

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CONCORD-CARLISLE

# BULLETIN

November 2006

LWVCC Website: [www.lwvcc.ma.lwvnet.org](http://www.lwvcc.ma.lwvnet.org)

P.O. Box 34 Concord, Massachusetts 01742-0034

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## CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

1	Wed	LWVCC Board Meeting, 342 Sudbury Rd. (Anne Hayden)	9 coffee, 9:30 meeting
7	Tues	Election Day	Polls open 7 AM-8 PM
8	Wed	<b>LWVCC Book Group, Trustees Room, Concord Main Library</b>	<b>10:00-11:30 AM</b>
15	Wed	<b>LWVCC Open Meeting, Delia Kaye, Concord Natural Resources Coordinator</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>
16	Thurs	LWVCC Observer Corps Meeting, Everett Garden	9:30 AM
29	Wed	LWVCC ESC Meeting, (Ruth Lauer)	1:30 PM

### DECEMBER

2	Sat	Concord Town Coordination Meeting, Town House	8:00 AM
4	Mon	Concord Town Warrant Opens	
6	Wed	<b>LWVCC Board Meeting &amp; Member Holiday Potluck, 1360 Monument St. (Nancy Beeuwkes)</b>	9:00 coffee, 9:30 meeting <b>12:00 potluck lunch</b>

### JANUARY

2	Tues	Concord Town Warrant Closes	
3	Wed	LWVCC Board Meeting, 282 East Riding Land, Carlisle (Barbara Lewis)	9 coffee, 9:30 meeting
17	Wed	<b>LWVCC Member Breakfast, Colonial Inn</b>	9:00 AM
18	Thurs	LWVCC Observer Corps, Everett Garden	9:30 AM
29	Mon	Concord Town Caucus	7:00 PM
31	Wed	LWVCC ESC (Ruth Lauer)	1:30 PM
TBA		<b>LWVCC Open Meeting: Family Emergency Preparedness</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>

### FEBRUARY

1	Wed	<b>LWVCC Board Meeting &amp; Local Program Planning 384 Hayward Mill Rd. (Louise Haldeman)</b>	9:00 coffee, 9:30 bd mtg
16	Thurs	LWVCC Observer Corps, Everett Garden	9:30 AM
28	Wed	LWVCC ESC (Tish Richardson)	1:30 PM

### MARCH

7	Wed	<b>LWVCC Board Meeting &amp; State Program Planning 229 Musketaquid Rd. (Erica Morrison)</b>	9:00 Coffee, 9:30 bd mtg
21	Wed	<b>LWVCC Program: Town, Schools, Money</b>	
22	Thurs	LWVCC Observer Corps, Everett Garden	9:30 AM
25	Sun	<b>LWVCC Concord Candidates Forum</b>	<b>3:00-5:00 PM (tent time)</b>

### APRIL

4	Wed	LWVCC Board Meeting, 290 Rutland St., Carlisle (Lauren Bakewell)	9:00 coffee, 9:30 mtg
10	Tues	LWVM Day On The Hill: "The Poorest Among Us"	

*Members are invited to attend monthly Board and Observer Corps meetings.  
Please contact Nancy Beeuwkes if you would like to attend any of them.*

# EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Nancy Beeuwkes & Ruth Lauer, ESC Co-Chairs

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Greetings to all from your Steering Committee.

First let me alert all of you to the wonderful letter, written by my co-chair Ruth Lauer, in the last issue of this Bulletin. If you missed it, dig down in your pile of reading and find it, because it was so inspiring, warm and funny. I know you will enjoy it. I thought it was a keeper.

The League year began with two very successful events. The first was a Member Social Brunch hosted by Barbara Anthony at Concord Green. Barbara Lewis, our energetic membership chair, organized the event and we all enjoyed a merry reunion of League friends. I recalled the advise to our board, given by the president of the state league. She advised us to have more fun together along with the more serious work we were doing. To that end, I hope you will mark two dates on your calendars. First the traditional **League Holiday Pot Luck Luncheon on December 6th** at noon (at my home) and secondly the **Member's Breakfast, January 17th at the Colonial Inn.**

The second successful League event was our Candidates Forum on Sunday, October 29th.

Almost 100 people attended to hear candidates for State Senate debate. The debate was lively and the questions were very thoughtful. Thanks to Janet Rothrock for organizing the forum.

Our next event, organized by Louis Haldeman, is on **November 15th at the Keyes Road red brick building. Delia Kaye, Natural Resources Administrator** will speak and take our questions. This should be a great opportunity in inform ourselves on how the town goes about protecting our local environment. Come and bring a friend.

