



The League of Women Voters Of Weston

March, 2013

No. 153

OPENING MESSAGE

Katty Chace

League of Women Voters of Weston

President..... Katty Chace
781-891-1087

Treasurer..... Kathie Strehle
508-358-8937

Membership..... Rochelle Nemrow
781-790-1138
Lenore Lobel
781-893-3155

Bulletin EditorKatherine Wolfthal
781-891-9549

This LWV/Weston Newsletter is published monthly except July and August. The LWV is a nonpartisan political organization open to all citizens of voting age.

League of Women Voters of Weston
15 Conant Road, Weston MA 02493

VOTER INFORMATION

1-800-882-1649

League of Women Voters
of Massachusetts
133 Portland Street
Boston MA 02114
(617)523-2999

Submit articles
to Katherine Wolfthal by e-mail at
kate@weichi.com

We are entering into an exceptionally busy spring season for the League. It began on March 3rd with our 5th Annual Civics Bee competition against Wayland and Sudbury. Our wonderful team of Michael Harrity, Wendy Spector, Ed Heller, Sophie Alphas, Alex Keane, Lilia Chang, Jack Daley, Kenz Kallal and Clara Li upheld Weston's honor with their valiant efforts to answer questions on the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Amendments and, this year in honor of Weston300, Weston history. Judge Richard Albert, Boston College Professor of Constitutional law, rendered the decisions about the correctness of the answers. In the end, Sudbury won the contest for the third year in a row, earning the right to take the coveted eagle trophy back to Sudbury with them, but next year may well be a different story. (See report and photos on pages 10-11)

Our Coffee Hour on the Urbanica proposal for the renovation of the Josiah Smith Tavern and the Old Library was attended by 83 interested citizens. (See report and photos on Pages 6-8).

Our next event is a Coffee Hour on Saturday, March 30 at 2:00 p.m. Our new State Senator Mike Barrett of Lexington will be our guest of honor to meet his new constituents, share his legislative priorities and answer your questions. Mike was originally scheduled to come on February 9, but that plan was waylaid by the blizzard and the ensuing Governor's ban on driving during those 24 hours. Please note that the Coffee Hour has been rescheduled to allow people to attend the morning memorial service for our beloved League member and town activist Kay McCahan, who passed away on March 6.

The following Saturday morning, April 6, we have another Coffee Hour scheduled with two Town Meeting Warrant topics to be discussed: the new police station and the traffic pattern on the Case House/Field School/Community Center/Library campus, including the proposed round-about at Case's Corner. We will start at 10, in order to have enough time to discuss these important topics.

Candidates' Night is scheduled for Thursday, May 2 at 7:00 at the Amy Potter Center of the Middle School.

There are four contested offices this year, which is more than we've had for years: Selectmen, Moderator, Planning Board member (the 4 year term) and Recreation Commissioner (for a 2 year term). We will focus on these races at Candidates' Night, and try to shed some light on the different views of the contestants.

We have arranged for a Coffee Hour on Saturday, May 4 at 10:30 which will focus on the question of whether we should continue with the current practice of bow hunting deer in Weston. This year 18 deer were killed by hunters and there has been much criticism of the policy. The issue will be on the Town Meeting warrant as a result of a

citizens' petition. The Coffee Hour will give each side of the issue 20 minutes to present their arguments. Conservation Commission chairman Brian Donahue and Deer Friends organizer Alicia Primer will both speak.

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts held their annual Day on the Hill event at the State House last week. The theme was Democracy is not a Spectator Sport, and the keynote speakers were State Representative Tom Conroy of Wayland, describing the most effective ways to lobby your legislators, and Weston's own Elizabeth Saunders, Massachusetts Director of Clean Waters Action, describing how groups like CWA and the League can work together to achieve results. Barbara Fullerton, Barbara Flannery and I all attended.

