

*LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF
CONCORD-CARLISLE*

Invites you to attend our

LWVCC ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Concord Park, 65 Commonwealth Ave., West Concord

6:30 PM Reception
Cool drinks, appetizers and conversation

7:15 PM Program
Opening Remarks, Speaker, Certifications of Appreciation

***“Reflections of a Concord Selectwoman”
Virginia “Dinny” McIntyre***

7:45 PM Business Meeting
Conduct the annual business of our organization

8:30 PM Dessert and coffee

If you need a ride to attend the Annual Meeting
Call (978) 371-7293

CO-PRESIDENTS' LETTER

Becky Shannon and Paula Vandever, Executive Steering Committee Co-Chairs

Dear League Friends,

Thank you League members for your support and involvement in our many activities this year. We have had a dynamic and enthusiastic Board and so many members have participated throughout the year to help us accomplish our mission. We have had fun while advocating to influence public policy and inform the public about our issues. And we have been publicized through several sources of media. What a great group of talented members we have!

We began the year with a horse drawn carriage and a dozen walkers in Concord's 375th Birthday Parade. Our 50-year members rode in the carriage on a beautiful September day.

We worked for environmental legislation, health care reform, campaign finance reform, and against casinos. Leading up to the November ballot we fought the bills to repeal the state sales tax on alcoholic beverages and Chapter 40B and to reduce the state sales tax, and worked to send a message to our state representative to support single payer health care in Massachusetts.

We held candidates forums for the 5th Congressional District, State Senator and State Representatives and local races in Concord and Carlisle. During Concord's "Our Town, Our Schools, Our Money" forum, we learned important information about how well our town officials are running the town in a difficult economic climate. During LWVMA Day on the Hill, we learned about "Money in Politics" and "Redistricting" in Massachusetts, very important and very current issues that need our on-going attention.

Following last year's local program initiatives, we held a forum on Water use, focusing on the damaging effects brought about by the use of single serving water bottles. Also, we began an initiative to better educate ourselves and the public about town government in Carlisle and Concord, increase participation of citizens in town government boards and committees and we are now preparing to write a revised, possibly multi-media, "Know Your Town."

At our Fall and Winter Membership breakfasts we discovered that our members enjoy having time to talk to each other about the League and issues of importance. As a result, we are including more social time in this year's Annual Meeting. Also, we are learning about our members' interests after a new high-tech member survey.

We participated in the LWVMA educational fundraising events— "Women's Health in the 21st Century" which drew hundreds of attendees to Framingham and Hadley for two day-long forums that raised more than \$6,000 for the LWVMA.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work and has developed a strong slate of recommended LWVCC Board members for next year. Mark your calendars to attend Annual Meeting and discover what is proposed for the coming year. Join in the excitement and feel the satisfaction of making our democracy work for individuals, for our towns, for our state, and our nation – it could not be a better time to get involved!

Sincerely,

Becky Shannon and Paula Vandever

ORDER OF BUSINESS

6:30 Social

7:15 Program

7:45 Call To Order

Business Meeting

- Credentials Report
- Membership Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Budget Committee Report
- Audit
- Program

Local Program Report

Adoption of Program

- Co-Presidents' Report
- Nominating Committee Report
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Introduction of New Board
- Direction to the Board
- Any New Business
- Adjournment

LIFE IN THE BALANCE:

Troubled Waters

The collaborative series of forums known as **Life in the Balance** cosponsored by LWVCC, ConcordCAN, Carlisle Climate Action, and the Alliance for Democracy, continued this year with the topic and title: Troubled Waters.

Part 1: The Movie TAPPED.

On October 22 a public screening of the movie **TAPPED** was held at the Alcott School auditorium in Concord and was attended by 70 people. The movie raised questions about our most precious natural resource water, by focusing on the bottled water industry which is changing fresh water into a commodity fresh drinking water and selling people drinking water in plastic bottles as a health requirement. The movie touched on tough issues such as water justice and equity, environmental consequences of bottled water and water quality, conservation and sustainability. Rev. Tony Buquor moderated a feedback session following the movie which raised more questions about the world and our local water supply.

Part 2: Troubled Waters.

On November 5 a second water event was held in the form of a panel discussion about local water issues called “**Troubled Waters: Protecting Our Taps**” and was attended by 68 people. The panelists included **Ruth Caplan**, who appeared in TAPPED and is National Campaign Coordinator for the Alliance for Democracy's Defending Water for Life Campaign and past chair of the national Sierra Club's Water Privatization Task Force, and **Alan Cathcart**, Water & Sewer Superintendent for the Town of Concord, and **Valerie Lane**, President, ValiantLane LLC, an environmental and management consulting firm.

Ruth spoke eloquently about water as a human rights issue and the connections

between water and waste, energy, food, transportation and political conflict. Alan spoke to us about our local watersheds, water cycle and public drinking water system. He talked about the importance of a well-managed water supply. Valerie spoke to the safety of our local water systems and the threats to it especially in the form of emerging contaminants found in pharmaceuticals. The speaker part of the forum was taped for CCTV and is available on demand at www.concordtv.org.

Following the speakers, 50 attendees gathered in five breakout local action groups and discussed issues and actions around Bottled water, Concord water, Carlisle water, Watershed protection, and Household/personal actions. A summary of the group discussions and a copy of the resource sheet handed out at the forum is available under Life In The Balance on the LWVCC website www.lwvcc.org.

The Water Forum organizing team reviewed the responses, questions and issues raised at the forum and created a Water Action Survey in which people can sign up to get involved in local water actions. The survey is available at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZLRFPP3>

Now is the time for action. Stay informed, get involved, fill out the survey.

TOWN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

Ardis Bordman & Susan Sekuler, Co-chairs

At our 2010 Annual Meeting we approved a Town Government Initiative with a focus on educating ourselves about Town government operations and how we could encourage more active participation in Town boards and committees. At present, we are in a study and learning mode, and hope to continue the process next year.

In our early meetings, we centered on how to increase participation in government, especially encouraging candidates for local offices and volunteers to serve on boards and committees. We lament the gradual loss of our active observer corps. If we cannot staff a traditional observer corps, we hope to encourage our members to attend some meetings of a board/committee of their choice as a start of our work.

The Committee also wants to refresh our knowledge of the open meeting law in an electronic age. We want to review the Town charter, and learn more about the evolving nature of our local government. We also have talked about making citizens more aware of the timing of the warrant process in the fall, the petition article procedure and deadlines, and the closing of the warrant early in January, as well as the caucus process for selecting candidates for local offices.

Another part of our effort is to review our local positions should we want to propose

advocacy or action by the League. As we gathered more information about the duties and responsibilities of various boards and committees (and their legal constraints), we agreed that we would like to write a “Know Your Town” booklet, available on-line, and possibly in a printed version as part of our action.

