



# Westport Voter

March 2006

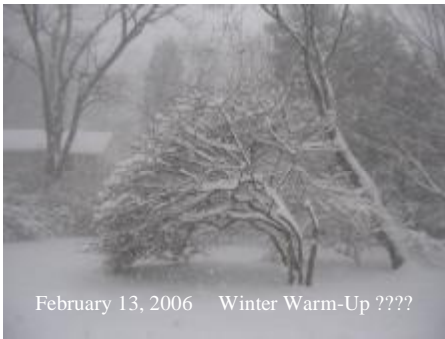
Visit our website: [www.lwwestportct.org](http://www.lwwestportct.org)

## Spring Thaw

Sunday, April 2, 5 - 7 PM  
at the home of Joyce Orkand, 10 Coleytown Road  
RSVP: Jane Fraser 226-0686



Winter Warm-Up, postponed by the snowstorm of February 13, has been rescheduled. This event is for new and prospective members. If you are a current member and bring a prospective member with you, you are welcome to attend!



February 13, 2006 Winter Warm-Up ????

## Concurrence Study Ballots

The LWV of CT is awaiting your responses to the two concurrence studies being considered this year. A good level of response from members is required in order for LWVCT to establish a concurrence. If you have not already voted, please complete the enclosed ballots, affix a stamp and mail them so they may be counted before the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. For further information on the studies, please visit our website, [www.lwwestportct.org](http://www.lwwestportct.org) for links to the reports or refer to the Winter 2006 issue of the Connecticut Voter.

## HELP!!!!



It's time again to publish *Know Your Town* and we need your help!! Every two years the Westport LWV puts together a list of important names and contacts in Westport (elected and appointed officials, town departments, schools, etc.) and mails it to every household in town.

To accomplish this goal we need your help. **On Wednesday, March 22<sup>th</sup> bulkmailing central will be open for business at the home of Laura Gallagher, 7 Sandhopper Trail from 9:30AM to 3:00PM.** This mass mailing is not a small feat and we need every willing volunteer to stop by and pitch in, if only for a half hour. It's a great way to catch up with League friends, have a few laughs and participate in a worthy project. So please join in the fun and RSVP your commitment to Laura at (221-1746) or Karen at (259-1880). Looking forward to seeing you there!!!

## Death Penalty Concurrence Study Presentations

**March 21**

12:00 – 1.30 Mc Manus Room, Westport Public Library  
and

**March 22**

7.00 - 9.00 Rotary Room, Fairfield Public Library

Copies of the study, a short summary, and the concurrence statement are available on-line. Go to the Westport LWV web site, [www.lwwestportct.org](http://www.lwwestportct.org) for a link to the reports.

Please join us for one of these presentations. At the conclusion of the meeting, LWV members will vote to concur (or not) on an individual basis. Members who are not able to attend one of the meetings may vote via the mail-in ballot, provided in this 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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Dear Members,

Have you noticed the days are getting longer? Despite the most recent snow storm, signs of spring are certainly popping up. Our League year, too, feels like it has shifted into its second half, with many of our big social events behind us, and a few business meetings and smaller get-togethers left to go. By the time you read this, we will have completed Local Program Planning. The snowed out Winter Warm-up has been rescheduled and renamed the Spring Thaw. See page one for more details. We will also have a choice of two concurrence meetings to attend on the proposed State position on the death penalty.

Spring is also the time to go back into the schools. We will be back at Staples in April to present our civics presentation, The Power of One, to the second semester American Government classes and we will be visiting each first grade class to present our version of the three R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Again, look for more details in this *Voter*.

Looking forward, our year finishes out with our fun and fabulous Tag Sale, marching in the Memorial Day Parade, and finally, in June, our Annual General Meeting. Looking out at my snowy back yard, it is hard to believe that these events are really just around the corner, but we all know how time flies.

Meanwhile, our budget committee has begun its work, and we have just appointed a committee to review our by-laws and make sure no changes are needed. Our Budget Study Committee continues to meet, as do Observer Corps and the Action Committee.

Finally, our bi-annual publication **Know Your Town** is about to go to press. This brochure is sent to every household in Westport, with a complete listing of town officials and handy phone numbers and contact information. If you'd like to help with labels for the bulk mailing, please drop by for an hour or two at Laura's house, 7 Sandhopper Trail, on Wednesday, March 22. There will be refreshments and lots of good company. We'd love to see every available League member take part.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our many upcoming events, and as always, if you have any questions about anything, do not hesitate to call one of us. Think Spring!