Remembrance of Kay McCahan

Katty Chace

I first met Kay shortly after the McCahans moved to Weston from Westchester, N.Y. in the mid-70s, when she joined the League and worked with me on an education study which I believe focused on Tenure and Collective Bargaining. I was impressed by her seriousness of purpose, as well as her friendly demeanor. A few years into her League involvement, Kay was diagnosed with breast cancer, and underwent a mastectomy. Through the last many years, the cancer recurred several times, and Kay would undergo another round of chemo. As her interest in town affairs grew, she became involved in the creation of the Weston Land Trust, the settlement of the Oak Street reservoir with the MWRA, and the purchase of the Case Estates Land. We often walked around the Ash Street Reservoir, where she conscientiously kept the supply of Mutt Mitts stocked.

Kay introduced me to the Jerry Grossman series of Monday morning political lectures at the Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills, and we attended those together for a few years, until Jerry reached his 94th birthday, and could no longer keep up the pace. More recently, I've seen Kay regularly at our monthly Bruegger's luncheons, where a small group of Leaguers gathers to discuss local politics and the books we've read recently. She was an avid reader, mostly of biographies and other fairly serious historical and political topics. A few years ago, the McCahans bought a house on Swan's Island in Maine, where they gathered in the summer with their extended family.

Kay had a warm and sunny personality. She was unfailingly optimistic and positive. I never heard her say anything negative about anyone. Her contributions to the League, and then the town, were enormous, and were recognized in January when she received the Ward Carter Award as part of the Weston300 celebrations. Her decline was so precipitous and unexpected that it's hard to believe she's gone. It's a terrible loss for the town and for all of us.

WHEN IT'S TIME FOR ACTION

President

President Barack H. Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20510
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/>

U.S. Senators

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-3170
Russell Senate Office Building
2 Russell Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543

No e-mail address currently available

The Honorable William M. Cowan
One Bowdin Square, Tenth Floor
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 565-8519
365 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2742
E-mail: wlliam_cowan@cowan.senate.gov

U.S. Representative 7th District

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
(781) 396-2900
(202) 225-2836
2108 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2836
<http://www.house.gov./markey>

Governor

Governor Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor
State House, Room 360
Boston MA 02133
(617)727-3600
E-mail: Goffice@state.ma.us

State Senator 3rd Middlesex District

The Honorable Michael J. Barrett
(617) 722-1572
State House, Room 213A
Boston MA 02133-1054
E-mail: Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov

State Representative 14th Norfolk District

The Honorable Alice Hanlon Peisch
(617) 722-2070
(781) 237-4719
State House, Room 473G
Boston MA 02133-1054
E-mail: alice.peisch@mahouse.gov

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Kathleen Rousseau

The LWVW Coffee Hour took place on March 12, 2013, at the home of Barbara Flannery.

The coffee hour on March 9 was devoted to the Urbanica plan for the Josiah Smith Tavern and the old library was very well attended. The presentation was long and complete. The proposed restaurateurs supplied the meeting with plentiful food.

Michael Barrett was scheduled to come to a coffee hour on March 30. That conflicts with Kay McCahan's memorial service which many of us will attend. Katty will try to reschedule it for 2:00 p.m. that afternoon.

Town Caucus was held on March 11. There will be 4 contested races:

- For moderator – Thomas S. Crane and Harvey Boshart
- For selectman – Douglas Gillespie and Bill Sandalls
- For recreation commission – Alison Slater and Isabella Jancourtz
- For planning Board – Stephen R. Oppenheimer and Glenn Cardozo

There is one position on the Board of Assessors that has no candidate

Candidate's Night: May 2 is our first choice for a date.

The issue of deer hunting will be on the Annual Meeting warrant. We will try to schedule a forum to discuss this controversial issue.

Our Weston 300 Quest will run from April 1 to May 15. Alex Keane and Sophie Alphas, our high school aides, will do a dry run. An article will be published in the Town Crier.

There will be a voter registration drive at the High School on April 4.