In addition, we may want to organize informational meetings about Town government, like our annual forum called “Our Town, Our Schools, Our Money,” filmed by CCTV, which helps to inform the public about the current state of finances in our Towns. As the financial situation of cities and towns becomes more constrained, it is even more important for citizens to understand how our local government functions. State aid is down, health care is up, taxes increase, and a new high school is needed. How will the Town boards and committees balance the needs of all of our citizens in difficult financial times?

If you would like to join us just to take part in our discussions, you are welcome. If you would like to tackle a particular area to research, or if you want to work on a sub-group of two or three, please join us. Thus far, we have far more questions than answers, and invite you to join us!

MEMBERSHIP

Barbara Lewis, Membership Chair

Once again the year began with a successful Autumn Coffee held at Concord Greene on September 15th. We were joined by State Senator Susan Fargo and State Representative Cory Atkins who spoke about their work on Beacon Hill. We got a strong start to membership renewals at this meeting and continued to see renewals come in through the fall.

January's Membership Breakfast at the Colonial Inn was all set to welcome Commissioner David Morales of the Commonwealth's Division of Health Care Finance and Policy to speak to us about the status of the healthcare legislation passed in 2006. But Old Man Winter and several horrendous snow storms played havoc with our plans, and the postponed event left us low on speakers but afforded us all the wonderful opportunity to share with each other our incentives for joining the League and our views on where we would like to see the League focus its attention. Several left commenting that they were glad for the opportunity to get to know other League members better, and would welcome more events like this.

Membership renewal by the deadline of January 31 was more successful than the

previous year. We had 157 members registered with LWVUS by the deadline (as opposed to 132 in January 2010). A few late renewals, a couple of National Members living in Concord, and several new members bring our current number to 165 members, 14 of whom live in Carlisle. Eighteen members did not renew. We lost a dear friend and long time member, Gayle Kaufman, to cancer in August. We were joined by 16 brand new members. And we are honored to welcome two members, Mary Clarke and Marion Thornton, to the status of 50 Year Life Member.

In the autumn, new member Irmingard Doane began helping with some of the membership tasks. And following the January Membership Breakfast a committee began meeting to devise a survey to learn of members' interests and availability to participate in League activities, in an effort to strengthen the LWVCC and increase member satisfaction and involvement. Julie Rohwein created an online survey, and preliminary results will be shared at the Annual Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP BULLETIN

Anne Hayden, Bulletin Editor

The *Membership Bulletin* continues to be one of the major ways that information is transmitted to our membership. The *Bulletin's* goal is to provide both Concord and Carlisle members with a variety of materials and information about important issues at the local, state and national levels. This year four issues were produced.

Over the past several years the LWVCC website has become an excellent source of League and governmental information for both our members and the general public. As

Bulletin editor, I look forward to coordinating even more with our LWVCC webmaster, so that you will continue to have access to League information in a timely and comprehensive manner.

Many thanks to all who supplied articles for the *Bulletin* this year. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your suggestions, ideas or thoughts regarding this publication. Together we can make it even better!

CARLISLE

Launa Zimmaro, Carlisle Liaison

Carlisle League members spent 2010 – 2011 supporting League positions and educating the voters of Carlisle through letters to the editor and public forums. Work was begun on the effort to update Know Your Town, a document about the many boards and committees and positions that make up our local town government. Letters and articles were submitted to the Mosquito to highlight League advocacy and League members continue to serve the town during elections and Town Meetings, working the polls and as adjunct moderators. We appeared before

the Board of Selectmen to request that they adopt a resolution in support of the Massachusetts E-Waste Bill which they granted.

League members were instrumental in the creation and development of a garden, recycling and composting plan, and focus on healthier food at the Carlisle Public Schools. There was a LWV booth once again at the Old Home Day celebration and a Candidates Forum was held on May 1.

PUBLICITY & L WVCC WEBSITE

Erin Pastuszenski, Communications Director

During 2010-2011, the Communications Director worked closely with the Board to inform the general public and League members about L WVCC's activities and issues. Using press releases, event postings, letters to the editor, local cable television, our website (www.lwvcc.org) and email outreach, we publicized our events, projects, service to voters, and issue education and advocacy, encouraging participation and involvement. L WVCC remains highly visible in our communities, and the public values our contributions.

To help our members and the public learn more about the League, local government and public policy issues, we added more content and links to our website. We especially encouraged members to explore the websites of Concord (www.concordma.gov), Carlisle (www.carlislema.gov), CCTV (www.concordtv.org or www.carlisletv.org, for on demand video), L WVUS

(www.lwv.org) and L WV of Massachusetts (www.lwvma.org). We also posted some L WVCC photos online at <http://lwvofconcordcarlislephotosite.shutterfly.com>.

This spring, L WVCC launched a Communications & Media Committee charged with developing a communications plan. Five teams have been working in the areas of Member Communications, Website, Social Media, TV and Press/Community Relations. We are on our way to improving our current communications and exploring new methods of connecting with members and the public. L WVCC is grateful for the work of committee members Lauren Bakewell, Anne Hayden, Judy LaRocca, Barbara Lewis, Cindy Nock, Dee Ortner, Erin Pastuszenski, Shawna Reid and Julie Rohwein, and for input from other members, including Louise Haldeman. Any member interested in getting involved may contact Erin at communications@lwvcc.org.

BOOK GROUP

Anne Hayden, Chair

It is hard to believe that the LWVCC Book Group has been meeting for six years! Over sixty people have participated in at least one of our meetings and over thirty members come fairly regularly with our usual attendance around 10-15 members.

This year we will have read five books, with the final session the morning of Annual Meeting. Each year we often have a focus, and this year's was Africa and issues surrounding slavery. The books we read were *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World* by Margaret MacMillan, *Middle Passages: African American Journeys to Africa, 1787-2005* by James T. Campbell,

Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II by Douglas A. Blackmon, *The Places In Between* by Rory Stewart, and *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer.

Our May meeting will be on Wednesday, May 25 from 10-11:30 am in the Trustees Room in the Concord Public Library. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for an enlightening and enjoyable discussion.

2011 WINTER FUNDRAISER

Barbara Anthony, Chair

Our 2011 Winter Fundraiser began with an early March appeal letter to our Concord and Carlisle friends who are not members of the LWVCC. Their support is important to us and helps finance our many activities. We generally receive a flurry of responses in the two months after the letters are sent. However, a slow trickle of responses continues right up to the following spring when a new letter is sent! Definitely a successful fundraising campaign!

So far this year we have received \$500 from the following donors: Elaine Diccico, Art and Diane Fulman, Sarah Garth, Lloyd and June Grace, Eric Green and Carmin Reiss,

Althea Kaemmer, Mary Kemp, Thomas McKean, Helen Minton, Pam and Gordon Pettengill, Barbara Pike, Gordon Shaw, Richard and Susan Walters, Herbert and Angela Wilkins. Many thanks to all of these friends, their support enables us to continue to serve Concord and Carlisle in many ways.

I would also like to thank Nancy Beeuwkes, Ardis Bordman, Nancy Cronin, Louise Haldeman, Anne Hayden, Erica Morrison, Erin Pastuszewski, Susan Sekuler and Betsy Sluder for their help with this year's campaign.

