



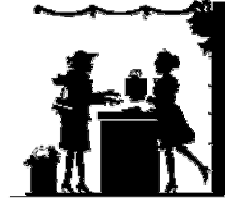
# Westport Voter

April 2006

Visit our website: [www.lwwestportct.org](http://www.lwwestportct.org)

## TAG SALE SET FOR MAY 19 & 20

*Proceeds benefit Staples Scholarship*  
At Robin Weinberg's house: 43 Old Hill Road



### Donations Needed!!

- *small* furniture
- rugs, lamps, picture frames
- kitchenware
- toys in good condition
- jewelry
- bric a brac
- small appliances & electronics
- classy things for the boutique table

### And don't forget the Plant Sale!!

plants, shrubs and seedlings, clearly identified and neatly potted

*PLEASE FIND OTHER OUTLETS FOR YOUR HEAVY FURNITURE, BOOKS AND CLOTHING. PLEASE TAKE SMELLY, BROKEN, DEAD, CRACKED OR DIRTY ANYTHING DIRECTLY TO THE DUMP.*

### Volunteers Needed!!

- publicity — posters, flyers, signs
- set up and price on Wednesday and Thursday, May 18 & 19
- work a shift on Friday or Saturday
- clean up crew for Saturday afternoon or Sunday

### Convenient Drop off site!!

Jackie Gordon will store donations in her Hillspoint Road garage before the sale.

### Call or email Jackie Gordon!!

803 3725

**All donations are tax deductible!!**

## LWV IN THE SCHOOLS—ENROLL!

### *First Grade Recycling*

Our presentation on reducing, reusing and recycling will take place in all five elementary schools during the month of May. If you are interested in being a presenter, please contact Lisa Shufro at 221-1350



### *High School Civics*

Every semester we present our program on the importance of voting, The Power of One, in Staples' American Government classes. This semester we're doing the presentations over the course of two days: Wednesday, May 31 and Monday, June 5. If you are interested in this program, please contact Lisa Shufro at 221-1350 or



## HEAD'S UP!!

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, June 7

8:15 - 11 AM

Peppermill Restaurant

Details in next month's Voter.



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, community-based political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. It was founded in 1920 as an outgrowth of the 72 year struggle to win voting rights for women.

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## LWV WEBSITES

[www.lwvwestportct.org](http://www.lwvwestportct.org)

[www.lwvct.org](http://www.lwvct.org) (Connecticut)

[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) (US)

## Dear Members,

With the rather earlier than usual signs of spring all around us, we are starting to think of wrapping up the League year. Board members and others recently enjoyed the Spring Thaw (the rescheduled Winter Warm-up) with some of our new and prospective members at the home of Joyce Orkand. We are delighted to tell you that during that event new member Robin Weinberg offered her home for the Tag Sale this year! With the worry of finding a place behind us, we can now start the hard work of collecting donations and recruiting workers. Please start thinking about donations for both the Tag Sale and the plant sale. Look for details on pages 1 and 3 of this *Voter*.

We are also beginning to gather material for the Call to Annual Meeting. This year we are planning a fast-paced yet inclusive, lean yet informative discussion of our proposals for the next League year. Our hope is to attract as many members to attend as possible, in order to see old friends, meet new ones, share in the League's decision-making process and perhaps even to be entertained. Please save the morning of June 7 for us and plan to come.

This year's LWVUS Convention is in Minneapolis June 10-13. At Convention the national League chooses its program, elects its officers and adopts its budget for the next two years. We just got word that National plans to raise its PMP (that's the per member payment that we send to National) to an alarming level. Because of this and last year's State PMP increase, we find ourselves with a smaller and smaller share of the dues you pay us to operate. National needs to hear from us that we don't want to keep increasing our dues. We're entitled to send several delegates but so far we're having difficulty finding members who can get away at that time. Please call one of us if you would like to go to Minneapolis to represent LWVWestport.

In closing, we would like to thank all the people who work to make the League as vibrant as it is. There are so many people who do so much, it is impossible to name everyone. But especially at this time of year, when many of our events are behind us and we are busy with end-of-the-year activities, it becomes apparent how much goes into keeping the League running. Even though we're afraid to list our tireless helpers (for fear of taking up too much space and leaving some one out), we want you to know that your work is noticed and appreciated. We thank you all and hope to see you at the Tag Sale and at Annual Meeting.

Laura and Lisa



## Local Program Planning Meeting

Our annual Local Program Planning Meeting, focusing on our local positions, was held on March 8<sup>th</sup>. These positions (found on our website and summarized in the back of your member handbook) are referenced whenever the League addresses an issue with the Town. If the League does not have a position that corresponds with an issue, it will not formally address it, hence, the importance of these positions. Each local position was reviewed and recommendations were made for clerical corrections and substantive changes. All positions were retained and no new studies proposed. The consensus at the meeting was that the League should take more action on our existing positions this year. As co-chairs of Program/Advocacy, Eileen Flug and Pippa Bell Ader are revising the positions as recommended and will present any substantive changes to the membership for approval at the Annual Board Meeting in June.

In addition, Lisa Shufro updated the League on our Education Study, which over the past three years has been investigating the effects of "standardized/high stakes" testing on teaching, curriculum development, learning, scheduling and funding. Lisa reported that the study will conclude this year without a position. More information about the challenges facing this study will be provided at Annual Meeting. Eileen updated us on our Budget Study, which will continue for another year.

