

The Two Faces of Charlie Baker

by Bob Isadore

Often in conversations with friends, I have heard the comment: “Charlie Baker is not that bad; he is really a moderate Republican and agrees with a lot of progressive issues.” I know some nice used car salesmen, too; but I would not buy a car from them. I admit Governor Baker has done a great job portraying himself as a moderate and someone who keeps a distance from Donald Trump and his administration’s policies, but let’s do a reality check.

Immigration:

According to *Slate News*, Charlie Baker positioned himself as a moderate who opposed Donald Trump’s most extreme policies with regards to immigration. Baker in reality aligns himself with Mr. Trump and has introduced a bill that would allow state law enforcement officers to detain certain undocumented immigrants **without a warrant**. Officers may hold these immigrants for up to 12 hours without any semblance of due process.

Mark J. Stern of *Slate News* stated “Baker’s proposal is a direct response to the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts recent decision prohibiting state and local officers from honoring so-called ICE detainers. The SJC ruled that no Massachusetts law allows officers to detain an individual who should otherwise be free to go, simply because ICE has issued a detainer. Thus, the court explained, Massachusetts officers who comply with ICE detainers are violating state law.” Baker now wants the legislature to change state law to permit compliance with ICE. So much for his criticism of the Trump administration’s immigration policy.

According to *Slate News*, Here is how Baker’s bill, if passed, will work.

An officer arrests two individuals on suspicion of armed robbery. Both are placed in a local jail. The officer discovers that one is a citizen while the other is an undocumented individual. The officer notifies ICE which issues a detainer. Then the officer realizes the wrong two men were arrested. All charges are immediately dropped.

Under Bakers legislation, the citizen is free to go, but the officer can detain the undocumented individual for at least 12 hours. This person has not been charged with a

crime. Unlawful presence in the United States is a civil offense, not a criminal offense, and his detention is not supported by probable cause, let alone a warrant; but because of Baker’s bill, he may remain locked up. Nice move Charlie, but you can’t have it both ways. You can criticize Donald Trump all you want, but your actions speak volumes as you are trying to circumvent Massachusetts courts and work with Trump’s immigration crackdown and deportation force.

At this time, an act to protect the civil rights and safety of all Massachusetts residents (s.1305 / H.3269) is still in committee. A public hearing has been concluded, and the committee (The Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security) is now working on the language of the bill to be sure it is in compliance with the State Supreme Court’s decision. The committee has until March 2018 to report out its recommendation. For more information on the status of S.1305 / H.3269 please call The Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security Chairs State Senator Michael Moore 617-722-1485 and State Representative Harold Naughton 617-722-2230.

Note: Cape & Island Democratic legislators Sen. Julian Cyr, Rep. Sarah Peake and Rep Dylan Fernandez have signed and cosponsored this bill. No Cape Republicans legislators have.

What happens when Neo-nazis and white supremacists call a rally and no one shows up?



Boston Common August 19, 2017

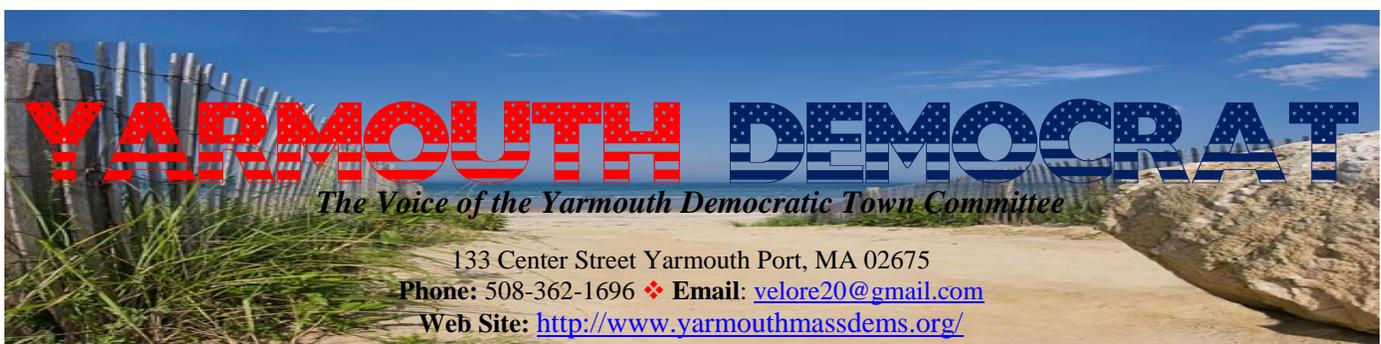
My Boston Experience

by Joe Quigley

In spite of all the cautions issued by the Mayor of Boston and the police commissioner, I decided I would go the “Free Speech” rally on Boston Common on August 19, 2017, and join the counter demonstrators.