VOTER SERVICE

Elections and Voting

LWVCC provides voter information and urges residents to vote through its website, letters to the editor and press releases, and signs placed around town before elections and Town Meetings. Nancy Beeuwkes and Paula Vandever, with the help of other League members, post the LWV voting reminder signs around Concord, and Carlisle League members encourage voting in their town, as well.

Fall Candidate Forums

LWVCC proudly sponsored two candidate forums during the busy fall 2010 election season. Our 5th Congressional District forum on October 16th was the only one in the state that brought all four of the candidates running for that U.S. House seat together on the same stage. LWVCC welcomed incumbent Niki Tsongas and challengers Dale Brown, Bob Clark and Jon Golnik and gave the voters a chance to hear the views of all candidates. Risa Nyman (LWV of Brookline, past LWVMA President) moderated the forum at the Alcott School, and volunteers from Leagues in Acton Area, Harvard and Westford joined our members to make the event run smoothly. Paula Vandever was in charge of organizing the forum.

Just a few days later, on October 20, 2010, LWVCC hosted another forum for the State Senate and Representative candidates, again at the Alcott School. Becky Shannon took the lead on organizing this forum. Sen. Susan Fargo and challenger Sandi Martinez faced off first, followed by Rep. Cory Atkins and her opponent, K.C. Winslow. Nancy Carapezza (LWV of Wayland and past LWVMA President) moderated. The exchanges were lively and substantive, covering a wide range of topics. The efforts

of League volunteers yielded another successful voter education program.

The media enthusiastically covered both of the LWVCC's pre-election candidate forums. Articles and photos garnered front-page, above-the-fold coverage in the *Concord Journal* for two consecutive weeks. A *Lowell Sun* reporter and local bloggers also published stories. We filmed the forums for cable TV, and you can still view them online in the League of Women Voters category on the Video on Demand page of CCTV's website, www.concordtv.org.

Among the LWVCC members volunteering for the fall candidate forums were Barbara Anthony, Lauren Bakewell, Anita Barker, Nancy Beeuwkes, Ardis Bordman, Nancy Cronin, Louise Haldeman, Anne Hayden, Judy LaRocca, Barbara Lewis, Cindy Nock, Erin Pastuszenski, Janet Rothrock, Becky Shannon, Paula Vandever and Launa Zimmaro.

Concord Candidate Forum

On March 6, 2011, LWVCC held its Concord Candidate Forum in the Town House Hearing Room. Board of Selectmen candidate Jeffrey Wieand, School Committee candidate Pamela Gannon, and Housing Authority candidates Anita Barker, Stephen Newbold and K.C. Winslow all participated, answering a wide range of questions from the League and the audience. (Eric Van Loon, running for reelection as Town Moderator, was unable to attend.) Jo-Ann Berry of the LWV-Acton Area served as moderator of our forum.

Erin Pastuszenski coordinated arrangements for the forum and many other LWVCC members volunteered to work on the event, including Nancy Beeuwkes, Nancy Cronin,

Louise Haldeman, Erica Morrison, Cindy Nock, Becky Shannon and Paula Vandever.

The *Concord Journal* and ConcordPatch.com both covered the forum. The recorded program is still available for viewing as Video on Demand at www.concordtv.org, CCTV's website.

LWVCC also collaborated with the *Concord Journal* on a Voter Guide published on the Thursday before Election Day, March 29. For the first time, the candidate statements were also posted on our League's website, www.lwvcc.org.

Carlisle Candidate Forum

For the May 17, 2011 town election in Carlisle, which had no contested races, LWVCC presented an informational candidate forum designed to educate residents about how their local government works. Barbara Lewis took the lead in organizing the forum, which was held on May 1 in the Clark Room at Town Hall. Carlisle League members Cindy Nock and Ginny Lamere, along with new member Marilyn Harte, were instrumental in ensuring a successful forum. The forum was recorded by Cindy for airing on CCTV.

New Candidate Forums Committee

In April, the new Candidate Forums Committee met for the first time. The committee's charge is to support LWVCC's voter education efforts by advising the Board on format and ground rules for candidate forums and by assisting in planning and conducting such forums. Erin Pastuszewski will chair this committee, and Nancy Beeuwkes, Louise Haldeman, Dee Ortner, Becky Shannon and Paula Vandever participated in the first meeting.

To start, the committee is researching candidate forum formats in hopes of making forums more viewer-friendly, lively and informative and a better experience for candidates and the audience. Another first task is to create an archive of documentation from past forums and a collection of templates for use in organizing future forums.

Any member interested in learning about a wide variety of formats for candidate and issue forums or learning the ropes of running a good League forum should consider joining the Candidate Forums Committee. To learn more, contact Erin at communications@lwvcc.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Betsy Sluder, Chair

Concord has benefitted by the passage of the Wetlands By-law last year. The town has been able to control violators legally.

Some of the following actions were taken:

1. The illegal compost pile was taken down at Marabello Farm. The buried wetland was uncovered in part and the work is still ongoing.
2. The oil company at the corner of Lowell Road has leaking oil storage tanks that have contaminated the soil in the area. The company has been required to remove this soil and work has been put into action. However, the soil around the sewer line on the property has yet to be cleaned up. League members concerned will watch this project. The required clean-up project needs to be satisfactorily completed.

The Natural Resources Commission denied the application for a ramp at Crosby's Corner to Route 2. As it was planned, it involved massive intrusion into the adjacent wetland.

Many other projects were reviewed in the course of the 2010/2011 year. Many involved intrusion into buffer zones and wetlands themselves. The main mission of the Natural Resources Commission is to protect these valuable natural resources. Concord is dependent on them for its drinking water, for control of flooding in periods of high water, and for storage of water during droughts.

As chairman of the League's Natural Resources Committee, I have attended the bi-monthly meetings of the Commission. I am impressed with the service it renders to our community in seeing that Concord's water supply on which our town depends is protected.

I have also worked on the Riverfest Committee, which celebrates our wonderful river basin of the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers.

DAY ON THE HILL

Nancy Cronin, State Action

Ten LWVCC members attended the state LWV annual Day on the Hill on April 13th. The theme of the day was ‘Transparency in Government’. Senator Jamie Eldridge spoke about Corporate Responsibility in Government. Sen. Eldridge is the first and last candidate for the state legislature to run and win a seat under the Massachusetts Clean Elections law. Shortly after Eldridge had to sue to receive funding under the law which had been passed by initiative petition, the legislature repealed the law.

In response to the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission case allowing corporations to make unlimited contributions to candidates, Sen. Eldridge has filed legislation to require corporations and labor unions paying for political advertisement in Massachusetts elections to disclose their spending even if the ads are made by another entity. He has sponsored a second bill requiring corporations chartered in Massachusetts to include the details of their political spending in their quarterly reports and to have such expenditures in excess of \$5,000 authorized by a majority of their board of directors.

