



April 2019

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CALENDAR

Date/time	Event	Location
Thursday, April 4, 2019 7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting Board meeting to discuss upcoming events - ALL MEMBERS WELCOME	Mary LeSeuer's 7 Bay Colony Dr
Saturday, April 6, 8:00 AM	Town Meeting It's your town, and it's your voice in town government.	Plymouth North High School
Thursday, April 11, 2019 6:30 PM	Vaping - Just the Facts Informative panel discussion on the Vaping Crisis in our schools	PCIS Little Theater 117 Long Pond Road
Thursday, April 25, 7:00 PM	Candidates Night Meet the candidates for Selectman.	Town Hall, 26 Court St Great Hall
Saturday, May 4, 2019 9:15 AM	Monthly Board Meeting to discuss upcoming events - All members welcome	TD Bank Pinehills downstairs conference room
Thursday, June 13, 2019 5:30 PM	Annual Meeting more details to follow	TBD

[Click here to read Martha Vautrain's excellent Letter to the Editor, OCM, March 16, 2019
Empowering citizens during Plymouth's election season](#)

Vaping: Just the Facts

On Thursday, April 11th at 6:30pm the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters in collaboration with the Plymouth Youth Development Collaborative (PYDC) is hosting a community forum – Vaping: Just the Facts. This event, taking place in the Little Theater at Plymouth Community Intermediate School (PCIS), 114 Long Pond Road, will focus on the issue of “vaping” and current e-cigarette use including the scope of the problem, impact on the adolescent brain and body, as well as solution based responses to this epidemic. The speakers and panel will include Amy Turncliff (PhD Neurobiology), Kelly Macomber (M.Ed, Program Coordinator), Dr. Nate Horwitz-Willis (PH, MPH, MP, Director of Plymouth Public Health) as well as Plymouth Public School high school aged youth. Please join us an evening of learning around this important issue. All are welcome. Admission is free.



Speakers and Panel:

Amy Turncliff, PhD Neurobiology
Kelly Macomber M.Ed, Program Coordinator,
Plymouth Youth Development Collaborative- Plymouth Public Schools
Dr. Nate Horwitz-Willis- PH, MPH, MP, Director of Plymouth Public Health
Plymouth High School Students

Sponsored by the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters





Plymouth Area League of Women Voters
presents a

LOCAL CANDIDATES FORUM

Thursday April 25, 7:00PM
Plymouth Town Hall, Great Hall
26 Court Street

Featuring seven candidates for
Plymouth Select Board

Public Welcome

Sponsored by
Plymouth Area League of Women Voters

BE INFORMED – SUPPORT DEMOCRACY

VOTE!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

1. **Call for Questions for Candidates Night** Members, now is the time to submit questions or topic suggestions for our League Spring Candidates' Night. We need your contributions by April 2, to be organized/prioritized before the forum. At this time there is only one race – for Select Board. Seven candidates have taken out papers for the two open seats. If there are any other races, we will let the membership know.
2. **Candidates Night is Thursday April 25 at 7pm at Town Hall** in the Great Hall. The public is invited. If unable to attend watch it on PACTV, live or rebroadcast.
3. The Voter Services Committee will also be putting out **Remember to Vote signs** before the Election, which is Saturday May 18 from 7am – 7pm. Hopefully our voter turnout is MUCH better than last year's 11%. Remind every Plymouth citizen with whom you are in contact TO VOTE.
4. You can even consider running for office, as several open seats are yet to be contested.
5. See our **Letter to the Editor, OCM, March 16, 2019**
Empowering citizens during Plymouth's election season

NUCLEAR

EYES ON PILGRIM MARCH 20th

1 End of Public Commentary on Decommissioning. March 4th was the last day for public comments to the NRC on details of Entergy's proposed decommissioning plan (a 60-year plan); and on the proposed license transfer to Holtec (whose plan for rapid decommissioning appears to involve cutting corners—their financial projections don't add up.) The NRC tends to do what it wants after pretending to listen to the public. (They've just extended Seabrook's license— despite its aging infrastructure and cracked containment dome, and despite the great public outcry — until 2050! See Boston Globe March 6, including Ed Markey's damning comments about this extension, in the Boston Globe, March 6th:

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2019/03/05/nrc-extends-seabrook-plant-license/ypCbtwwSQHgpullKwlybUO/story.html>.) As for Pilgrim, let's hold on to the slender hope that someone, somewhere in the NCR has a conscience.

2 NRC gutting critical safety regulations put in place after Fukushima. See https://www.ucsusa.org/press/2019/nrc-guts-critical-safety-regulation-recklessly-disregarding-critical-lessons-fukushima?fbclid=IwAR0-uToPAgtkdHj4rZ9dqJ5n7skVycU6y5UxjG_a_12lt7ZLhlwKCHfwZSM#.XGhnOGw1uUl.