I chose to bring the sign that I had used at my one-man anti-

Trump demonstration in front of the federal building in New Bedford back in April that consisted of two panels, one with the words; “Mr. Trump, GLBT people will not



be erased” and on the other side a cartoon of a man in a rainbow shirt being erased. It dealt with the actions the president had taken to erase hard fought for GLBT rights, rights that should not have had to be fought for to begin with.

When I arrived on Boston Common it was a good two hours early, thanks to the train schedule, and found a nice little wall to sit on and hold my sign while watching the activity as people assembled.

There was a community atmosphere as we were all of like mind, and having a colorful political cartoon sign brings people over for pictures and conversations. I met people from all over and with many concerns.

The ANTIFA people showed up, about 12 of them, but in spite of their repeated attempts to be the central figures in a huge rally, at 12 out of 40,000 or .0003% of the counter protesters, and even with the media running after them whenever they started some sort of quick movement in the hopes of seeing something spectacular, they just seemed desperate to get attention.

The fact that they were wearing full face covering came across to people with whom I spoke as people hoping to cause trouble while being able to melt into the crowd and let others deal with it.

At my age, having attended four decades of rallies, strikes, and demonstrations for workers’ rights, Civil Rights, and GLBT rights while being totally visible when doing so, one time facing getting fired for doing political cartoons for my teacher union and another facing dismissal from my teaching job for advocating for the safety of GLBT students in a large school district, I personally have no respect for people who hide while acting tough, and who, like an arsonist who torches a building and then mixes in with the spectators pretending to be just one of the on lookers, start trouble, but then melt away.

The crowd was fluid and at one point I found myself standing by the path to the barricaded area around the band stand to which those we assumed were in the free speech group were going to be marching.

The police had zip-tied the barricade gate closed to prevent anyone entering who was not part of the group with the permit, and one of the free speech people who arrived alone began a screed about the fascist police who were preventing his exercise of his First Amendment rights by barring his entrance, a screed that lost any effectiveness when a police officer that he had not noticed came over and snipped the tie so he could get in.

The parade of the free speech people never materialized, and their entrance to their rally came in the form of individuals showing up. A contingent of Black Lives Matter people were on the pathway, and with each arrival, they moved like the parting Red Sea, and allowed the entrants to pass unmolested.

They did not have to do that, that often, though, as it turned out.

Although the organizers of the Free Speech Rally claimed it was not about white supremacy, this claim was belied somewhat by the man who arrived wearing a tee-shirt with the words “Stop White Genocide”, while ignoring the cleared pathway and preferring to walk through the crowd with his arms in the Nixonian double vee hands up gesture and yelling at the crowd.

As noon approached the rally was supposed to begin. There was a lot of confusion as nothing seemed to be happening, and the few people on the band stand seemed to be milling around waiting for something.

I ended up at the front of the counter protesters who formed a semi-circle along the police barrier, and leaning on it, I had a good view of the band stand.

Inside the barrier there was a line of bicycle officers just as confused as we were, and looking back at the 40,000 people facing them; they had to be nervous about the possibility of all those people surging forward.

