they should be contained within a secure building—walled and roofed and fully monitored—or bermed into a hillside. Each casks weighs as much as seven adult male African elephants and contains more than half the Cesium-137 released at Chernobyl. For minimal safety requirements, these casks must be securely covered, contained and out of sight. The Select Board will request some form of screening when they meet with Holtec on September 28th. Holtec is likely resist such a request because it costs money. Stay tuned.

On Beacon Hill, in mid-October, Vinny deMacedo filed emergency legislation to change the composition of the Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens Advisory Panel (NDCAP), which, as NDCAP Chair Sean Mullins so eloquently explained at the NRC meeting in September, has been dysfunctions thanks to its composition: the licensee (formerly Entergy, now Holtec) have voting representatives on the panel; and ex officio representatives from state agencies, also on the board, are constrained by law from voting. That has made a quorum or any meaningful action impossible; it has also effectively squelched citizens' voices. Vinny's bill would dis-empanel the Holtec representatives and retain the ex officio members but only as non-voting members. Will it succeed? To date not a single Pilgrim-related bill has been voted successfully out of committee. Our house representative, Matt Muratore, who was at the League legislative evening on the 24th, expressed gloom about the chances for any Pilgrim legislation—thanks to the power of the nuclear lobby on Beacon Hill.

What can you do? As Diane Turco says, "Stay alarmed." As Mary Lampert says, "Be active, not radioactive." One small action can make a difference. Here are a couple of 'easy actions'.

#### Support our AG's efforts.

Email NRC chair Kathleen Svinicki as follows. *To:* <u>chairman@nrc.com</u>. *Subject line*: Serious concerns about Holtec. *CC:* your local representatives and the AG's office at <u>seth.schofield@state.ma.us</u>. *Body of the email*: a sentence or two expressing the need for greater financial accountability security, monitoring, emergency planning. *Be sure to sign* your name, address and phone number.

#### Support Vinny's new legislation

Email Chairs of the Jt. Committee on Rules as follows **To:** <u>Joan.Lovely@masenate.gov</u>, <u>William.Galvin@mahouse.gov</u>, <u>Daniel.Hunt@mahouse.gov</u>, <u>Joseph.Boncore@masenate.gov</u>. **CC:** Vinny deMacedo: <u>vinny.demacedo@masenate.gov</u>. **Subject line:** In Support of SD.2570 (deMacedo), An Act relative to the operations of the Pilgrim NDCAP amending the composition of the panel. **Body of the email:** Say (in your own voice) that the NDCAP is supposed to represent citizen's voices, but as it is now, citizens are outnumbered by nuclear industry reps who do not represent our interests together with state reps who are enjoined from meaningful votes. Its composition must be amended, as this bill proposes. Keep it brief —a couple of sentences. **Be sure to sign** your name, address and phone number.

Questions? Thoughts? Email or call me: <u>henrietta.cosentino@gmail.com</u>; 323-868-3296

## SUSTAINABILITY

Synopsis of Sustainability Committee, October 28, 2019

Details were finalized for the upcoming film showing on 11/6. Refreshments - Cider (Linda), Cookies etc (Mary, Lois, Judy) Water etc (Library) Publicity – Linda Facilitators – Linda & Judy Relevant Materials - Linda Future showings – 12/5 - Plymouth Center for Active Living

Town Planner Lee Hartman has added Judy Savage & Evelyn Strawn to the MVG Core Committee. Next meeting will be held Tuesday, 10/29. The committee had an extensive discussion focused on the adverse impact in Plymouth of anticipated sea surges.....Linda urged committee members to support proposed federal bill HR 763 by joining activists who are writing letters to our own legislator (Bill Keating) urging that he be a co-sponsor of the proposed <u>Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.</u>

The discussion of the impact of future "surging seas" consequences to Plymouth's water caused further consideration to broaden and/or refocus our intended future forum on our ponds. This issue will be the subject of our <u>next meeting scheduled for Monday, 11/25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30.</u> Linda suggested that the Forum date might give consideration to an April date since Earth Day will have its 50<sup>th</sup> observance. Another possible date would be in September – another active month for Climate focus.

# **VOTER SERVICES**

**ATTENTION!** We are still looking for someone to Chair the Voter Service Committee. The most important opportunities center around organizing Candidate's Nights to educate voters about candidates in competitive races in the 1) Spring Plymouth Town Elections and 2) Fall State and National Elections. Currently there are several members of the committee, just becoming acquainted with the Town Complete Count Committee working to insure a complete and accurate 2020 Census.