Laura and Lisa

## LWV WEBSITES

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

## STAPLES AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, March 29 at 7:30pm

The PTA Council and Staples PTA are sponsoring an evening program for members of the community who haven't had an opportunity to take an inside look at the new Staples. They have issued the following invitation to members of the League, as well as other community organizations:

The heavy machinery is moving out and the teachers, students and staff are moving in. You are invited to a sneak preview of the new Staples High School. Join us to meet Staples Principal John Dodig, go to class and meet our teachers, see impressive technology in action and enjoy some refreshments in the new cafeteria.

If you are interested in attending, RSVP to one of the following:

Jenny Robson 454-0055

Faith Taylor f226-8832

Joyce Eldh 454-4833

Nora Jinishian 454-7964

## BOOK GROUP NEWS

The book group meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 1:30 pm.

On March 27, the group will meet at the home of Sally Galan, 37 Woods Grove Road, to discuss Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America*.

On April 24 the group will discuss Ian McEwen's *Saturday*.

Multiple copies of the group's selection will be available at the Westport Public Library. If you would like to join the group, email or call Helene Crawford: 227 2572





# Westport LWV Needs You!!!!

## TAG SALE...

We need donations of all kinds: furniture, china, decorative items, toys, games, jewelry. We have volunteers willing to store your contributions and we will be glad to pick-up donations. Contact Jackie Gordon 803-3725 to arrange for pick-up

### Tag Sale Location ????

We are still looking for a location for the Tag Sale. If you have the perfect site, please contact Jackie Gordon 803-3725

When you're starting your garden clean up this year, don't forget the LWV annual plant sale, which has become an important part of the tag sale.



Gardeners can get a jump on preparing for the plant sale by potting up volunteers and divisions. If you need pots, or have any questions, contact Lisa Shufro at 221-1350. She is also willing to care for plants once potted up if you don't have space for them.

## LWV In The Schools



As you may know, our League has several school programs. In the Spring we go to the Staples High School second semester American Government classes to deliver our civics program entitled The Power of One. This is an interactive program developed to encourage the students to register and vote.

For the younger students we present our annual Reduce, Reuse, Recycle program to every first grade in the district. As the title implies, this program is designed to teach the kids how to be more responsible garbage managers.

If you would like to participate in either program, please contact Lisa Shufro at 221-1350

### The Nominating Committee

- Athena Ploumis Bradley** 227-8966
- Diana Coyne** 227-4182
- Maggie Feczko** 454-4694
- Hope Hageman** 227-5335
- Christine O'Sullivan** 227-3634

## 37th Symposium on International Relations

**March 15, 2006 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM Quinnipiac University School of Law**

**Poverty, Prosperity and Peace  
Eradicating Poverty to Build a Culture of Peace**

For more info call LWV CT office 203-288-7996



### EcoTip of the Month BATTERIES!

Digital cameras, iPods, cell phones, laptops, PDAs—we've come to depend more and more on batteries to run and organize our lives. But they have a limited life span and when they die, where should they go? Regular batteries can be held for HazMat Collection Day (check Public Works later in March for this year's dates). Rechargeable batteries and exhausted rechargeable appliances are accepted for recycling at Radio Shack and Staples. An on line source for efficient, high powered rechargeables is [www.greenbatteries.com](http://www.greenbatteries.com).

### WESTPORT LWV IS ON THE FENCE!

In keeping with our nonpartisan mission, the League will be officially on the fence at the opening of the rebuilt Compo Beach Playground this April. The Playground committee is selling pickets on the fence that will surround three sides of the playground, and the League will be proudly represented by a picket that says "WESTPORT LWV."

The League is also represented on the River Walk alongside the Library. If you haven't seen it lately, look for it on the path coming from the Post Road side of the parking lot, near the beginning of the walk. It's the largest brick.

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

- MAR** 15 **SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**  
8:30 - 12:30 Quinnipiac University
- 16 **OBSERVER CORP — 9 AM**  
**ACTION COMMITTEE - 11 AM**  
Library Seminar Room
- 21 **DEATH PENALTY CONCURRENCE - Noon**  
McManus Room, Westport Library
- 22 **BULK MAILING PARTY - 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM**  
Laura Gallagher's, 7 Sandhopper Trail
- 22 **DEATH PENALTY CONCURRENCE 7 -9 PM**  
Rotary Room - Fairfield Public Library
- 27 **BOOK GROUP - 1:30 PM**  
Sally Galan's, 37 Woods Grove Road
- APR** 2 **SPRING THAW - 5 -7 PM**  
Joyce Orkand's, 10 Coleytown Road
- 5 **BOARD MEETING - 9 AM**  
Lisa Shufro's, 15 Pequot Trail

*All League meetings are open to all members.*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WESTPORT

Westport Voter  
P.O. Box 285  
Westport, CT 06881-0285

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT 110  
WESTPORT, CT 06881

**Bulk Mailing Party**  
**March 22**

A simple line drawing of a ballot box with a slot on top and a handle on the side.