A third bill prohibits lobbyists from soliciting campaign contributions and prohibits state contractors (with contracts of \$50K or more) from giving or soliciting contributions for statewide and legislative candidates for office. 2011 is the first year of the current legislative session, and these bills will be heard by the Elections Laws Committee later in the session.

The second speaker was Senator Stanley Rosenberg, co-chair of the Special Joint

Committee on Redistricting. Reapportioning of Congressional districts, as well as legislative districts, will take place this year based on the 2010 federal census. Due to the results of the census Massachusetts will lose one Congressional seat, so this will be an especially difficult redistricting year.

Reapportionment must take into account not only population but also must make sure that minority communities have the opportunity to elect members that represent them and that ‘communities of interest’ be kept together. The last redistricting plan in 2001 was challenged in court and sent back to the legislature for revision.

To make the process more transparent this time there will be 13 public hearings held throughout the state, and a web site malegislature.gov/redistricting will explain the proposed legislation and show the final redistricting maps. The hearings can also be seen on the website and written testimony can be offered. It is expected that this process will be completed by Thanksgiving.

After the speakers answered members’ questions, League member specialists, including our own Louise Haldeman and Launa Zimmaro, reviewed the League’s priority bills in the following areas: Good Government, Elections, Casino Gambling, Environment, Basic Human Needs, and Health Care.

LWVCC members then enjoyed lunch with Senator Susan Fargo. Representative Cory Atkins was unable to join us due to a legislative commitment.

LWVMA LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Louise Haldeman, LWVMA Casino Gambling Specialist

While here in the Concord-Carlisle League we have been busy with matters which concern our towns, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts has been pursuing state legislation. Last year as we came to the end of the two year legislative session we could see successful conclusions to some of the bills we had followed but many others were left unfinished and are before us again as we start the next two year session.

Major interests for the LWVMA this session will be bills relating to Good Government, the Election Process and Voting Rights, the Environment and Natural Resources, Basic Human Needs, Health Care, and last but not least Casino Gambling.

As this is written the hearings on major bills are getting underway. One of the first or at least one of the first likely to attract large crowds will be the hearing on casino gambling. Those who remember the TV-like ending to last year's session know that a bill to allow both destination casinos and slots at racetracks passed the house but was vetoed by the Governor who opposes slots at the race tracks.

The bill is back and so is a bill endorsed by the LWVMA which demands that the Legislature commission an independent cost/benefit analysis of any and all gambling proposals. Where this goes is yet to be seen but even if legislation allowing Class 3 gambling passes, there will be a long road to be traveled before anything happens and there are many fiscal, social, and environmental aspects which will need to be explored.

The League is again backing 3 major environmental bills: the safer alternatives bill, the E-waste bill, and the expanded bottle bill. All of these have considerable public support and strong support among some in the Legislature but the outcome is not sure. As always public pressure on our Representatives and Senators is important.

Health Care remains a major focus and there are several bills relating to patient safety certification of professional midwives, etc. which stand a good chance of passing. The big fight will be over Medicare for all and the Public Insurance option.

Meeting Basic Human Needs has always been a LWVMA priority and as the number of citizens who live near or below the poverty line is expanding it must remain so.

Those who attended Day on The Hill heard detailed reports on the individual bills included under the categories mentioned above. The information is also available on the LWVMA website as are the names of all the LWVMA Program Specialists, three of whom are to be found in the Concord-Carlisle League: Launa Zimmaro for Environmental Affairs, Clare Gordon for Basic Human Needs, and Louise Haldeman for Casino Gambling.

Although the League will of course be submitting testimony as hearings are held and meeting when possible with legislators, little can happen without the support of many voices. What happens on Beacon Hill does affect what happens in Concord and Carlisle.

HEALTH CARE

Paula Vandever

This year the League has continued to advocate for health care reform at each of the local, state and national levels and, in addition, we held two educational fundraising forums on health care.

Preparing for the November 2 election, several LWVCC members collected the needed 200 signatures in Concord and Carlisle in order to place a non-binding referendum urging our state representative to vote for single payer health care legislation in Massachusetts, often called "Improved Medicare for All." The question passed by 66.6% in the 14th Middlesex district. The same question also passed in all of the other 13 districts that had placed the question on the ballot as well as the 10 districts in 2008.

The LWVMA supports the following bills and urges us to write our state legislators:

- Improved Medicare for All (S501, H338)
- The Public Option Bill (S500)
- An Act Relative to Patient Safety (S543)
- An Act Relative to Certified Professional Midwives (H2368)
- An Act Relative to Enhancing the Practice of Nurse Midwives (H2369)

At the national level, the Affordable Care Act, the new health care bill (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act), reached a one year anniversary this March. The Act's protections will take effect over ten years and already:

- Children are no longer denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions;
- Insurance companies can no longer impose lifetime limits on coverage; and
- Young adults can stay on their parents' health plans until age 26.

However, we must continue advocacy for the law since some members of Congress are trying to repeal and/or cut away at its provisions. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that repeal of the Affordable Care Act would add \$230 billion to the national deficit over the next ten years and leave 54 million Americans without insurance.

This year the LWVMA approached the LWVMA Health Care Committee with the suggestion of holding two educational forums for which donations would be solicited. The plan was to educate, cover costs and raise additional money for the state League.

The two forums, "Women's Health in the 21st Century: What you need to know" were held March 5th in Framingham and March 12th in Hadley. The speaker's topics included: "The Impact of Media on Women's Health;" "Disparities in Health Care: Access Limited by Culture, Language Barriers, and Lack of Insurance;" "Mental Health Issues for Women;" "Vitamin D and Women's Health;" "The Impact of Physical Activity on Women's Health;" "Lesbian & Transgender Health: Needs & Disparities in Care;" "Why Effective Research Should be Your Friend;" and "Our Bodies Ourselves: Women Growing Older." DVDs are being created and copies will be available for review.

Many League members from across the state worked to organize the forums, recruit speakers, print and disseminate flyers and programs and solicit donations which were recognized in the programs and DVDs. Approximately, 300 people, mostly women and League members, attended the two forums. Those who commented or filled out

the evaluation forms rated the speakers highly. The donations were able to cover costs and raise approximately \$8,000 for the LWVMA. We feel this is a great model for future such forum/fundraiser events.

Everyone is to be congratulated for all the work done over the year. I would especially

like to thank those who contacted legislators and members of Congress urging support for our strong position for quality, affordable health care for all. The U.S. health care system is in need of the improvements that our state and national positions clearly define. Keep up the effort!

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Nancy P. James

Introduction: National and state League chapters have made a significant commitment to domestic violence prevention. Our newsletters will now contain a report each month on the activities within Concord and surrounding towns about this issue. Included in these reports will be Rachel's Box Project, Domestic Violence Services Network (including DVVAP and the Network for Women's Lives)

Rachel's Box Project serves victims of domestic violence, as well as child and elder abuse, in over **50 locations around the western suburbs**. Wooden boxes located throughout area community (libraries, schools, faith communities, etc.) contain general information on domestic violence and related issues as well as information to help victims keep safe (safety planning, support resources, and hotlines). Please notify Nancy James 978-369-2771 if you notice boxes in disarray or needing materials.