3 Meanwhile the Nuclear Industry is pushing the NRC for fewer inspections at nuclear plants. The NRC board (mostly Trump appointees) is listening.

See: <https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/nuclear-industry-pushing-fewer-inspections-plants-n983671>.

4 AGO's Petition. AG Maura Healey and Energy sec'y Matthew Beaton have filed a

lengthy petition to intervene in the review of the proposed sale and license transfer of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, citing financial risks raised by the deal and a lack of adequate environmental study before the start of plant decommissioning. See Christine Legere, in the Cape Cod Times: <https://www.capecodtimes.com/news/20190221/state-seeks-to-intervene-in-pilgrim-plant-sale>. In case the AG's suit fails to get traction, Mary and Jim Lampert (Pilgrim Watch) have filed a similar suit on behalf of the Town of Duxbury. See also WBUR: <https://www.wbur.org/news/2019/02/21/healey-pilgrim-watch-nrc-petitions>. Contact me for petitions.

5 Massive corruption of SNC-Lavalin exposed by the NYT. Holtec's proposed Canadian partner in decommissioning, SNC-Lavalin, has embroiled Justin Trudeau's government in its scandal. See <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/05/opinion/justin-trudeau-scandal.html?action=click&module=Opinion&pgtype=Homepage>. For further details of this corruption and why it threatens us at Pilgrim, please read the attachment from Gordon Edwards, highly respected Canadian scientist and nuclear consultant, formerly president of [Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility](#):

6 Final Grade for Pilgrim. In early March, the NRC delivered its final assessment of Pilgrim's operational status: after four years of operating in Category 4—one step above forced shut-down (the equivalent of a D- grade) and just three months before its shutdown, Pilgrim has been returned to Category A, the *category requiring the very least oversight*. Read Christine Legere's latest piece in the Cape Cod Times. <https://www.capecodtimes.com/news/20190306/pilgrim-moved-from-worst-performance-category>. Meanwhile, on March 13, a full-page ad in the form of a 'Letter to the Community' from Brian Sullivan, Site VP at Pilgrim, appeared in the Boston Globe and the Cape Cod Times, praising the hard work of staff that enabled Pilgrim to leap from Category 4 to Category 1 (no details as to how that miracle was accomplished).

7 Action at Federal Level. On March 4, Senators Markey and Warren and Representative Bill Keating sent a joint letter to the NRC requesting answers to six urgent questions about the planned transfer of license. *Their requests were shockingly rebuffed by on March 7 by an underling at the NRC.* The original letter, attached to the NRC response, can be found at: <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML19066A315s>

88 Action at the State Level. A number of bills related to Pilgrim's decommissioning are working their way through the state legislature. We'll be lobbying for them in the state house. *If you are interested in joining the citizen lobbyists, let me know!* In any case, do contact your local representatives to support these bills; and let Vinny DeMacedo (Senate) & Matt Muratore (House) know that you appreciate the bill they're sponsoring. Contact me for the legislation sheet.

9 Monthly opportunity to learn the latest and speak out: monthly NDCAP meetings, every 3rd Wednesday, PCIS Little Theatre, 117 Long Pond Road.

Questions, comments, desire to be involved?
Contact me for the petitions and supporting docs.
henrietta.cosentino@gmail.com or 323-868-3296

Henrietta Cosentino

Plymouth Area LWV Committees

We encourage each of you to join 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)

Current Volunteers include Peg Bergiel, Sheila Bruce, Shannon Burrington

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Know Your Muslim Neighbor: Current focus on improving community perception of the Muslim community.

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

Current Volunteers: Judy Barber

COMMUNICATIONS

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 Etzel, Editor (daetzel@gmail.com 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 10, 2019 is the next Bee.

Co-Chairs Erin Palladino (esutherland@hotmail.com or 617-827-8255) & Lyle Lawrence (lyle.lawrence@comcast.net or 774-343-5548)

Current Volunteers: Evelyn Strawn, Deb Etzel, Jane Goodwin, Alice Lague.

HEALTH & WELL BEING

Vaping Forum: Focus is on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community. Next session will be on Vaping.

Chair Birgitta Kuehn (Birgitta.Kuehn@gmail.com or 978-886-4026)

Current Volunteers include: Deb Etzel, Kathy Dunn, Lyle Lawrence, Vedna Heywood, Jane Goodwin

MEMBERSHIP

Finding and welcoming new members.