**CALENDAR
MARCH – JUNE 2013**

March 30, Saturday..... 2:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Community Room, Weston Public Library	LWVW Coffee Hour with State Senator Mike Barrett
April 6, Saturday..... 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon Community Room, Weston Public Library	LWVW Coffee Hour New Police Station; Traffic Pattern at Field School, Case House, Library, and Community Center
April 30, Tuesday..... 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Primary Election for U.S. Senator (to fill John Kerry’s seat)
May 4, Saturday..... 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon Community Room, Weston Public Library	LWVW Coffee Hour Warrant article on Bow Hunting of Deer in Weston
May 11, Saturday..... 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Weston Town Hall	Town Election
May 13, Monday..... 7:30 p.m. (Second night on Wednesday, May 15, if necessary) High School Auditorium	Annual Town Meeting
May 17-18, Friday-Saturday..... Boston Marriott Peabody Peabody, MA	LWVMA Convention
June 25, Tuesday..... 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Election for U.S. Senator (to fill John Kerry’s seat)



**Omni Foods
is proud
to support
the fine work
of the
League of
Women Voters.**

Omni Foods
SUPERMARKETS

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED...

***SERVING THE WESTON COMMUNITY
FOR OVER 20 YEARS***

AMERICAN OWNED & PROUD!

21 Center Street, Weston, MA Phone 781-894-0675

STORE HOURS: OPEN Monday thru Saturday 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. & Sunday 8 A.M. to 9 P.M.

Visit our web site at www.omnifoodssupermarkets.com



COFFEE HOUR ON THE CURRENT PROPOSAL FOR THE RE-USE OF THE JOSIAH SMITH TAVERN AND THE OLD LIBRARY

Katty Chace and Katherine Wolfthal

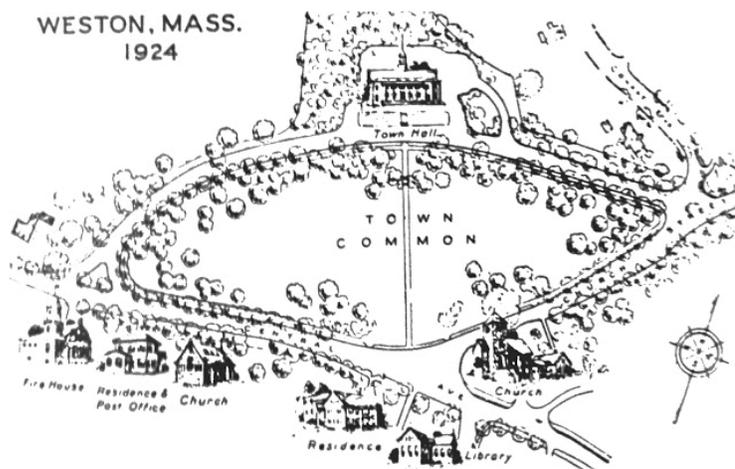
The LWVW Coffee Hour on March 9, devoted to plans for the re-use of the Old Library and the Josiah Smith Tavern, was attended by 83 interested citizens. Selectman Michael Harrity presented an overview of the project, and Pam Fox spoke of its implications for the Weston Historic Society and the Women's Community League.

Then Kamran Zahedi, a Weston resident and president of Urbanica Development and Design, the company proposing to realize the project, described his vision for a multi-use complex incorporating condominiums, a bed-and-breakfast, and a restaurant. This proposal continues to be honed and is on the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting in May.

Prospective restaurateurs Dante and Damian de Magistris were on hand with copious refreshments for the attendees.

Below is a brief description of the concept and proposal advanced by Zahedi.

For a more detailed description of the proposal, including background information on Kamran Zahedi and some financial considerations relevant to the project, see Pam Fox's comprehensive article in our February Bulletin (available on our LWVW website <http://westonlww.org/index.html>).



The town map from 1924 (above) shows the town common bordered by a diverse mix of functions: residences, town resources such as the fire station and post office, churches and the Town Hall.

