

PALWV BEYOND THE BOARD

NOVEMBER 2016

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wed. 11/2 & Thur. 11/3** **Early Voting** 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Plymouth Town Hall, Mayflower Rm.
- Friday - November 4** **Early Voting** 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Plymouth Town Hall, Mayflower Rm.
- Saturday - November 5** **PLWV Board Meeting** - 9:00 a.m. @ TD Bank, 2 Market Crossing .. Pinehills ..
Plymouth. All members welcome.
- Tuesday - November 8** **Election Day:** 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. **KIDS VOTE**
- Our League is still looking for volunteers for Kid's Vote on Election Day at Town Hall next Tuesday Nov 8, 2016. The following times slots are open: 7 - 9am, 3 – 5:30pm and 5:30 – 8pm. Volunteering for a shorter slot time is an option.
- Please contact me ASAP and contribute in a fun and easy way to a well - respected program designed to educate our country's future voters and at the same time increase current voter turn-out.
- Martha Vautrain [508 746 8606](tel:5087468606) or email cvautrain@verizon.net
Voter Service Chair

- Thursday - November 10** **PALWV WATER FORUM**

Will Plymouth Have Water Tomorrow? At What Price?

Thursday, November 10th, 7 p.m. Town Hall

Our League forum on Water is scheduled for Thursday, November 10th, at 7 p.m. in the Mayflower Room at Town Hall. Panelists will be Jonathan Beder, DPW Director, Robin Carver, Planning Dept., David Gould, Environmental Affairs Director & Jon Hobill, Regional Dept. of Public Works. Former Conservation Committee chair and Leaguer Evelyn Strawn will moderate.

This year's prolonged drought should bring urgency to the issue and the goal of the forum which is to help residents understand the value of our aquifer and the importance of long range planning to ensure that it will continue to be a viable resource.

The committee urges Leaguers to invite neighbors & friends to this informative event!

*Judy Barber, Mary LeSueur, Lois Post & Evelyn Strawn –
Sustainability Committee*

- Thursday - December 1** Watch for the December 2016 PALWV Bulletin with Committee Reports, Photos of Events, and news of future activities by the League.

FROM THE BOARD

NEW! Check out our League's Facebook page here

www.facebook.com/plymouthareaLWV

And also visit our website at

Plymouthlwv.org

League Action Results:

Linda Benezra

Our support had positive results for the Great Thicket National Wildlife Refuge Project

In October 2016, the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) approved a new national wildlife refuge dedicated to managing shrubland habitat for wildlife in the Northeast.

Alternative B was selected from the final Land Protection Plan and Environmental Assessment (LPP/EA). The Service may now acquire up to 15,000 acres of wildlife habitat from willing landowners as part of Great Thicket National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)

As part of the changes to the draft plan, the Plymouth RAFA (Refuge Acquisition focus Area) was reduced in order to better complement the current efforts and future priorities of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries

and Wildlife in this area. The draft LPP/EA proposed a Plymouth RAFA of 43,035 acres. The revised area in the final LPP/EA encompasses 3,698 acres. It will exactly match the Critical Habitat area designated in 1980 for the federally listed northern red-bellied cooter. Our target acquisition will remain at 500 acres in this RAFA. This revised focus area boundary still allows support of cooter recovery efforts, as well as assistance with shrubland and young forest management and protection in the Plymouth area.

Co-chair needed for: League of Women Voters – MA Charter School Study

The State League has put together materials for all the Leagues across the state to study Charter Schools.

The materials can be found here:

<https://lwvma.org/member-resources/charter-school-study/>

Your Plymouth Area League is looking for a co-chair for the study as Alice**Laque has agreed to co-chair if a****second co-chair can be found.**

The study results are due to the state on Feb1, 2017 so it is a short time frame.

Contact Alice at hlague@comcast.net and let's get this study underway.



TOOLS FOR INFORMED VOTERS*Martha Vautrain*

Here are some tools to help make informed decisions when voting in the November 8, 2016 election. The Plymouth Area League of Women Voters sponsored a Fall 2016 Candidates Forum On October 20, 2016 at Plymouth Town Hall. The candidates answered an array of questions with in depth responses. The program included the candidates for Plymouth County Sheriff, Plymouth 1st District and Plymouth 12th District State Representatives, and the 9th Congressional District. The forum can be viewed on PACTV Government Access channels Comcast 15 and Verizon 47 or online at

<http://vp.telvue.com/preview?id=T05258&video=292395>.

Remember to vote on Election Day November 8, 2016. Polls are open from 7 AM until 8 PM.

Early voting is available from October 24, 2016 until November 4, 2016.

Log onto <http://www.vote411.org/> for your personal early voting times and polling places, your ballot information, your candidate bio information and answers to questions, and all your other election information needs.