DVVAP Safety Tips: important tips can be found on the Concord town web site:

http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_police/dvvap/dvsafety

Candlelight Vigil October 14 - Remembering victims of domestic violence: During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2010 victims of domestic violence were observed at an annual candlelight vigil held at the *First Parish in Concord*. The keynote speaker was State Senator Jamie Eldridge.

"Unusual Help Needed for Victims of Domestic Violence in Privileged Communities"

Article by Kiersten Warning, Director and creator of the Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program (DVVAP): *"In communities of privilege or affluence, victims of domestic violence face special challenges. Some of the very characteristics we value in our community may act as obstacles when it comes to seeking or being offered help when there is violence in the home. These represent substantial challenges that impact victims' ability to leave their abusers."*

Resources for victim assistance

Emerson Hospital	978.287.3690
Rape Crisis Center	800.542.5212
Domestic Violence Victim Assistance Program (DVVAP)	888.399.6111
Network for Women's Lives Referral Service	978.287.4089
Support Group for Women with Controlling Partners	978.369.0259 978.369.2208
Concord District Court's - District Attorney Victim Witness Advocate	978.369.0225
Department of Transitional Assistance	617.629.1400
Food Source Hotline	800.645.8333
The Mass. Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence - (Jane Doe)	www.janedoe.org
Domestic Violence Shelter (SafeLink)	877.785.2020

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lauren Bakewell, Treasurer

League of Women Voters Concord-Carlisle

Proposed 2011-2012 Budget

AVAILABLE FUNDS:		2010-2011	Notes:	2011-2012	ACTUAL	Notes:
Bank Balance - Checking		\$34,000	est. June 30, 2011 Balance	\$34,000		
Certificate of Deposit		\$5,796	Matures 8/2011	\$5,800		
Sharfman Fund (LWVMA)		\$0		\$0	\$0	
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS :		\$39,796		\$39,800	\$0	

Approved Budget July 2010-June 2011

Proposed Budget July 2011 - June 2012

Thru Feb 11

	FY10-11	FY10-11	10 - 11	FY11-12		
REVENUE	Budget	Actual	Explanatory Notes	Proposed	ACTUAL	11 - 12 Explanatory Notes
Dues	\$7,300	\$7,430		\$7,400		
Fundraiser House Tour	\$0	\$0	Not planned	\$0		
Fundraiser Non-Member Appeal Ltr	\$500	\$500	Thru May 1st	\$500		
Contributions:						
Phonothon	\$400	\$0	State situation	\$0		
Member Contributions (form)	\$1,800	\$2,720		\$1,800		
Forum Contributions	\$200	\$157	Water Forum Donations	\$200		
TOTAL REVENUE	\$10,200	\$10,807		\$9,900	\$0	

League of Women Voters Concord-Carlisle

Treasurer's Report February 2011

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EXPENSES	FY10-11 Budget	FY10-11 Actual	10 - 11 Explanatory Notes	FY11-12 Proposed	ACTUAL	11 - 12 Explanatory Notes
Administration						
Annual Meeting	\$100	\$0	No fee this year	\$100		
Officers Descretionary fund	\$200			\$200		
Insurance (liability)	\$350	\$350		\$350		
Assessments						
State	\$3,000	\$2,578		\$3,000		
National	\$3,900	\$3,401		\$3,500		
Membership						
Membership Mtgs	\$300	\$332	Fall Coffee and Jan Breakfast	\$400		
Membership mailings	\$100	\$33		\$100		
Membership Directory Printing	\$275	\$253		\$275		
Membership postage	\$50	\$18		\$50		
Membership Honorary Gifts	\$150		Expect 2-3 in 10/11	\$150		
Conventions and Conferences						
National Convention (even yr)	\$0	\$0		\$3,000		IN DC 2012
State Convention (odd yr)	\$800			\$0		N/A
State Fall Conference	\$400	\$0		\$400		
State Spring Council (even yr)	\$0	\$0	N/A	\$300		
Fundraiser Annual Appeal Letter	\$100	\$119		\$150		
Fundraiser House Tour	\$0	\$0		\$0		
Website	\$210	\$200	LEW only	\$200		
Postage						
Permit	\$185	\$185		\$185		
Bulk Mailings	\$300	\$300		\$300		
1st Class	\$50	\$124	Stamps for postcards	\$75		
Box 34	\$86	\$92		\$92		

League of Women Voters Concord-Carlisle

Treasurer's Report February 2011

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EXPENSES cont.	FY10-11	FY10-11		FY11-12		
	Budget	Actual	10 - 11 Explanatory Notes	Proposed	ACTUAL	11 - 12 Explanatory Notes
Printing/Copying						
Annual Mtg Workbook	\$500			\$500		
Member Bulletin	\$1,000	\$852	Sept, Nov, Jan. March	\$800		
Observer Report	\$0	\$0	Don't remove	\$50		
LWVCC Materials	\$100			\$50		
Postcards/Misc	\$100	\$73	Postcards for Jan. mailing	\$100		
Local Signs	\$200	\$0	Replacements needed in Concord	\$100		
Book Group	\$100	\$0		\$100		
Riverfest						
Riverfest Award	\$180			\$50		
Riverfest Printing	\$35			\$35		
Forums and Action	\$3,000			\$3,000		
Education/Communication		\$722	Water Forum,			To include: Tom Ashbrook
Voters Service		\$88	Candidates Forum, Town Mtg			Getting Elected printing
Advocacy/Issues		\$1,000	to lwvma health care donation			DITB, Town Tour
Celebrations	\$1,000	\$239	Concord 375th	\$0		
Publications State/National	\$200			\$50		
Member Memorial Donation	\$300	\$0		\$300		
Donation to LWVMA	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$1,000		
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$18,271</u>	<u>\$11,960</u>		<u>\$18,962</u>	-	

REVENUE over EXPENSES

- \$8,071

-\$1,153

- \$9,062

\$0

PROPOSED LOCAL PROGRAM

MAINTAIN ALL CURRENT LOCAL POSITIONS with ONE recommended update to position 3 as follows:

3. Public Health: Condom Availability

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle recognizes that AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) remains a major health problem in this country, particularly for young adults. The League also recognizes that sexual intercourse is the most frequent although not the exclusive mode of transmission for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) as well as hepatitis B, and other STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases).

- 3.1 Support a program for making condoms available to young people under conditions that include counseling and education as to the risk of disease and unplanned pregnancy and the need to assume responsibility for the consequences of their actions.
- 3.2 Support doing such a program in conjunction with the Regional School Committee, the Boards of Health and the Boards of Selectmen of both communities.
- 3.3 Support the involvement of other public and private agencies in developing the program. (Approved January 1995 reaffirmed annually thereafter, language updated 2002, 2011)

RECOMMENDED STUDY

Sustainability Study

Establish a Sustainability Study Committee to define or propose adoption of a definition of sustainability that could be applied as an assessment tool to evaluate public or private initiatives.