Urbanica's proposal for the Josiah Smith Tavern and the Weston Old Library envisions the two

buildings as forming a "town center on the common."

Urbanica proposes to create three condominiums at the Weston Old Library and a Bed & Breakfast at the Josiah Smith Tavern, echoing the building's origins as a bed-and-breakfast.

A small cafe/restaurant will occupy the barn. An additional courtyard area at the front of the barn will facilitate additional cafe seating, as well as creating a well-defined family friendly area, alongside a connector that will be the permanent home of two important town institutions - the Weston Historical Society and the Women's Community League of Weston.

The Weston Historical Society will occupy space in a new addition to the rear of the structure. There will be a small gallery for long-term exhibits on the first floor. On the lower level, a reading room, archival and storage spaces will be

created in the new addition. The new spaces will provide flexible open spaces for display, working, and research as well as clean storage spaces for the town's historic artifacts.

The Women's Community League will continue to host functions, and operate their boutique and fashion exchange in the connector building. The boutique and clothing exchange will inhabit the rehabilitated connector, the function room will occupy newly constructed event space built to support assembly usage and it will be equipped with a pantry, public bathrooms, storage and office space.

This is the proposed floor plan for the Old Library and Tavern.



For other plans and further information about Urbanica and its other projects, visit the Urbanica website, at: <http://www.urbanicaweston.com>



Selectman Michael Harrity presents an overview of the proposal.



The audience was interested and receptive.



Pam Fox explains how the Weston Historic Society and the Women’s Community League would benefit from the new spaces.



Left: Kamran Zahedi, the president of Urbanica, the designers and prospective developers of the project, explains his vision for the project and answers questions from the attendees.

Below: The De Magistris brothers provided a sumptuous array of refreshments.



Brothers Damian (left) and Dante De Magistris, owners of restaurants Il Casale in Belmont and Dante in Cambridge, would operate the small restaurant/café in the Josiah Smith Barn.



Photographs by Katherine Wolfthal



Thank you, Metro Boston
for Voting our
Daryl Christopher
"Work-out Facial"
❖ Best Facial in 2012 ❖

Our new Work-out Facial
uses Micro-current Lift technology
to strengthen and tone facial muscles.

Purchase a Series of
Three Work-out Facials
and Receive a Fourth Free.
Notice dramatic results without the
potential side effects of botox.

Schedule Today and Visit us at:

Daryl Christopher at Healthpoint
840 Winter Street • Waltham • MA
781- 890-9211

Daryl Christopher Supports the
Weston League of Women Voters
www.dchristopher.com

CIVICS BEE 2013 Alex Keane

On March 3, 2013, the Weston League of Women Voters hosted a tri-town Civics Bee at the Weston Recreation Center with the Leagues of Sudbury and Wayland. Each town fielded a team composed of three middle schoolers, three high schoolers, and three adults. Representing Weston were: Mike Harrity, Ed Heller, Wendy Spector (adult team), Sophie Alphas, Lilia Chang, Alex Keane (high school), Jack Daley, Kenz Kallal and Clara Li (middle school). Serving as judge for the event was Richard Albert, an Assistant Professor at Boston College Law School, and a specialist in constitutional law.



Judge Albert with (from left) Bonnie Glass of the Sudbury League and Mary Antes, president of the Wayland League.

The Civics Bee was divided into six sections – the legislative branch, the executive branch, the judicial branch, voting, town history, and the “lightning round” – plus one group activity. For two fast-paced hours, three representatives from each town (one middle-schooler, one high-schooler, and one adult) answered questions for

each round, accruing points for each correct answer. The group activity, in which the entire team participated, consisted of several dozen words that were to be unscrambled and arranged to form part of a historic US document (the answer: The Preamble to the United States Constitution).



Team Weston works on unscrambling the Preamble.