SAVE THE DATE! VOLUNTEER TO HELP Saturday - February 4, 2017***PALWV OPIATE ADDICTION & STUDY COMMITTEE ... FORUM***

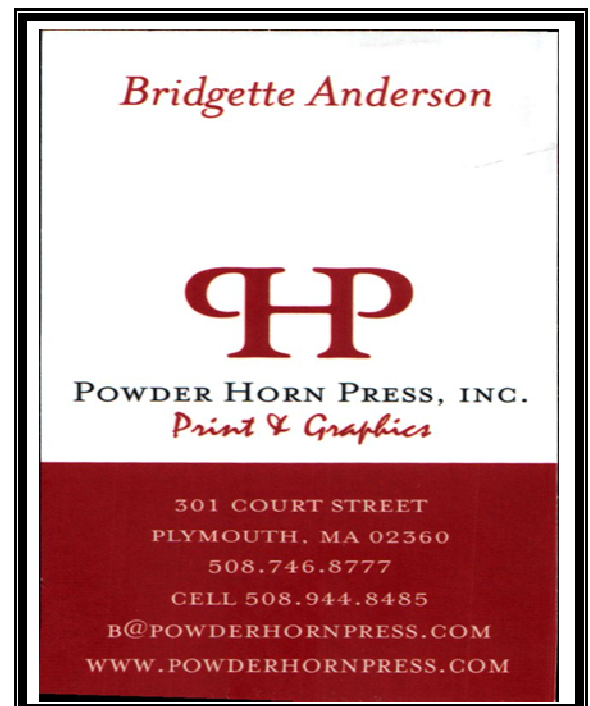
We will be using the Otto Fehlow room, which has been reserved from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The event will be open to the public, with the use of tickets so that we know approximately how many will attend.

Time table:

- a. 10:00-11:00, set up.
- b. 11:00-11:30, coffee and viewing of exhibits (resource tables, "Hidden in Plain Sight," Photo Voice exhibit.
- c. 11:30-1:00, speakers
- d. 1:00-1:45, lunch
- e. 1:45-2:30, focus groups

Police Chief Botieri will be the first speaker, talking about Project Outreach and the Drop In Centers
Amy LeFort will speak secondly, about the Coalition of which she is the Coordinator
Pat Cronin from the state Against Stigma Campaign , will speak of the fight against the stigma associated with addiction.

Lunch will be deli platters, cookie platters, beverages.



PALWV POSITIONS: Each issue of the Beyond The Board will take one of our issues (alphabetically) and connect it back to the LWVMA and LWVUS POSITIONS under which our league adopted our local position.

PALWV POSITIONS	LWVMA POSITIONS	PALWVUS POSITIONS
AQUIFER PROTECTION		
<p>AQUIFER PROTECTION</p> <p>A. Support League anti-pollution goals involved in the development of the lake management protection plans.</p> <p>B. Supports each town within the Plymouth-Carver Aquifer creating a Water Resource Committee to develop a comprehensive watershed-based management plan to ensure an integrated and sustainable management of land use and water resources. This plan should include but not be limited to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New/revised bylaw to control volume of water withdrawn. 2. Improved protection of areas up gradient of ponds and wells. 3. Plan to regain control of privately owned water companies, once said companies regain their capital investments. 4. New projects should mimic natural hydrology including bio-retention ponds or rain gardens, vegetated filter strips, open vegetated channels and infiltration of roof run off. 5. Regional approach to protection including increased participation and support of the Plymouth-Carver Aquifer Advisory Committee. 6. Educate residents about the aquifer. 	<p>From LWVMA <u>Where We Stand Program</u> page 27, 30 – 31</p> <p>NATURAL RESOURCES</p> <p>Groundwater protection is an area of increasing activity as concern grows over the dangers of contamination from: improper disposal and/or the landfilling of solid and hazardous wastes; use of pesticides and herbicides; inadequate monitoring of underground storage tanks of petroleum products and other chemicals; and improper storage and overuse of salt and other road de-icers.</p> <p>In addition to supporting legislative efforts relating to groundwater protection issues, LWVMA has also worked to require regular monitoring of bottled water purity.</p> <p>The League followed the study of the Special Legislative Commission on Water Supply and commented on its content. Subsequently the League has worked for passage of legislation proposed by the commission including measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide means to ensure adequate and equitable distribution of the water resources of the Commonwealth under all situations • protect critical water resources • mandate or encourage water conservation measures through a variety of means • restructure water rates to cover the costs of supply • mandate or encourage repair and rehabilitation of water systems 	<p>NATURAL RESOURCES</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest by recognizing the interrelationships of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources (LWVUS) (1986)</p>

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