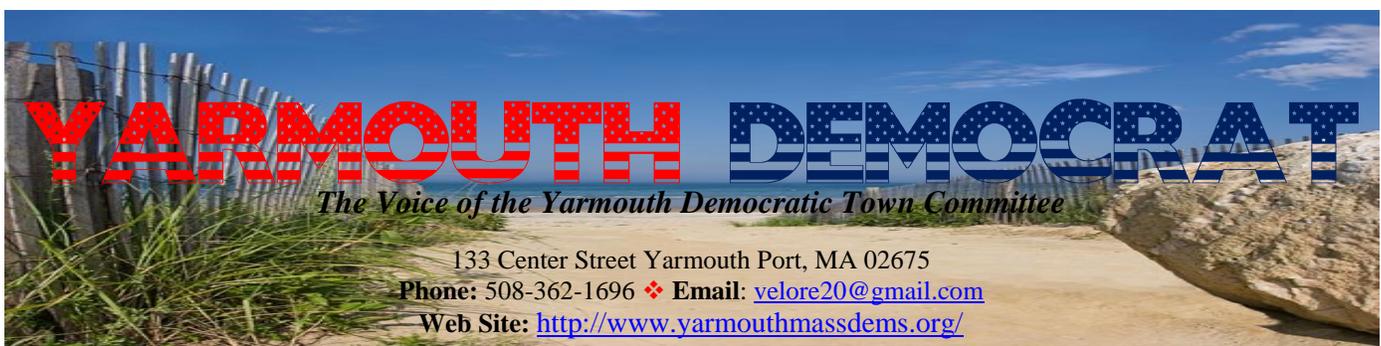
We could not hear what was going on at the band stand, if anything was going on, but we did watch as various people went up and down the steps either to have a smoke or hold little conferences. Then, forty five minutes into the rally scheduled for two hours, the people on the bandstand began to filter away.

Someone yelled to a nearby police officer asking if it was over. He shrugged. He didn’t know.

Then two police officers climbed the steps, took down the various flags that had been hung on the railing, folded them, put them in a neat stack, and descended the steps signaling the most anti-climactic ending to a rally I had ever seen.

As the realization dawned that the rally that never really began was cut short, the majority of people began to flow off the Common, but not before those closest to the barriers gave the police a round of applause.

Some people started an impromptu parade along the paths on the Common, but most saw the opportunity to leave and have lunch, or, perhaps, get to the T before the larger crowd headed that way.



I would be naive if I thought that every one of the 40,000 people was the nicest people in the world. I did see people, besides the ANTIFA few, who seemed intent on causing a little excitement, and kept modifying their tactics as each was shown to be a failure.

One person started yelling anti-police statements, but was shouted down. Some were walking around pushing people without any discernible reason. One person chased a woman who had an American flag, and, while grabbing it knocked her down. Other counter protesters went to her aid with one bringing her to someone they knew who was some sort of medic.

One young kid donned a MAGA hat and started yelling at the crowd, but the police took him away as the Commissioner had said before the event that stupidity would not be tolerated.

Each time someone did something that could cause a problem, the police moved in with very little interference. In my experience, no matter how properly people behaved at a rally, there was always those few who were unreasonable, or who intended to have their own fun by causing problems.

It was only after most people had left that any actual problems came up that resulted in 33 arrests. But considering they took place not only on Tremont Street but at Down Town Crossing, whether those who were involved were actually from the counter protest crowd is hard to determine. And when you consider 33 out of 40,000, or .0008% of those in attendance, this is not a measure of the participants or the nature of the counter demonstrators.

I had been asked by a reporter what I thought the counter demonstration's effect would be, and I told him that if those against racism were in numbers so noticeably greater than those who were there supporting it, those looking at us on television around the world would see that racists do not represent the majority of Americans.

With a ratio of 40,000:12, I think that point was made.

Hope is Under Attack

by Arlene Pollack

Day after day the soul of our country is being assaulted in the most egregious way, The empathy, the kind-heartedness, the humanity that has inspired our past legislation, the basic concern for bringing hope and

cheer to our own citizens as well as those around the world, are now being denigrated and actually dismissed by this administration.

If I had to enumerate each act of blatant destruction and indifference, my heart would break. We are in the grip of a mentally ill would-be tyrant who is hell-bent on creating his own world, one in which the Constitution is only a temporary inconvenience, to be dismantled piece by piece, until only HIS rules, HIS needs are left.

It is not completely with joy that we watch the slow and steady advances of Special Counsel Mueller's investigation; it fills us with hope, of course, but also with some trepidation. As the pace of the investigation proceeds slowly, as it must, what form will Donald Trump's fear and anger take in the interim-- nuclear war? Total disregard for the rules of law and those elected officials sworn to defend and protect them? Worse yet is the separation of families and the disdain of foreign nations?

Here, in Yarmouth, in our progressive state of Massachusetts, we understand that now, today, our greatest hope lies in our local and state leaders. We must trust them to counter the Trump administration by addressing and promulgating those policies that have both fostered and defined the character that represents our sense of humanity.