Are you interested in **Family Emergency Preparedness?** The board, led by Evin Phillips, would like to run a program on this subject early in the New Year. Please call Evin (978 369-7865) if you are interested in this area and would like to assist her in planning this evening.

Hoping to see you on the 15th.

Nancy

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan grassroots organization of men and women formed in 1920 and dedicated to the principles of self government established by the Constitution of the United States. The League works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizen in government.

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**A CONVERSATION WITH  
DELIA KAYE  
CONCORD NRC ADMINISTRATOR  
Wed. Nov. 15, 2006 9:30 AM  
Meeting room in "Red Brick Building"**

Chamberlain Park - who is responsible  
and who pays?

Wetlands Bylaw- do we need our own?  
Affordable Housing - where can we put it?

Concord has always been keenly aware of the need to protect wetlands and maintain open space. At the same time, we wish to allow for more opportunities for housing of various kinds as well as space for recreation. All of these often conflicting goals give our Boards and Committees much to think about, and the Natural Resources Commission must make very difficult decisions. Please join other League members and friends as Delia Kaye, recently appointed Natural Resources Administrator, discusses the issues facing the commission in the next few years.

According to the charge from the Town, "The Natural Resources Commission is responsible for the overall stewardship of the natural resources of the Town, and the establishment of Town environmental policy in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting. The Natural Resources Commission acts as Conservation Commission and Town Forest Committee in all matters delegated to those bodies by Massachusetts General Law or Town bylaw."

Also on hand will be information about the environmental initiatives being pursued by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

This is the Concord/Carlisle League's Fall Open Meeting, and all of our residents are invited to attend. Come and bring your questions and a friend. Light Refreshments will be served.

*Louise Haldeman*

**THE REAL WAY TO UNIVERSAL  
HEALTH CARE  
A TALK BY DR. MARCIA ANGELL  
Sun Nov 12, 2006 2:30-4:30 PM  
Goodnow Library  
21 Concord Rd, Sudbury**

We read and hear about the need for health care reform everyday. Our current systems in Massachusetts, other states and the U.S. are broken. How can we bring about useful reform that will cover all residents at a price that we can afford, hold down health care costs, offer preventative care, reduce the overcrowding of emergency rooms and other problems we are currently facing? There are remedies proposed every session. Which ones are truly helpful?

Join League members and attend the talk with Dr. Marcia Angell, former editor of The New England Journal of Medicine, on The Real Way to Universal Health Care: Sunday, November 12th, 2:30 to 4:30 P.M. at the Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Road, Sudbury. Call Paula Vandever, 978-369-9268, for information about carpooling or directions.

*Paula Vandever*

**WINTER MEMBER BREAKFAST  
Wed. January 17, 2007 9-11:00 AM  
Colonial Inn, Concord**

On Wednesday morning, January 17<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., we will be holding our Member Breakfast at the Colonial Inn once again. We are happy to bring back this popular event for Concord and Carlisle Leaguers to enjoy. Cost will be \$10 per person for a hot plated breakfast, or less if you are just going to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with the group. Mark your calendars and contact Barbara Lewis (978 287-0049 or [blglewis@comcast.net](mailto:blglewis@comcast.net)) if you plan on participating in this wonderful tradition.

*Barbara Lewis, Membership chair*

### **LWVCC MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

The membership renewals have gone very well this year. I am tremendously grateful to all our wonderful members who sent their renewal forms and dues in with only a first mailing or maybe an additional email reminder. Board members are making phone calls to those few who really do mean to renew but just need that extra touch.

In January, I will be creating our 2007 Directory, so look for it to arrive in the mail shortly after that. Members only will be listed, so joining or renewing before the end of the year is very important. If you know of someone who might be interested in the League, pass their name to me and I will quickly send them materials to learn more and become a member.

*Barbara Lewis, Membership Chair*

### **FALL MEMBERSHIP COFFEE**

We had a very nice gathering for our Autumn Coffee on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Twenty-four members had the chance to spend some time catching up and talking about this busy season of activities in our two towns and in the League. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event such a success.

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS POSITION ON BOARD AVAILABLE**

The decision has been made to explore creating a new board position to help with publicity and promotion of the League and our activities. If you are interested in helping out in this capacity in any way, please send an email to Barbara Lewis, [blglewis@comcast.net](mailto:blglewis@comcast.net) or call at 978-287-0049. Honestly, no experience is necessary; any help you can give would benefit the entire organization, and developing a format and structure to the position and its activities would definitely be a collaborative effort. Ask a friend, League member or not, to be a partner and work on this together if you like, or we might have several responses from people who would end up working together on this.