RECOMMENDED INITIATIVES

1. Town Government in Concord and Carlisle

This Initiative will continue to focus on educating League members and the public about town government operations in Concord and Carlisle and increasing public engagement with and participation in town government through education and advocacy. The initiative may include League fact-finding or investigation as a step in preparation for education or advocacy. Any advocacy undertaken as part of this initiative would be approved by the Board of Directors and would rely on existing local, state, and national League positions. A committee of League members plan to carry out this initiative, which may include in its scope (a) local government issues such as communications, transparency, efficiency, staffing, fairness and citizen participation, b) local topics such as housing, and c) outreach through a variety of vehicles such as informational forums, educational publications (including online publications), video broadcasts and letters to the editor.

1. Campaign Finance

A Committee will be formed to address issues around campaign finance and fallout from the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.

LWV CONCORD-CARLISLE

LOCAL PROGRAM 2010-2011

Summary of Positions

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Town Government | 11. Housing |
| 2. Education | 12. Growth |
| 3. Public Health/Condom Availability | 13. Land Acquisition and Management |
| 4. Recreation | 14. Land Use |
| 5. Animal Control | 15. Agricultural Land Use |
| 6. Crime Prevention | 16. Environmental Health |
| 7. Tourism | 17. Wetlands |
| 8. Hanscom Field | 18. SuAsCo River Basin |
| 9. Long Range Planning | |
| 10. Town Facilities | |

Detailed Positions

1. Town Government, Concord

The League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle supports a local government which is based on the fullest possible participation of informed citizens in its policy and decision making processes. The League finds that Town Government as now practiced in Concord is both democratic and effective. To make it more responsive, open, and fair, we would support the following improvements:

1. 1. 1 Increased communications between:
 - a) committees and their appointing authorities, including periodic review and supervision, as well as more explicit definition of committee's charges
 - b) committees and the public
 - c) committee chairmen and members, including once yearly training/orientation sessions, and detailed and written orientation information for new members. (Modified 2001)
1. 1. 2 Increased citizen participation through:
 - a) more publicity of hearings
 - b) early notices of committee meetings and hearings with agendas
 - c) use of all available media to inform public on town affairs
 - d) distribution of town information package to newcomers
 - e) wider distribution of green cards.
- 1.1.3 Committee procedures made more effective by:
 - a) specific term lengths for committee members
 - b) use of sub and ad hoc committees for specific studies and to relieve overburdened committees
 - c) informative minutes, publicly available
 - d) termination process for unneeded committees
- 1.1.4 Adequate clerical and financial support with information given to committees by the Town Manager on services available.
- 1.1.5 Fair and responsible appointment process strengthened by:
 - a) expanding use of green cards, with regular updating and review by citizens and the Town Manager's office.
 - b) posting vacancies with at least two weeks between posting and appointment
 - c) flexible, informal interviews with prospective appointees
 - d) prompt appointments
 - e) reasonable use of recommendations from committee members

- f) geographical distribution of committee members for those committees whose functions warrant it.
- g) use of the following criteria in appointing committee members: availability for attendance at committee meetings; eagerness to serve; expertise; work and/or volunteer experience; ability to work with others; stamina (not in order of priority).
- 1.2 League members were firm in opposition to:
 - a) use of green cards as an exclusive source of appointees
 - b) use of a search committee to nominate appointees
 - c) election of more town committees (adopted March 1977, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.3 The League supports the continuation of the Town Meeting as the primary deliberative and legislative body of the Town (adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.4 The League supports open Town Meeting as currently practiced with voting on Town Meeting issues taking place within the sessions of the town meeting. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.5 The League believes that it is the obligation of the Town to provide all citizens seeking to attend Town Meeting, the opportunity to participate. If it should become impossible, on a regular and frequently recurring basis, to accommodate all of the persons wishing to attend Town Meeting, then the League would support a representative form of town meeting as an alternative to the present open Town Meeting. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.6 The League opposes any change in Town Meeting Voting that would separate the vote from the deliberative process. (Adopted Feb. 96, reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.7 The League opposes any voting method that would constrain participants from having full access to information about the questions on which they are voting. (Adopted Feb. 96 reaffirmed 1999)
- 1.8 To further ensure that the residents of Concord are informed participants, the League urges that the Town take greater measures to:
 - a) Increase the understanding of citizens about their local government.
 - b) Offer a fuller explanation of committee and board duties along with the Green Cards. Advertise committee vacancies promptly and widely.
 - c) Give wider distribution to the Town Report. (Adopted Feb. 1996, reaffirmed 1999)

Town Government, Carlisle

That the town of Carlisle should continue its present form of government, strengthening its effectiveness by improved communication and cooperation among boards and by the use of administrative and technical support when needed.

- 1.9.1 Support the use of administrative and technical assistance to foster the effective use of volunteers' time and expertise.
- 1.9.2 Support an annual meeting, chaired by the Selectmen at which all town committees present their accomplishments and goals.
- 1.9.3 Support issue-oriented meetings as needed, among pertinent boards. The ultimate responsibility for these meetings lies with the Selectmen.
- 1.9.4 Support timely distribution of pertinent information by committees to townspeople. (Adopted 1980, amended 1983, reaffirmed 1999)

2. Education

Concord and Carlisle in pursuit of quality education in the public schools:

- 2.1 Support a school organization that encourages the following: stability—requiring few major changes and little redistricting in order to preserve a sense of school community; low pupil-teacher ratios with the lowest in the primary grades; respect for parental preference among a range of teaching styles; broad uniform program aims; sound fiscal management. (Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.2 Support for a system of guidance and social work that allows for department flexibility and staff mobility and interaction, particularly with the elementary schools. (Adopted July 1980, reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.3 Support for a system of guidance and social work which has as its primary role maintenance of the climate of learning of the student body as a whole and the consideration of the needs of the

- individual student; and which communicates openly with parents and provides information through channels such as workshops, written material, PTG meetings, etc. (Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.4 Support additional, vocational education in the school system. An ideal system would include a) adequate up to date facilities; b) flexibility in time, choice, program, and amount of concentration on vocational or academic courses by each student; c) coordination with instruction in the Concord and Carlisle systems; d) full use of facilities for the whole community after regular school hours, evenings and summers; e) expansion of an improved work-study program; f) career awareness beginning in the elementary grades. (Reaffirmed 1999).
- 2.5 Support at Concord-Carlisle High School a curriculum development process utilizing inputs by departments, cooperation between departments, citizen input, and administrative and school committee review. Curriculum to afford flexible scheduling of student and teacher time to create opportunities for course options. Curriculum to emphasize interdepartmentally a sampling of many areas; development of analytic skills, written and oral communication skills; preparation for citizenship; and requirements for graduation in courses in many disciplines. (Adopted 1971, amended '78, '79, '83, '85 and Reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.6 Support a program of staff development and teacher evaluation to be reviewed regularly by the School Committees (adopted 1971, modified and reaffirmed, 1999)
- 2.7 Support the availability of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities for students of Concord-Carlisle High School and at the Concord and Carlisle Middle Schools. (Adopted 1971, reaffirmed 1999, amended 2001)
- 2.8 Support a budget that includes adequate funding. (Adopted 1971 modified and reaffirmed 1999)
- 2.9 Support efforts by the schools and the parents associations to improve communications with the community. (Adopted 1971 reaffirmed 1999)

3. Public Health: Condom Availability

The Concord-Carlisle League of Women Voters recognizes that AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) has become a major health problem in this country, particularly for young adults and is now the leading cause of death for men between the ages of 18 and 40 and the fourth leading cause of death for women in the same age category. The League also recognizes that sexual intercourse is the most frequent mode of transmission for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), although there are other ways in which the disease may be transmitted.