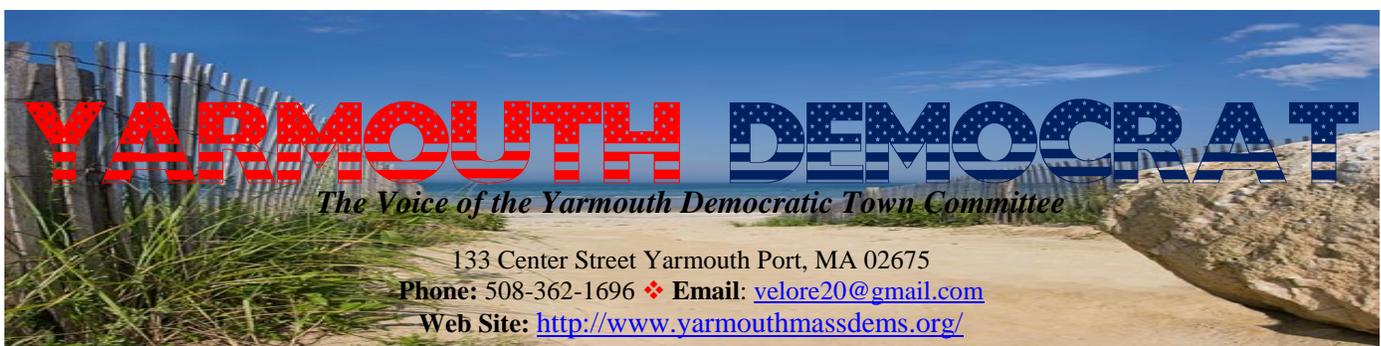
There is a way to counter the tragedy of this administration: by choosing local and state leaders to focus on standing strong against the rape of our country; by restoring the primacy of humane values in our local endeavors; by bringing back as items of discussion and resolution every shattered right into their districts, their state; by making the towns of our state an example, a model, for states and their communities across this nation.

We can do it. We always have.



An update on Congressman Keating's efforts on H-2B visas:

As summer comes to a close, we will begin to assess the consequences of the Trump Administration's failure to timely and appropriately issue the H-2B visas our employers need. Seasonal labor shortages on Cape Cod and the Islands make the H-2B program necessary for the functioning of our local economy. The effect of



the Administration’s failure to issue more visas has undoubtedly been felt by countless small businesses across the Cape, putting them in a compromising position during our busiest season.

Congressman Bill Keating has been one of – if not the – leading champion for small business owners who rely on this program. He and his staff have met with the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce and countless small business owners on the Cape and Islands who rely on H-2B employees to fill some core seasonal positions. He also understands that many of the H-2B workers here on Cape Cod have been coming here for a decade or more and have become more like family to their employers than simply employees. These returning workers form the core of the staffs for many businesses because of their reliability.

Throughout his time in Congress, Bill has been in constant contact with key Administration officials to advocate for the small business people that make the Cape the idyllic seaside getaway that is. Working with then Secretary of Labor Tom Perez in 2016, he was able to successfully have the Department increase available H-2B staffing to mitigate the processing delays plaguing the H-2B application process.

But this year was different because of the new Administration. While the President has applied for temporary foreign workers at his hotels, winery, and Mar-a-lago, his Administration has shown near constant hostility to the program.

When then Department of Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly came before Bill’s committee this spring, he stated that even after Congress had given him the direct authorization to raise the cap on H-2B workers, allowing him to quickly alleviate the crippling shortage of labor in communities across the nation, that he believed he should not raise the cap. Bill was incredulous, and told him directly how important this program is to our community and communities across the country. He has sent countless letters, had in person meetings, devoted thousands of staff hours to ensuring that the H-2B issue, as well as the many other critical issues that face our community, are well represented in our nation’s capital.

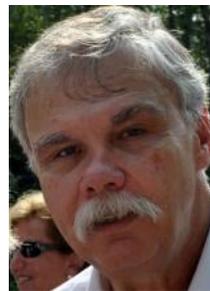
The Department of Homeland Security finally agreed to lift the cap in July, thanks in part to constant advocacy on the part of Bill and other Members of Congress who understand the value of the H-2B program. While this increase came later than would have been most

advantageous, it did allow many local business owners who may have had to close their businesses due to a shortage of labor when school resumes, to stay open this fall and continue to serve the community and the millions of tourists who flock to Cape Cod each fall to enjoy all of the amenities that they expect.