The questions and activities, which ranged from simple fact-and-figure knowledge to photo identification of local historic landmarks, were challenging. However, each team was able to pull together a surprising number of correct answers. Sudbury’s team ultimately placed first, garnering the Golden Eagle trophy for the third time in five contests. Weston’s team finished close behind and Wayland’s team also had a strong showing. If you would like to get a glimpse of the action and learn some civics, too, look for the Civics Bee on the local Weston cable channel.



The people responsible for making it happen: Katty Chace, of the Weston League, moderator Jo-Ann Berry of the Acton-Boxboro League; Mary Antes, president of the Wayland League, Bonnie Glass of the Sudbury League, and Judge Richard Albert.



Sudbury team members ponder a question.



Team Weston, in uniform (from top, left to right): Ed Heller, Alex Keane, Sophie Alphas, Michael Harrity, Lilia Chang, Wendy Spector, Clara Li, Jack Daley, and Kenz Kallal.



Ed Heller, Lilia Chang and Kenz Kallal confer before replying.



Members of the Wayland team at the podium.



Team Sudbury poses with the winner's trophy: this is their third win in five Civics Bees.

Photographs by Katherine Wolfthal

The League of Women Voters of Weston
wishes to extend sincere thanks to the following Friends
and Sponsors who have generously given their support to our work.

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

781-894-5555
426 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA

**Daryl Christopher Salon
and Day Spa**

781 890 9211
at HealthPoint
84o Winter Street, Waltham, MA

Florentine Frames

781 647 1249
478 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA

The Gift Gallery

781 894 1633
464 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA

Ogilvie's

781 894 1265
39 Warren Avenue, Weston, MA

Omni Foods Supermarkets

781 894 0675
21 Center Street, Weston, MA

Weston Travel Service

781 891 9110
483 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA

**Come to the LWV Coffee Hour to meet
Mike Barrett
Saturday, March 30, 2:00 P.M.**

**Our newly-elected state senator will talk about his
legislative priorities and answer questions from the
attendees.**

**Please note that the Coffee Hour will take place at
2:00 P.M. rather than at the usual time of 11:00
a.m.**

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
THE FINE WORK OF
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

CONSISTENTLY
WESTON'S #1 REAL ESTATE COMPANY

WWW.NEWENGLANDMOVES.COM

(781) 894-5555 · 426 BOSTON POST ROAD · WESTON, MA 02493

©2009 Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. Coldwell Banker is a registered trademark licensed to Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. An Equal Opportunity Employer. Equal Housing Opportunity. Owned and operated by NRT, LLC

League of Women Voters of Weston

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2012-2013

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization, which encourages informed and active participation in all levels of government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We serve the local community in many ways:

- Sponsor Candidates and Issues nights before elections
- Provide voter information and conduct voter-registration drives
- Encourage voter participation with banners and rides to the polls
- Study local, state and national issues and hold open meetings
- Act upon carefully considered positions by lobbying and circulating petitions
- Publish a "Know Your Town" booklet
- Train members to be active and involved citizens.

Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. As a Weston member, you also belong to and receive publications from the State and National Leagues.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Check one: Renewal New Member

I enclose a check made payable to **The League of Women Voters of Weston*** for:

\$60 Individual Membership (covers required local dues to the State and National Leagues)

\$75 Family Membership (two individuals in the same household)

Name of second household member: _____

\$50 Basic Membership

\$ _____ Additional Contribution

(Any contributions above and beyond regular dues are greatly appreciated and assist our local league in providing more services and offsetting our operating expenses.)

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

.....

\$ _____ LWV Education Fund (Tax-deductible contribution made payable by separate check to the LWV Education Fund)

Return form to: Lenore Lobel, 31 Love Lane, Weston, MA 02493

Do you know a friend who might be interested in joining the League of Women Voters?

Name, address & phone _____

* It is the policy of the LWV of Weston that no resident shall be refused participation in the League because of inability to pay. If a hardship preventing payment of dues exists, please contact KattyChace at 781-790-1087.