## **Beyond the Board**

#### Synopsis of PALWV Legislative Event October 24 2019

Our 2019 annual fall Legislators Event held the interest and participation of the almost thirty in attendance. Subjects and related proposed bills were discussed regarding <u>Climate Change</u>, our <u>Aquifer</u>, <u>Voting</u>, <u>Entergy</u>, <u>Vaping</u> and the still being debated state budget that includes hopefully additional monies for local schools. Regrettably our retiring State Senator *Vinny deMacedo* was unable to attend due to late evening consideration of amendments to that proposed budget. His local aide, *Monica Mullins* ably filled in! Highlights included:

Representative *Mat Muratore* explained that the Governor & the House Speaker have made it a "priority" and are on the "same page" with the need for a broad inclusive bill to address the multi-faceted ramifications of Climate Change. This omnibus bill would include Water in its scope. (As so often happens on issues so critical as this one, the biggest hurdle will be the Funding source/s!) As noted by Representative *Kathy LaNatra* presently the strongest objection to one possible funding resource – additional fee on real estate sales – is from the powerful Realtors lobby.

In a related discussion about Green Communities (such as Kingston) *Muratore* & Plymouth Leaguer and Selectperson *Patrick Flaherty* felt that the Plymouth leadership including members of his board have come onboard to support the Stretch Code requirement, the primary "holdout" from Plymouth leadership supporting a Green Community designation. *LaNatra* pointed out that one "con"-opposition by local builders – is no longer a sticking point since they are already required to comply in neighboring local Green Communities! *Flaherty* felt certain that a proposal would be on the warrant at this upcoming spring town meeting.

As a member of the Election Laws joint committee *LaNatra* expressed great concern as to how to improve local election turnout. As part of the shared concern *Deb Etzel* presented the "case" for Rank Choice Voting as a potentially fairer solution. Considerable debate followed among members and panel. Main argument was the greater option for voters re outcome with many panelists expressing strong feelings that Rank Choice voting is confusing and complicated and would further discourage greater voter participation. To be supported Rank Choice Voting must be much more easily explainable according to *LaNatra*. Once again money is an issue and a need for broader voting options, such as for national elections to receive the support of local town clerks and others. The extensive discussion on the present status of Plymouth's now closed nuclear plant was emotional, frustrating and not reassuring. *Henrietta Consentino*, the League's extremely knowledgeable, passionate and very involved nuclear expert provided all in attendance with pretty damaging information regarding the credibility and reliability of Holtec, the new owners of our Entergy facility.

*Muratore* did remind everyone that the state, through our Attorney General, *Maura Healey's* office is still negotiating with *Holtec*. Concern and questions were expressed as to the lack of support in the state legislature. *Muratore* agreed and stated that at present the issue seems to be seen as a "local" problem ignoring the fact that if down the road major problems and costs are incurred, the entire state will be obligated!

Presently the State Legislature is debating possible solutions to the impact of Vaping businesses now closed due to ongoing major health concerns.

On behalf of the League's sincere appreciation for *Vinny's* many years of participation in our annual Legislators Events *Monica* was presented with a poppy plant from the hosts' garden as a memory (hopefully happy) of our many years together!

Mary LeSueur

# **Plymouth Area LWV Committees**

# We encourage each of you to at least one committee.

#### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Follow Local efforts to provide Affordable Housing and encourage local government to do so. **Chair** Kathy Dunn (gordod1@comcast.net or 508-747-0039)

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Focus on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Event being planned in conjunction with other Plymouth organization for late winter

Chair Kathy Dunn (gordod1@comcast.net or 508-747-0039)

#### **COMUNICATIONS**

**Bulletin:** Monthly(ish) publication to keep membership informed. Sent by email and posted on the website. Heidi Mayo, Editor (LWVBulletin@heidimayo.com or 508-747-5467)

**Website**: Maintain the PlymouthLWV.org website. Deb <u>Etzel, Editor (daetzel@gmail.com</u> or 508- 224-1667)

**Facebook Page** – Maintain the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters Facebook page Deb Etzel, Editor (daetzel@gmail.com or 508-224-1667)

#### EDUCATION

**Civics Bee**: Organizes the annual high school competition based on civics questions. March 29, 2020 is the next Bee. Next meeting is October 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm – contact Erin if you are interested.

Chair Erin Palladino (esutherland@hotmail.com or 617-827-8255)

#### **HEALTH & WELL BEING - Currently inactive**

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Finding and welcoming new members.

Chair Deanna Nealey (deannap-1@verizon.net or 508-224-3797)

#### NATIONAL OR STATE STUDIES

Currently inactive as there are no studies ongoing

#### NUCLEAR

Follows what is current regarding the Pilgrim Energy Plant and reports to the membership and suggests action to local government Chair Henrietta Cosentino ( Henrietta.cosentino@gmail.com or 508-224-3251)

#### **OBSERVER CORPS**

Currently inactive

#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

**Water:** Studies topic area of interest related to Sustainability, currently Water. Other topics are encouraged. Offers local education in the topic area and/or community/governmental action. **Chair** Mary LeSueur (hclesueur@yahoo.com or 508-746-4252)

#### **VOTER SERVICES**

Chair is VACANT – Please volunteer for this position!

