



Westport Voter

September 2006

Visit our website: www.lwwestportct.org

Fall Brunch

Sunday, October 8 11 AM - 1 PM

At the Home of Rene & Joe Corcoran
73 Turkey Hill South

\$20.00 per person

RSVP by October 4th to Susan or Pat Voris
226-3076



Details to follow by mail

Candidates' Forums



4th Congressional District
Fairfield Business Council Luncheon
Wednesday, October 4
Marriott Hotel Stamford

Contact Sally Galan by September 20 for more information
222-1850

4th Congressional District Regional Forum
co-sponsored by the Leagues of Women Voters of
Weston, Westport, Wilton, New Canaan, Ridgefield, Redding

Tuesday, October 17

7:30PM -9:30PM

Wilton High School Auditorium

State Representative 133, State Representative 136,
State Senator District 26

Sunday, October 22

4:30PM – 6:00PM

Westport Town Hall Auditorium

Membership Renewal

**Renewal deadline for inclusion in the 2006-2007
LWV Directory - September 15**

Ivan Choy Studies Grass Roots Campaigns in Westport

Mr. Ivan Choy of the Chinese University of Hong Kong visited Westport in August as part of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. Mr. Choy is studying grassroots electoral campaigns and the roll of the media in local elections. The International Visitors Committee of CT/ United Nations Association of Southwest CT (formerly Ruth Steinkraus-Cohen's International Hospitality Committee) asked the Westport LWV to arrange a tour of Town Hall and make appointments for him to talk with town officials. Sally Galan VP of Voter Services arranged visits with First Selectman - Gordon Joseloff, Registrar of Voters (Democrat) - Nita Cohen, and Town Clerk - Patty Strauss. LWV representatives Jane Eyes and Kitty Graves accompanied Sally and Mr. Choy on his informative visit to Town Hall.



Patty Strauss shows Mr. Choy some voter petitions.



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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Laura Gallagher, 221 1746

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Allison Rivard, 254 2079

Voter Services

Sally Galan, 222 1850

Jackie Gordon, 803 3725

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Voter Editor

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Member Handbook, Kitty Graves
 Webmaster, Marilyn Bakker
 Membership Administrator, Joyce Netherton

Greetings everyone,

T'is the season! No, we're not shopping yet, we're referring to the all important *election season*. Our Voter Services Committee has been hard at work all summer organizing **regional and local forums**, **Get out the Vote** campaigns and the **Voters Guide** which is distributed in late October throughout Westport through the generosity of the Minuteman newspaper. Be sure to check this Voter for details on all the forums and make every effort to attend as they are a great resource for educating the community. Member Services is also gearing up for the **Post Election Coffee** that is scheduled for **November 15th at 10AM**. Reserve the date and stayed tuned next month for more details.

Another date we want you to reserve is **October 8th, 11 AM** for the annual **Fall Brunch**. This event is one of the three fundraisers held by the LWVW and while it's always well attended, we do rely on a great turnout to fund all the programs we run throughout the year. Besides, it's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends after a long summer absence. We hope to see you all there!

The rest of the fall is starting to take shape with discussions beginning about a follow up to last year's **Reawakening of Bridgeport**, focusing more practically on ways we in Westport can directly help in making a difference in Bridgeport. The **Seventh Grade and High School Civics Programs** will begin planning this month, an excellent interactive program that takes place in the fall, and we are always looking for volunteers.

We'd like to welcome our new board member Jacqueline Cutrone who be serving as an appointed Director.

On a final note we want to welcome back all of our members and encourage those of you who have left your renewal notices sitting in a file to hurry up and send them in so we can include you in the current handbook.

We look forward to seeing all of you during our many fall events,

Eileen and Laura

LWV WEBSITES

www.lwvwestportct.org
www.lwvct.org (Connecticut)
www.lwv.org (US)



Book Group News

The group will meet on September 25 at 1:30 PM at the home of JoAnn Davidson, 15 Whitney St. to discuss the *Interpreter of Maladies* and *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Please call JoAnn to let her know you will attend the discussion, 227-6185

Upcoming books:

October 23 - *Team of Rivals* by Doris Kearns Goodwin
 November 27 - *Just Revenge* by Alan Dershowitz

Multiple copies of the group's selection will be available at the Westport Public Library. If you have questions about joining the group, email or call Helene Crawford: 227 2572



Westport LWV Remembers

Lois Porro, who died in July 2006, was an enthusiastic League member for many years. After graduating from Barnard College, she worked for an architectural firm in Cambridge, Mass., as well as for the American Unitarian Association. After moving to Westport with her husband Tom and three children, she became active in Westport government, serving on appointed committees addressing the town plan and the creation of the Center for Senior Activities. She was elected to P&Z and served from 1993 – 1997. She was conscientious about her public responsibilities, rarely missing a meeting.