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

Current Volunteers: Diane Flaherty, Vanda Heywood, Birgitta Kuehn, Mary Tousignant, Mary LeSueur

NATIONAL OR STATE STUDIES

State Ballot Question Study: LWVMA has issued study materials for a consensus building event on the process around how MA puts community sponsored measures on the ballot.

Chair Lyle Lawrence (lyle.lawrence@comcast.net)

Current Volunteers : Sharon Reed-Eramian, Martha Sheldon, Cheryl Fisher, Deb Etzel

[Committees page 2](#)

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)

Current Volunteers : Lyle Lawrence

OBSERVER CORPS

The League tries to follow local government in action. Currently we are watching the Charter Committee and County Government, other entities are out there for the watching. Those observing write brief reports to share with the local league and potentially influence action items.

Current Volunteers include: Cheryl Fisher, Mary Tousignant, Jane Goodwin, Evelyn Strawn

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. Water Study Committee - Evelyn Strawn, Don Williams, Monty Fischer

Chair Harvey LeSueur (hclesueur@yahoo.com or 508-746-4252)

Current Volunteers include: Cheryl Fischer, Henrietta Cosentino, Lois Post, Brian Harrington, Judy Barber

VOTER SERVICES

Provides voter registration when requested, plans *Get out the Vote* campaigns (GOTV) and runs candidate forums for local and state election

Chair Martha Vautrain (cvautrain@verizon.net or 508-746-8606)

Current Volunteers: Vedna Heywood, Birgitta Kuehn, Sharon Reed-Ermanian, Cheryl Fischer, Evelyn Strawn, Mary Tousignant, Ginny Johnson, Alice Lague.

Please contact the chair(s) listed above to loan your time and talents to these important projects.

Current Plymouth Area LWV Board of Directors

updated 9-6-18

Peg Bergeil	bergielmargaretta@gmail.com	508-747-4982
Deb Etzel, treasurer	daetzel@gmail.com	508-224-1667
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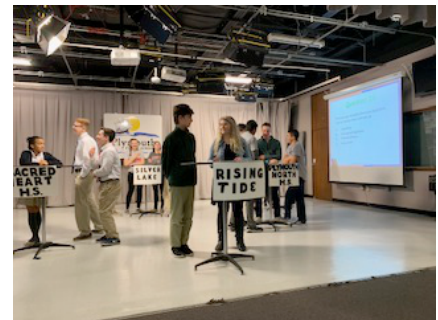
Beyond the Board

Who said Civics can't be FUN?

On Sunday, March 10th the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters held their Fifth Annual Civics Bee, a friendly competition for Middle and High School Students. The topic this year was: How a Bill Becomes A Law- The Legislative Process. Lively groups of four students from seven local high schools competed in two rounds of questions about this topic. The first round consisted of seven teams answering a total of 40 questions. Three finalists were chosen and had 15 questions to decide the final winner. Jennifer Harris, Plymouth Library Director served as the moderator. All 7 high schools including Rising Tide, Plymouth South, Sacred Heart, Silver Lake, Duxbury, Carver and Plymouth North fielded very capable teams and it was very close. In the final round, Silver Lake, Duxbury and Plymouth North all got 13/14 right answers but, Plymouth North finished first by answering the final question correctly. A fun afternoon was had by all. The Plymouth North Team now holds the record of 4 victories over the past five years. This year's victorious team consisted of Nicholas Bodie, Aiden Campbell, Cole Gustin and Muhammad Aseef Imran. They were coached by David Clark, Amy Goldberg and Jeremy Hales.

The Plymouth League of Women Voters would like to thank all of the participating schools and their student competitors and coaches. It wouldn't be possible without their interest and support. Our sponsors include Eversource, Plymouth Public Schools for the use of PCIS, Dunkin Donuts and the Sunrise Rotary Club for funding the Trophy the winning teams brings to their school for the year following their victory. Congratulations to all the teams; we look forward to seeing you next year for our special 2020 Competition!

Kathleen Dunn



CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

U. S. Senator

Elizabeth Warren

317 Hart Senate Office Building
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202-224-4543
or
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15 New Sudbury St.
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617-565-3170

U.S. Congressman District 9

William Keating

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State Rep Precincts 2-8, 10, 12, 14, 15

Mathew Muratore

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Plymouth Board of Selectmen

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Chair: Kenneth Tavares kennethtavares@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Anthony Provenzano, Jr.
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Betty Cavacco bettyc369@msn.com

John Mahoney mahoney@townhall.plvmouth.ma.us

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1 Christine K. Pratt, 242 Court St.
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2 Richard M. Serkey, 60 Allerton St
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3 Gerald E. Sirrico, 38 Mayflower St
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4 Clare A. Montanari, 71 Harborlight
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Thank you for your continued support!