Because of the potential threat to the young people of our community, the League urges the citizens of Concord and Carlisle, in conjunction with their Boards of Selectmen, The Regional School Committee, The Boards of Health, and other public and private agencies to embark upon a program of making condoms available to young people under conditions that include counseling and education as to inherent risks. This program should be undertaken in the knowledge that while properly used, condoms reduce the risk of AIDS, hepatitis B, other venereal diseases, and unplanned pregnancies, they do not remove all risk. The League believes that recognition of such risk falls on the individual. Every individual engaging in sexual intercourse must assess the risks involved and assume responsibility for his/her actions. (Approved by Board January 1995 reaffirmed 1999, language updated 2002)

4. Recreation, Concord

- 4.1 Support a comprehensive public recreation program in Concord.
- 4.2 Support a master plan for recreation in Concord.
- 4.3 Support the acquisition of land to meet the active recreational needs of the Town.
- 4.4 Support the development and maintenance of public swimming facilities, and the improvement of natural bodies of water. (Modified 2007)
- 4.5 Support the improvement and extension of Concord's present bike/foot path system including the preparation of a long-range construction plan.
- 4.6 Support the additional facilities for bicyclists, including a bike/foot path map, marked paths and street crossings, and safe racks well-placed around Town.

- 4.7 Support recreational activities on conservation lands that do not alter the integrity of the land for conservation purposes.
- 4.8 Support the increased distribution of information on conservation lands to townspeople.
- 4.9 Support making information on conservation land available upon request to visitors to Concord. (Reaffirmed 1999, amended 2000)

Bike Footpaths Carlisle

- 4.10 Support the development of bike/foot ways in Carlisle and the promotion of bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- 4.11 Support a pilot project for the development of bike/foot ways (1982, reaffirmed 1999)
- 4.12 Support a master plan for bike/foot ways for all existing town roads.
- 4.13 Support the Planning Board regulations requiring developers to build bike/foot paths in all new developments. (Adopted 1973, amended, 1980, 1982, reaffirmed 1999)

5. Animal Control, Concord

- 5.1 Support a dog control by-law that: is consistent and easy to understand; defines “under control by owner”; prohibits dogs from school property during classroom hours except with express permission of the principal; included a limited leash law for the business areas of Concord, school property outside of classroom hours, and town playgrounds; includes a “pooper scooper” provision for the business areas of Concord, playgrounds, and school property
- 5.2 Support enforcement of Concord’s animal control by-law that: is based on a complaint responsive system; includes limited patrolling by dog officer in problem areas such as playgrounds, business districts, and school property plus areas that have a high number of complaints; encourages dog licensing by charging higher fines for unlicensed dogs; encourages citizen participation by expedient and appropriate response to legitimate dog-related complaints.
- 5.3 Support license fees to be set at a level to encourage neutering. (Amended 2000.)
- 5.4 Support an innovative approach to dog licensing that: encourages licensing by mailing reminders to owners of all dogs reported on the Town census; follows up on known unlicensed dogs; has mail-in license forms; has a flexible licensing schedule—perhaps every three years when dog is due for rabies shot; encourages prompt licensing by charging late fees.
- 5.5 Support educational activities such as: information packets prepared by the town and widely distributed to town citizens explaining law and responsibilities of dog owner; community programs on animal care, possibly through the schools. (Adopted May 1985, reaffirmed 1999)
- 5.6 Support the immunization of cats against rabies (in accordance with state law) and strongly urge the immunization of all domestic animals against rabies and other contagious and potentially life-threatening diseases.

6. Crime Prevention

- 6.1 Support efforts to heighten public awareness about crime prevention, including educating citizens to report suspicious incidents to the police, and establishing neighborhood groups both to prevent crime and as a method of developing a stronger sense of community.
- 6.2 Support efforts to prevent juvenile crime by identifying youth needs and concerns, and coordinating the development and implementation of services for youth. (Modified 2008)
- 6.3 Support police Department crime prevention efforts, particularly educational programs in the schools and in the community at large, including an active “Operation identification” program.
- 6.4 Support increased use by the Concord district court of restitution and alternative sentencing, including the community service work program in Concord.
- 6.5 Support effective methods of identifying and publicizing the costs of vandalism to Town property.
- 6.6 Support effective methods of supervising heavily used Town conservation land. (Adopted December 1980, reaffirmed 1999)

7. Tourism Concord

In order to provide a pleasant experience in Concord for visitors to the revolutionary and literary sites and to maintain and improve the quality of life for residents in Concord, the League

- 7.1 Supports visitors' services with adequate public parking and toilet facilities located in the vicinity of the Milldam and at the West Concord shopping district. (Revised 2001)
- 7.2 Supports improved directional signs. Mini- informational maps of the vandal-proof roadside type are especially needed.
- 7.3 Supports public or private groups publishing maps or tapes which will direct visitors taking walking or biking tours of the Town. (Reaffirmed 1999)

8. Hanscom Field

- 8.1 Oppose extension of Hanscom field into a major airport
- 8.2 Support maintenance of general aviation activity at Hanscom Field at no higher than the 1973 level.
- 8.3 Support the participation of Concord and other Towns in the solution to problems associated with Hanscom Field

9. Long Range Planning

- 9.1 Support of local and regional long-range planning. Cooperation in the development of comprehensive planning criteria for the towns. (Reaffirmed 1999)

10. Town Facilities

- 10.1 Support for the re-use of surplus buildings: (a) consistent with the character of the neighborhood; (b) consistent with the current zoning; and (c) consistent with the preservation of architectural features.
- 10.2 Support for the reuse of surplus buildings which: (a) use private funding whenever possible; (b) satisfy a need within the community; (c) are sound economic investments for the community; and (d) which are planned to be self-supporting when possible.
- 10.3 Support for rehabilitation of Stow Street surplus buildings for: (a) elderly housing; (b) low income and family housing; (c) recreation; and (d) education.
- 10.4 Oppose extensive retail or commercial development on Stow Street. (Reaffirmed May 1999)