A Veteran’s View



by Dick Carey



This past year active duty military personnel and their families spent over \$100 million-worth of food stamps⁽¹⁾ at military commissaries. More than 1.7 million⁽²⁾ veterans and their families who are no longer in the military, or about 7 percent of all veterans, used food stamps. If a veteran is single, has a non-service connected disability and is unable to work, he or she will receive a mere \$6 a day⁽³⁾ for food through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

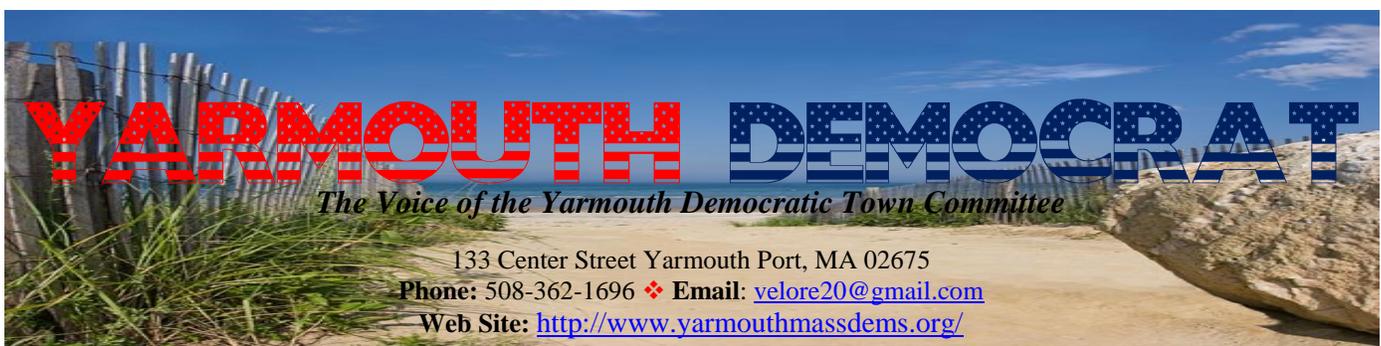
A sad commentary to this is that most of these veterans and active duty personnel who receive food stamps will vote against their own interests and vote Republican⁽⁴⁾. Many veterans believe the GOP is looking out for their shared interests. They do this because the Democratic Party has not convincingly shown that we are *the* Party that is ensuring they will continue to receive this assistance.

We need to encourage our elected representatives at all levels of government to speak up about the plight of these veterans and their families who are *destitute and* living in poverty.

Be sure to watch this [NBC Report](#) on veterans and hunger.

Sr. Editors Note: Dick Carey is a disabled Marine Corps combat veteran and has been a veterans’ advocate for over 47 years. Carey serves on the 9th Congressional District’s Veterans Advisory Board and served on the Military Academies Selection Board for the 9th District. In the year 2000, he formed the national USMC Vietnam Tankers Association and co-founded the Marine Corps Vietnam Tankers Historical Foundation.





Veterans' Day Brunch

Attached is a flyer for the Yarmouth DTC's first annual Veterans Day Brunch. The event will be held on Sunday November 12, 11 AM to 2:00 PM. at the Yarmouth House Restaurant, 335 Rt. 28, West Yarmouth. We hope to make this a yearly tradition. Yes, it is a fund raiser, but more importantly it is a way for us to honor our veterans. We hope you will save the date and join us for this event.

Our keynote speaker will be the Auditor of the State of Massachusetts the Honorable Suzanne M. Bump. Also expected to be in attendance will be Congressman Bill Keating and Candidates for Governor of Massachusetts, Jay Gonzalez, Settie Warren, and Bob Massie.

We will also hold a silent auction at the brunch. If interested in donating items or gift certificates, please contact Dave Velasco at 508-362-1696 or email velore20@gmail.com

Next year will be a busy important election year. I hope you will support our committee's efforts to raise funds so we may be in a position to help all our nominees and candidates.

Thank you,

Bob Isadore

Chair, Yarmouth Democratic Town Committee

Texans Need our Help

Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who has been affected by Hurricane Harvey. This storm has done catastrophic damage across Texas, and there is more still to come.