There will be a memorial service for Lois at the Unitarian Church on September, 16 at 11:00 AM. Her family suggested that donations be made in her name to the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

Westport LWV member, *Gordon M. Clark*, died suddenly on August 21st. He was 51 years old. He is survived by his wife, Connie and two daughters, Carolyn and Cristin, as well as his four siblings and his nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made to the educational scholarship foundation for his children. Please send checks to: The New Alliance Bank, 1071 Post Rd. E, Westport, CT 06880, attention Anita Cappiello. Checks are payable to Constance Clark, F/B/O: The Children's Educational Funds.



Westport LWV Needs You!!!!

Save Long Island Sound Protect Coastal Wetlands Open Space Preservation

Interested in the Environment?

Let's explore what more LWV Westport could do to address natural resource issues.

Contact :

Pippa Bell Ader 221-1555

Alison Rivard 254-2079

Or come to the next Action Committee meeting on September 21 - 11 AM, Parks and Recreation

GET OUT THE VOTE

To support our GET OUT THE VOTE mission, a committee is working on a project for the upcoming election.

The project involves selecting high traffic establishments in town where employees who have one-on-one contact with the public would wear a sticker on November 7 that asks, DID YOU VOTE TODAY?

If you are interested in helping - the work is not onerous- please get in touch with Katy Goldschmidt at 227-0003



Observer Corps

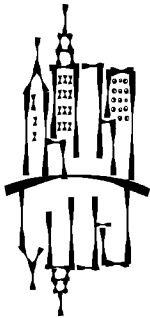
Westport Town meetings have never been so interesting or important as they are this year with a number of important issues to be discussed and hopefully resolved. The Observer Corps is alive and active but we still need more volunteers to attend meetings. The LWV positions can only be acted upon if we keep our finger on the pulse of our Town as an ongoing, interested, and vibrant organization. So trot out your calendars and see if you can fit one of the following meetings into your busy schedule on a more or less regular basis. If you miss one once in a while we understand. It happens to all of us. What is important is being able to come to our regular group meeting held at 9:00 AM on the third Thursday of the month when we gather to compare notes and discuss the current state of our town government.

Currently we need Observers for the following meetings:

- Westport/Weston Health District meets first Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM
- Public Site & Building Commission meets 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM
- Youth Commission meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM
- Zoning Board of Appeals meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM
- RTM meets the first Tuesday of the month at 8:00 PM
- Board of Education meets every other Monday at 8:00 PM

Please contact Rose Anne Preston at 454-3547 if you would like to know more about these meetings or if you are interested in being an Observer.

THE REAWAKENING OF BRIDGEPORT PART 2



We are in the process of organizing a follow-up to last year's successful 'Reawakening of Bridgeport' program. This year the event will take place on Sunday, November 12 in the afternoon (time to be announced.) Our first organizational meeting is on Thursday, September 14 at 1pm at Lisa Shufro's house. We need a good sized committee to get this going, so if you are interested, please join us.

TOWN MEETINGS OF INTEREST

Sept. 18 7:00 PM - Proposed New Town Plan. **All** citizens invited. Town Meeting on Conservation Issues. **Your** input is important.

Sept. 20 7:00 PM - Conservation Commission re: YMCA (tentative)

Sept. 21 7:00 PM - Gorham Ave./Redcoat Development. Map & Text Change and Site Plan to allow 20 condo units in residential zone.



Welcome New Member
Becky Ruthven
3 Panhandle Lane
222 - 1206

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

- SEPT 20 **Budget Study** - 10 AM
At home of Ann Gill, 53 High Point Road
- 21 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM
Action Committee - 11 AM
Parks and Recreation
- 25 **Book Group** - 1:30 PM
At home of JoAnn Davidson, 15 Whitney St.
- OCT 4 **Board Meeting** - 9 AM
At home of Laura Gallagher, 7 Sandhopper Trail
- 4 **4th Congressional District Candidate Forum**
Marriott Hotel, Stamford
- 8 **Fall Brunch** - 11 AM - 1 PM
At home of Rene Corcoran, 73 Turkey Hill South
- 11 **Budget Study** - 10 AM
At home of Ann Gill, 53 High Point Road
- 17 **4th Congressional District Candidate Forum**
7:30 PM - Wilton High School Auditorium
- 19 **Observer Corps** - 9 AM
Action Committee - 11 AM
Parks and Recreation
- 22 **Local Candidate's Forum** - 4:30 PM
Westport Town Hall
- 23 **Book Group** - 1.30 PM
At home of Athena Bradley, 7 Northgate

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

Address Correction Requested

Fall Brunch - October 8