11. Housing, Concord

- 11.1 Support housing at all income levels in Concord. In particular, there should be a supply of low and moderate income housing in Concord to ensure inclusion of the elderly, those on fixed incomes, young people, families, disabled/handicapped persons, teachers, and town employees.
- 11.2 Support the following criteria to support implementation: (a) sound planning should be the basis of such development; (b) private and public efforts to provide such housing should be encouraged, especially if they provide economic mix within neighborhoods; (c) low rise, low density, multi-family dwellings would fulfill the Town's need and would be most in keeping with the desire to preserve the "open land" character of Concord. (Revised and reaffirmed 1999, modified 2007)

Housing, Carlisle

- 11.3 Support mixed income housing (low, moderate, and fair market) in Carlisle with priority to housing needs for the elderly. We recommend that consideration be given to rehabilitation and/or conversion of existing buildings and new construction of housing units that will be in keeping with the rural character of Carlisle. We further recommend the use of rent subsidies and tax abatements where applicable. (Adopted 1978, reaffirmed 1999)

12. Growth

- 12.1 Support development of a land use plan in Concord that 1) has land capacity as a key component, 2) defines specific principles and policies, and 3) utilizes appropriate data maps.
- 12.2 Support positive action towards the achievement of Concord town planning goals in the conversion of any municipal buildings.
- 12.3 Support the regular updating of the Concord accessory apartment conversion bylaw as a means to provide housing alternatives within existing housing stock. (Modified and affirmed 1999, modified 2007)

13. Land Acquisition and Management, Concord

- 13.1 Support Town acquisition of land for
 - a. affordable housing, including subsidized housing
 - b. municipal use
 - c. stewardship of our historic and literary past
 - d. recreation-active and passive (conservation)
 Decisions about purchases should be made by weighing acquisitions against an overall plan with attention to balance, location, and possibilities for multiple use. (Modified 2007)
- 13.2 Support land taking by eminent domain only as a last resort and when it satisfies the public need and the public good; this could also be useful in clearing title to a property when ownership is unclear. (Modified 2007)
- 13.3 Support the concept of land banking
- 13.4 Support a land transfer tax. (Note: This position was adopted prior to Concord's and Carlisle's approvals of the Community Preservation Act real estate property tax surcharges.) (Modified 2008)
- 13.5 Support the principle of acquiring land with the intention of later leasing or selling parts of it if the intent to do so was made clear at the time of purchase or if the land was found to be surplus to Town needs.
(Criteria to be considered for Town land acquisition include the ability to be developed, location, linkage, potential uses, preservation, access, public safety and health. Each parcel of land is unique, therefore it is difficult to establish priorities in criteria for purchase, but the ability to be developed may be the most important.) (Adopted 1987, reaffirmed 1999, modified 2007)

14. Land Use

- 14.1 Support the protection of wetlands and lands in the flood plain through strong enforcement of legislation regulating wetlands, flood plains, and conservation lands; through such methods as percolation tests and Town acquisition of such Concord lands.
- 14.2 Support acquiring open land in densely populated areas of Concord. Support visibility of land as an important criterion of Town Acquisition.
- 14.3 Support a mix of housing to meet the needs of a variety of age and income levels.
- 14.4 Support strategic land management to achieve: preservation of open space, a diversity of housing types, and land for municipal uses

15. Agricultural Land Use

- 15.1 Support preservation of farmland in Concord by the following methods: The Farmland Assessment Act, conservation restrictions, purchase of development rights, land trusts, and tax reform.
- 15.2 Support Concord acquisition of farmland where other methods of preservation could not be used and the alternative would be the likely loss of the land to development.
- 15.3 Support the agricultural use of MCI-Concord agricultural land, and public education on the problems and potentials of farming in Concord (Reaffirmed 1999)

16. Environmental Health

Solid Waste Disposal

- 16.1 Support a solid waste disposal method that is safe and protects the health of the community and the environment; any method must be economically feasible and well managed.
- 16.2 Support improved methods of operation at existing landfill sites.
- 16.3 Support regionalization of solid waste disposal facilities
- 16.4 Support recycling education programs in the schools

Sanitary Sewage Facilities

- 16.5 Support improvements needed to maintain present systems at their peak performance.
- 16.6 Support first priority for tie-ins for those areas contiguous to the existing collection line, which are in dire need of service. (Reaffirmed 1999)

17. Wetlands

- 17.1 Support preservation and/or acquisition of wetlands and related uplands in the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord River Basin as well as other actions by appropriate federal state and local agencies.
- 17.2 Support the preservation and/or acquisition of the wetlands and related uplands in the Shawsheen River basin in Concord (Elm Brook). (Reaffirmed 1999)
- 17.3 Support strengthening Concord flood plain and wetland bylaws. (adopted March 1981, reaffirmed 1999, moved from 12.4 2007)

18. SUASCO River Basin

The SuAsCo River Basin Group represents nine Leagues in the Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River Basin. The SuAsCo River Basin Group allows the Leagues to approach water resource problems on a regional basis.

- 18.1 Support (a) comprehensive long range planning and coordinated action for use of water and related land resources in the SuAsCo Basin (b) measures to protect and maintain water supply, flood control, fish and wildlife, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (c) adequate funding for federal, state and local agencies to accomplish the above; (d) federal, state, and local action to achieve flood plain zoning, stream encroachment planning, conservation easements, and the improvements of river flows.
- 18.2 Oppose high power transmission lines running overhead through areas zoned for residence. (Reaffirmed 1999)

LWVCC Program as Reaffirmed at 2010 Annual Meeting

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nancy Beeuwkes, Mary Chapman, Dee Ortner, Janet Rothrock, Susan Sekuler

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present to the Annual Meeting the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle for 2010-2011.

OFFICERS:

Cindy Nock	Co-President
Paula Vandever	Co-President
Anita Barker	Recording Secretary
Lauren Bakewell	Treasurer
Marge Daggett	Co-Treasurer

DIRECTORS WITH PORTFOLIO:

Anne Hayden	Bulletin
Julie Rohwein	Communications
Nancy Beeuwkes	Events Coordinator
Barbara Lewis	Voters Service (Carlisle)
Erin Pastuszewski	Voters Service (Concord)
Dee Ortner	Membership
Launa Zimmaro	Environment
Nancy Cronin	National
Louise Haldeman	State/Observer Corps
Ardis Bordman	Town Initiative Committee
Betsy Sluder	Water Resources

DIRECTORS AT-LARGE:

Barbara Anthony	Annual Fund
Evin Phillips	Town Finance
Susan Sekuler	Nominating

OFF BOARD ADVISORS (appointed):

Di Clymer	Fundraising
Sue Curtin	Education Specialist
Nancy James	Domestic Violence/Rachel's Box
Erica Morrison	Hospitality
Fran Neville	Auditor
Janet Rothrock	Town Liaison
Judith Sprott	Wastewater Planning
Marian Thornton	Open Space/Concord Land Conservation Trust