## All of our committees are very important, and support the work of the League. **Voters Services** is the MOST important, so please consider it. A committee exists that needs a leader, and they will guide anyone who is new to the activity. Everyone should be on at least one committee!

Please contact the chair(s) listed above to loan your time and talents to these important issues OR VOLUNTEER to lead the VOTER SERVICES committee!

# **Current Plymouth Area LWV Board of Directors**

updated 10-1-19

		500 004 7004
Lois Post, secretary	lois@mayflowerweb.com	508-224-7294
Deb Etzel, treasurer	daetzel@gmail.com	508-224-1667
Deanna Nealey, membership	deannap1@verizon.net	508-224-3797
Henrietta Cosentino	henriettacosentino@gmail.com	(508) 224-3251
Vedna Heywood	vklacombe@gmail.com	508-743-5568
Lyle Lawrence	lyle.lawrence@comcast.net	774-343-5548
Mary LeSueur	hclesueur@yahoo.com	508-746-4252
Judy Savage	savagejudym@gmail.com	(774) 454-8908
Martha Vautrain	cvautrain@verizon.net	508-746-8606

#### **CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES**

#### U.S. Senator

Elizabeth Warren 317 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D. C. 20510 202-224-4543 or 2400 JFK Federal Building 15 New Sudbury St. Boston, MA 02203 617-565-3170

#### U.S. Congressman District 9 William Keating

315 Cannon HOB Washington, D. C. 20515 202-225-3111 or 2 Court St. Plymouth, MA 02360 508-746-9000

State Rep Precincts 1, 11, 13 Kathy LaNatra 24 Beacon St. Room B1 Boston, MA, 02133 617-722-2425 kathleen.lanatra@mahouse.gov

#### **State Rep** Precincts 2-8, 10, 12, 14, 15 **Mathew Muratore** State House Room 39 Boston, MA 02133

617-722-2014 <u>Mathew.Muratore@mahouse.gov</u>

#### **Plymouth Board of Selectmen**

 26 Court St., Plymouth, MA 02360
 meganrcd@hotmail.com

 TownManager-Selectmen@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
 7 Karen Buechs, 146 Bartlett Rd

 (508) 747-1620 ext. 10106
 Iuckystz@aol.com

 Chair: Kenneth Tavares kennethtavares@gmail.com
 8 Terese A. Brennan , 1035 Long Pond Rd

 Patrick Flaherty flaherty@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
 9 Francis E. Lydon, 74 Raymond Rd

 Betty Cavacco
 bettyc369@msn.com

 John Mahoney
 mahoney@townhall.plymouth.ma.us

 Shelagh Joyce joyce@townhall.plymouth.ma.us
 10 Alan M. Costello, 41 Huntington

#### **Town Meeting Precinct Rep Chairs**

 Christine K. Pratt, 242 Court St. prattck1@verizon.net
 Richard M. Serkey, 60 Allerton St rserkev@lwwsr.com
 Gerald E. Sirrico, 38 Mayflower St Ihsges@verizon.net
 Clare A. Montanari, 71 Harborlight cmontanari@iaol.com

#### U.S. Senator Edward Markey

218 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D. C. 20510 202-224-2742 or 975 JFK Federal Building 15 New Sudbury St. Boston, MA 02203 617-565-8519

#### **State Senator**

Vinny deMacedo State House Room 313A Boston, MA 02133 Phone: 617-722-1330 vinny.demacedo@masenate.gov or 10 Cordage Park Circle Rm 229 Plymouth, MA 02360 508-747-6500

#### State Rep Precinct 9 Randy Hunt State House Room 136 Boston, MA 02133 617-722-2396 Randy.Hunt@mahouse.gov

#### Town Meeting Precinct Rep Chairs (con't) 5 W. Wrestling Brewster, 39 Forge Drive wwb@bpcs.us 6 Megan Collins-Dempster, 18 Bartlett Rd meganrcd@hotmail.com 7 Karen Buechs, 146 Bartlett Rd luckystz@aol.com atty.tbrennan@gmail.com 9 Francis E. Lydon, 74 Raymond Rd frankolyd@aol.com costellotownrep10@comcast.net 11 Ronald Reilly, 242 Plympton rreilly67@verizon.net 12 Betsy R. Hall, 43 West Long Pond Rd bh2746@yahoo.com 13 Anita J. Hadley, 235 Carver Road nonni7111@verizon.net 14 Karen M. Keane, 87 Ellisville Green

kmkcjk04@aol.com **15** Michael J. Hanlon III, 2 Wayside Path mjhanlon3@verizon.net