Thanks go to those who participated in the meeting and to Hope Hageman for hosting it.

*Pippa Bell Ader and Eileen Flug*

## BOOK GROUP NEWS

LWV Book Group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 1:30 pm.

April 24 the group will discuss *Saturday* by Ian McEwan at Jane Fraser's house, One Winding Lane *West* (that's off Winding Lane, first drive on right). Call her at 226 0686 to tell her you'll be there and to get more specific directions should you need them.

May's title is Art Spiegelman's *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*, the Pulitzer Prize-winning illustrated narrative of Holocaust survival. *The Wall Street Journal* called it: "The most affecting and successful narrative ever done about the Holocaust." Discussion at 1:30 on May 22nd at a location to be determined.





# Westport LWV Needs You!!!!

## Calling all Gardeners for Plant Sale...



Did you know our plant sale is famous? Last year, one intrepid customer from New York had her assistant track us down so she could get the best pickings for her Rhode Island garden. This is a reminder to you all out there that as you clean up your garden and divide, please keep the League in mind. Everything sells well if it's neatly potted and clearly identified. If you need pots, or a place to deliver plants early, contact Lisa Shufro at 221-1350 .

## WINTER WARM-UP TO SPRING THAW

When the blizzard of '06 snowed out the Winter Warm-Up, our annual new and prospective member dinner morphed into Spring Thaw. Everyone there seemed to enjoy not only the food and wine provided by the Board but also the very warm hospitality of our hostess, Joyce Orkand. Thanks to everyone who helped make the event such a success.



## VOTER REGISTRATION

Almost time for one of LWV Westport's most popular and gratifying projects: registering 18 year olds to vote at Staples and Greens Farms Academy. Dates in May to be announced, but call or email right away to sign up. Lynn Crager (227-7807) or Sally Galan (222-1859).



## ECOTIP FOR APRIL

"Standby power waste" is the term used for the power wasted by chargers (cell phone, PDA, iPod etc.) and appliances (remote TV, cordless phones etc.) when they are plugged in but not in use. It's been estimated by a US Energy Department Lab that standby waste accounts for \$5 billion a year in energy costs. What can we do to help reduce that amount? Here are some suggestions: Connect appliances to a power strip surge protector and turn on and off via the power strip switch. Unplug all chargers when not in use or use a power strip. Set your computer to "hibernate" after 15 minutes of non use. It will automatically shut down but save your work to your hard drive. Restarting is faster than booting up.

To activate hibernation, go to Control Panel/Power Options/Systems Hibernate or call me for help: Kitty Graves 227 05056.

## NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee happily reports that the slate for the LWV Westport 2006-07 Board is almost complete, but they still need a Treasurer. Susan Voris is retiring but has agreed to help train her replacement. In addition they are looking for another member for next year's Nominating Committee. Call Maggie Feczko at 454 4694 if you are interested in either position.



## PARADE TIME!!



LWV first marched in Westport's Memorial Day Parade in 1999. Last Century! We're still participating and again recycling our patriotic baseball caps and League T-shirt. Can we try for 50 participants? We have one of the largest Leagues in Connecticut; it's time we let Westport see us out in force. Call Drum Major Winnie Balboni to sign on — 227-9093. She will also have T-shirts and hats for sale.


  
**Please welcome our NEW MEMBERS!**
  
 Tica Benson  
 15 Mayflower Parkway  
 341 9167  
 ti  
 Deborah Green  
 17 Cockenoe Drive  
 226 1845  
 Lee Greenberg  
 9 Duck Pond road  
 226 7575  
 Shelley Rasch  
 21 Hill Farm Road  
 Weston  
 227-3664

## ACTION COMMITTEE ALERT

April's meeting of the Action Committee has been moved up a week. Note that this month it is scheduled for Thursday, April 13 from 11-12 in the Parks & Recreation Department Conference Room at Longshore.

JOIN THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Dues: \$50 Household (limited to 2): \$75

Membership year: July 1 through June 30

Send check made payable to:

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WESTPORT

P.O. Box 285

Westport, CT 06881- 0285

Contributions to LWV Education Fund are tax deductible; LWV dues are not.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- APR**
- 13 **Action Committee** — 11-12 AM  
Parks & Rec Conference Room
  - 12 **Budget Committee** — 10 AM  
Ann Gill's, 53 High Point Road
  - 20 **Observer Corps** — 9 AM  
Library Seminar Room
  - 24 **Book Group** — 1:30 PM  
Jane Fraser's, One Winding Lane **West**
- MAY**
- 3 **Board Meeting** — 9 AM  
Laura Gallagher's, 7 Sandhopper Trail
  - 10 **Budget Committee** — see April
  - 18 **Observer Corps** — 9 AM  
**Action Committee** — 11 AM  
Library Seminar Room
  - 19/20 **Tag Sale** — 9 - 3  
Robin Weinberg's, 43 Old Hill Road
  - 22 **Book Group** — 1:30 PM location tba
  - 29 **Memorial Day Parade**
- JUN**
- 7 **Annual General Meeting** — 8:15 - 11AM  
Peppermill Restaurant

*All League meetings are open to all members.*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WESTPORT

Westport Voter  
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Westport, CT 06881-0285

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