*Barbara Lewis, ESC Member*

### **LEAGUE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR NONMEMBER FR LETTER**

For the past two years, LWVCC has sent a letter to more than 400 non-League neighbors in Concord and Carlisle asking for their support. I am looking for a small group of League members who will assist me in personalizing this appeal letter to make it more effective. This would involve crossing out "Dear Friend" in the salutation and writing in "John and Mary" or "Mr. and Mrs. Doe", and adding a sentence of your own and your name.

This is a job that you can do at home in your own time. I will bring you the stamped, addressed envelopes, letters and return envelopes. My goal is that you would put notes on the letters and mail them in January. If you are willing to help with this project please call me at 978-369-3211 or email me at [bandranthony@earthlink.net](mailto:bandranthony@earthlink.net). I look forward to hearing from you.

*Barbara Anthony*

### **LWVCC CANDIDATES FORUM**

The LWVCC hosted a forum for state legislative candidates on Sunday, October 29, 2006 at the new Thoreau School auditorium. The speakers were State Senator Susan Fargo, her challenger Sandi Martinez, and State Representative Cory Atkins, who is running unopposed. JoAnn Berry from the Acton LWV moderated.

All of the candidates made statements of their choosing. Senator Fargo and Ms. Martinez answered questions posed by the moderator, some from the League and some from the audience.

I would like to thank JoAnn Berry for moderating the program, Ned Roos and his crew of CCHS students who handled audio recording, Shawna Reid for video recording, Barbara Lewis for hospitality, and Ruth Lauer for her wise counsel.

*Janet Rothrock, Candidates Forum Chair*

## **CARLISLE REPORT**

A Special Town Meeting was held in Carlisle on Monday October 30, 2006 at 7:00 PM in the Corey Auditorium at the Carlisle Public School. Over 300 Carlisle voters were in attendance. Some minor zoning and site plan bylaw changes were passed by voice votes.

The Recreation Commission presented a revised phase 2 plan for ball field expansion on the Banta Davis Land. The plan was a modification of the plan that passed at Annual Town Meeting but failed as one article at the polls by 11 votes in the spring of 2006. The new plan was divided into two articles. Article 1 (estimated to cost \$1.2 million) included three new ball fields (2 little league fields and 1 all-purpose field), four tennis courts, conversion of two old tennis courts to 2 outdoor basket ball courts, a second parking lot, improved traffic flow, paved ADA compliant pathways throughout the complex, a 2.5 mile cross country running course connecting the School to Spalding Field and on and around the Banta Davis land, a covered picnic pavilion and site drainage and irrigation infrastructure. Article 2 consisted of a plan to install artificial field turf on the new all-purpose field at an estimated cost of \$500,000. Article 1 failed by 2 votes. Article 2 was not moved due to the failure of Article 1.

The Benfield Land committee presented a revised plan for the placement of 26 units of affordable housing to the front of the Benfield property which was purchased using CPA funds. The relocation of the buildings was necessary due to the sighting of an endangered blue spotted salamander on the property and the subsequent results of a study showing their habitat to be in the middle of the parcel of land that had been designated for the affordable housing project. After much discussion the Benfield article passed decisively.

In addition to the State Election there is a local election on November 7, 2006 in Carlisle. The local election consists of

Question 1 to override proposition 2 1/2 for the ball field expansion project on the Banta Davis land and Question 2 to override proposition 2 1/2 for artificial field turf installation on the all purpose field in the ball field expansion project. If Question 1 passes affirmatively by a majority vote at the polls it is possible that another special town meeting could be called by the Board of Selectmen or by citizen petition to try and get the 2/3 town meeting approval necessary to move the Recreation project forward to the bid and build phases.

*Cindy Nock, Carlisle Matters Chair*

## **LWVCC OBSERVERS**

It is with deep regret that we announce that our longtime observer to the Planning Board, Jean Reinhardt, is unable to continue for health reasons. Her excellent and detailed reports of the work of this important committee have been a mainstay of the observer report. We will miss her AND we need to find a replacement!

The Planning Board usually meets on twice monthly schedule on Tuesday nights. All major zoning changes, housing developments etc. must come before this Board. The Board plays an important role in the development of our community and the Observer Corps are the best source of information for the public. Although one person has been doing this for the last few years, a team would be even better. Anyone interested should call the observer chair, Louise Haldeman (978 369-8662). Jean Reinhard (978 369-7379) would also be glad to speak with any potential "candidates." As always, the Observer Corps continues to look for more members not only for some of the committees we don't cover but also to act as substitutes and/or back up for existing members.

The next meeting of the Observer Committee will be on Thurs. Nov. 16 in the Common Room at Everett Gardens (the small house in front of the complex facing Everett Street). Members are always welcome to drop in!

*Louise Haldeman, Observer Corps Chair*