As President Obama reminded us, helping each other out is what we do as Americans. National and local relief organizations are already on the ground in communities across Texas, and you can make an important difference at this critical moment, too.

To learn more about how you can help, visit the [Red Cross](#) or [Greater Houston Community Foundation](#). If you're able to, I hope you'll lend a hand.

-Robert



I Agree with Joe Kennedy Stance on Transgenders

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VETERANS DAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

11:00AM - 2:00PM

YARMOUTH HOUSE RESTAURANT

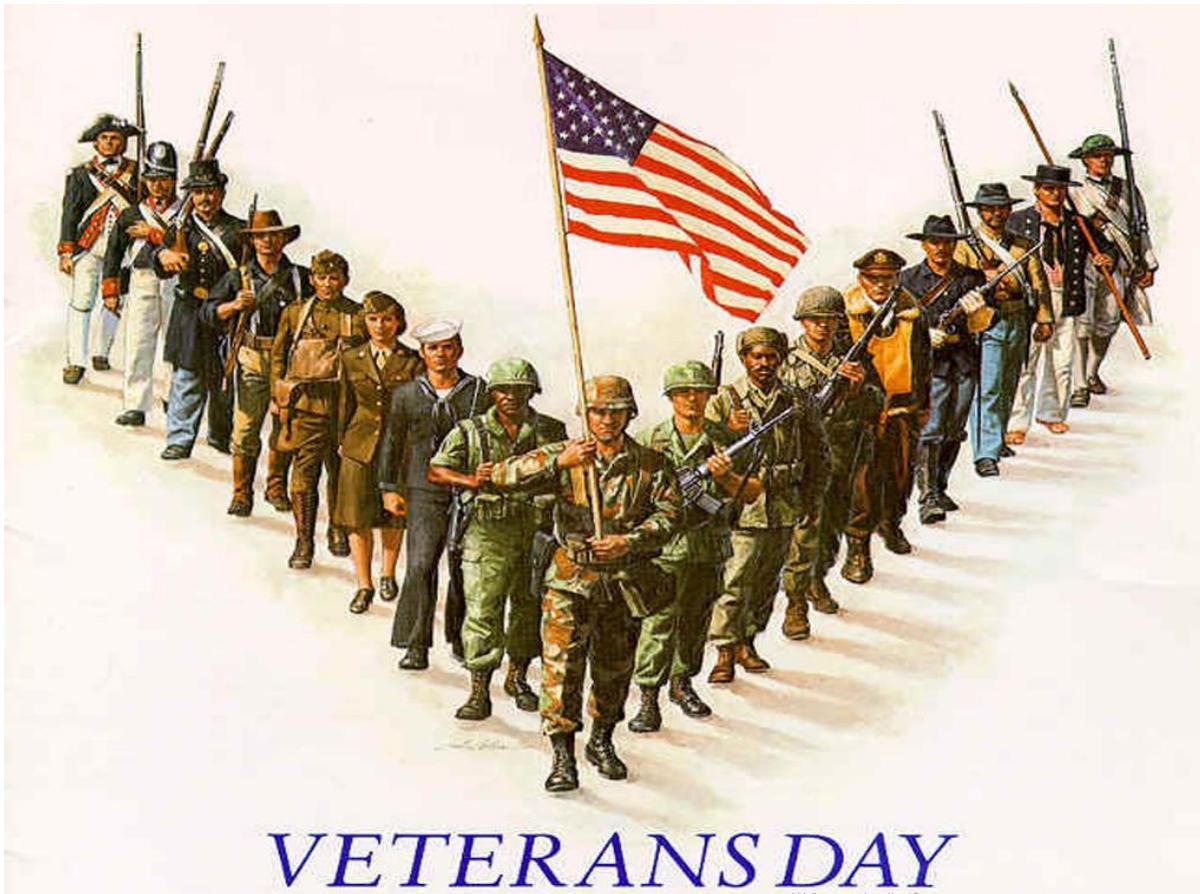
335 Rt. 28, WEST YARMOUTH

\$28.00 PER PERSON

GUEST SPEAKER:

Massachusetts State Auditor
Suzanne Bump

Please RSVP with your check payable to the Yarmouth DTC
133 Center Street, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675



VETERANS DAY

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