



The League of Women Voters Of Weston

June, 2010

No. 128

OPENING MESSAGE

Katty Chace

There are two Republicans running for our State Senate this year. We have been trying to arrange a pre-Primary candidates' event before the Primary on Tuesday, September 14. It's been challenging since there is such a short window of opportunity between Labor Day on September 6th and the Primary. At this point we have tentatively scheduled the event for Sunday afternoon between 2 and 4 on September 12. We have reserved the Community Room at the library, and heard from one candidate, Eric Dahlberg. We hope that Sandi Martinez will also be available at that time. Both candidates are residents of Chelmsford.

After the Primary, we hope to also have a Candidates' Night in October, featuring current State Senator Democrat Susan Fargo, and the Republican nominee. Representative Alice Peisch is unopposed in both the Primary and in the fall election which takes place on Tuesday, November 2nd.



League of Women Voters of Weston

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

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

Voter Service.....Sally Currier
781-235-9506

Membership..... Rochelle Nemrow
781-790-1138

Bulletin..... Katherine Wolfthal
Editor 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 in
typewritten hard copy or by e-mail to

kate@weichi.com

IT'S TIME TO RENEW!

LETTER FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Dear friends,

It's time again to renew your membership to the Weston League of Women voters. We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated individuals who have kept the Weston chapter active and vibrant, but it is only through your continued support that our League can survive and flourish.

As a member, you'll receive our informative monthly bulletin about local issues. You'll also be a member of the state and national chapters, and will receive their newsletters and other educational materials. You can stay informed, know the issues and support the power of women's influence in politics.

Your membership does not require any of your time or work. However, we welcome and encourage you to attend our monthly board meetings, weekly coffee hours and contribute to our monthly newsletter. Any activity or event you participate in will be an even greater benefit to the League and will enrich your experience as a member and a citizen.

Please complete and return the attached membership form with your check made payable to the League of Women Voters of Weston.

Thank you for your support.

Warmest regards,
Rochelle Nemrow



League of Women Voters of Weston

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2010-2011

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: Rochelle Nemrow, 61 Beaver Rd., 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 Katty Chace at 781-790-1087.



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**CALENDAR
SEPTEMBER 2010**

- September 6, Monday..... Labor Day**
- September 12, Sunday..... Candidates' Forum**
2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Community Room, Weston Public Library
- Tuesday, September 14..... MA Primary Elections**
7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M
- September 15, Wednesday.....LWVW Board Meeting**
9:15 A.M. – 12 Hemlock Rd
(Robin Coutts – 781-899-2020)

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.

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WHAT'S UP WITH POLAROID?

Inge Uhler

Even the best laid plans sometimes go awry. In January 2007 an ENF (Environmental Notification Form) was filed with the MEPA (Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act) office in EEOA (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs). That started a marathon of filings, meetings, site visits and adjustments of the original proposal to meet requirements and preferences of those who had a stake in the reuse of the Polaroid site on Main Street in Waltham. Weston Selectmen and the Mayor of Waltham took part in the process. That detailed review culminated in approval of the FEIR (Final Environmental Impact Report) in April 2009.

The developer, The Related Cos. of New York were set to go forward with *The Commons at Prospect Hill*. The plan included both retail and office uses as well as restaurants on the 120 acre site. Bike trails and buffers were promised along with preservation of a 20 acre area containing vernal pools and wetlands. Major roadway alterations were planned to accommodate the traffic anticipated from use of 1.575 million square feet of structures. But there were soon rumors that became allegations of wrong-doing. The Petters Company that acquired the site from Polaroid was not what it pretended to be, a consumer products company of Minnesota. That company defaulted on a \$70 million loan from Helaba Bank triggering an auction of the property in October 2009. Bidders were scarce that rainy fall day when the bank bought it back for \$42.5 million.

Now a new purchaser has stepped forward, Sam Park & Co. of Boston. Park expects to start with retail uses and does not anticipate a development as large as Related had planned. Park, who had earlier proposed to build a half million square feet of mixed use space on the Auto Salvage Yard on Green Street, has experience with traffic planning. He had at one time consulted for the state to plan a series of parking facilities ringing Route 128. One such



proposal would have moved the Kendal Green Station to a spot just west of 128 and north of Route 20 with half the number of parking spaces now at the Alewife garage.

PHOTO: The Polaroid building in Waltham.

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