



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW CASTLE

The Voter

Summer 2007

from Sheila and Joanne Presidents' Message

As we head into summer, the League of Women Voters has just concluded its "season" of annual gatherings. Whether it's our own local meeting, the county convention, or the state-wide convocation held every two years, we Leaguers come together to reflect on our recent activities, and to decide collectively on what our focus should be in the year ahead. In fact, grassroots decision-making is the essence of how the League of Women Voters works.

Look inside *The Voter* for reports on the issues and directions that members this year said are important to us. You'll find the 2007-08 New Castle program that was approved at the annual meeting in May, and an article on our luncheon speaker who discussed immigration — the focus of a national League study now underway — and in particular the immigration bill that has since faltered in the Senate. Read through the articles on the State League convention in White Plains, where delegates approved a study on the compact for a National Popular Vote, and amended the State position on healthcare to highlight the single-payer system as one way of containing costs and providing universal access.

We are honored to have the opportunity to serve as co-presidents of the LWV of New Castle. As we begin our two years in office, we invite you to share your ideas on what you think is important to us here in New Castle, and to become involved in the work of the League of Women Voters, in our community and beyond.

Sheila and Joanne

Local Planning Update

DOT Prepares to Bid Route 120 Bridge Work

At the June 12th Town Board meeting, Town Administrator Gennaro Faiella presented plans for the replacement of the Route 120 Bridge. With plans all but finalized, the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT) anticipates bidding the project out over the summer, with a construction starting date slated for the late fall of 2007.

Third Lane Addition and Other Changes

Mr. Faiella reviewed major elements of the new bridge, which includes two separate spans—one crossing the railroad tracks, and a smaller one over Allen Place. A third span over the Saw Mill Parkway is not part of this replacement project. Significant changes include the addition of a third lane on the south side of the bridge, with two lanes bringing traffic east into the hamlet. Granite-faced walls, similar to the existing stone walls on the Saw Mill Parkway Bridge, will replace the metal side rails on the bridge over the railroad tracks and Allen Place. Where the bridge crosses the railroad tracks, an additional steel picket fencing will be placed atop the lower stonework in order to establish the eight-foot barrier needed to comply with Metro-North regulations. Sidewalks and stairways will be maintained on both sides of the bridge, with new lighting and granite curbing; and the current Y-intersection and triangular green will be retained.

Large Retaining Wall South of Bridge

Dimensions of a large retaining wall that will abut the south side of the bridge were not available at this meeting. However, Mr. Faiella indicated that instead of a single, solid wall, the Town has opted for a two-tiered design that will provide a terrace for planting. The same granite used on the bridge façade will also be used for the retaining wall.

Critics of the new bridge design voiced objections to the aesthetic of the continuous stone façade, preferring instead the metal railing and the historic connection that design has to the Town. Another speaker expressed concern that the bridge did not address traffic issues in the hamlet, and urged a solution that reversed traffic on Allen Place and Lower King Street. And several speakers felt that the DOT's June 22nd deadline for final notification did not provide sufficient opportunity for public comment and input on the bridge design. Mr. Faiella indicated that the metal railing on the bridge no longer meets crash impact requirements, and Supervisor Janet Wells noted that merchants in the hamlet have not been in favor of reversing the traffic pattern. Both she and Mr. Faiella referenced the many times the bridge project has been on the agenda of Town Board meetings, which are open to the public; and it was noted that the DOT had only recently communicated the June 22nd deadline to the Town Board.

Widen Hunts Lane Turn

In addition to the bridge replacement, changes will also be made to the intersection at Hunts Lane, where a large boulder impedes the right-hand turning

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LWV New York State Convention 2007

Voices from Convention

From May 18 to May 20, the League of Women Voters of New York State held its 52nd biennial convention at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in White Plains. As 56% of the State League's membership lives in the metropolitan New York area (24% is from Westchester), the convenience of this location enabled a significant portion of us to attend, learn about the issues, and influence LWV policy.

The LWV of New Castle was well represented at the convention. Jackie Rider, Sheila Crespi, Joanne Knight, Roberta Wiernik and Joy Rosenzweig were delegates. Carol Hurford attended in her capacity as Secretary/Treasurer of the LWNYS, and Marion Sinek served as Parliamentarian. Marion, along with Laura Porter, also ran a workshop on optical scan voting machines. Amy McNamara represented us at a workshop on universal healthcare.

Convention provided us with the opportunity to network with members of other Leagues and pick up some good ideas. We saw old friends and met new ones. In addition, we attended workshops and heard speakers discuss issues including healthcare and freedom of the press.

Attending convention allows League members to experience grassroots democracy in action. During plenary, everyone has the opportunity to speak and every vote counts. Delegates decide how we spend our money and what our priorities should be. Sometimes they agree with the executive board's decisions, sometimes they disagree. This year, the delegates approved the recommended budget and program. But they overrode the board's objections and voted to initiate a study of the Compact for a National Popular Vote.

It is important to stay involved in our local League, learn about town issues and effect positive change in New Castle. But some local issues are determined by our state government. Examples are the amounts of state funding our schools receive, whether nickel deposits should be required for energy drinks and bottled water, many clean air and water policies, and how to ensure that voting machines properly register our votes. The LWNYS advocates for us in Albany. So to make sure that our local needs are properly addressed, we should also stay involved in the State League.

Joy Rosenzweig

LWV New York State Convention 2007

Delegates Debate Study on National Popular Vote

As a New Castle delegate on Saturday, not only was this my first opportunity to attend a New York State Convention, it was also my first League convention ever. I had no idea what I was missing! Meeting Leaguers from all over the state, observing the process of plenary sessions, and attending workshops and caucuses all combined to make it an interesting and informative day.

The morning plenary session was opened by outgoing New York State League President Marcia Merrins, using the Susan B. Anthony gavel that was given to Carrie Chapman Catt on March 3, 1895 and presented to the LWNYS on May 19, 1969. That alone was awe-inspiring. Her comments were followed by welcome addresses from both Joseph Delfino, Mayor of White Plains, and William Ryan, Chairman of the Board of Legislators of Westchester County.

Plenary: Opportunity for Delegates to Voice Diverse Opinions

During the plenary sessions on Saturday, non-recommended items to the Program were discussed. The process for adopting non-recommended items is very interesting. During the afternoon plenary, two microphones are set up to accommodate comments for and against the item being considered. Delegates line up behind the "pro" or "con" microphones to voice their opinions. The vote is taken on Sunday, which gives delegates the opportunity to attend caucuses on Saturday evening.

One of the items, whether the State League should adopt a study entitled "Should NYS join the Compact for a National Popular Vote (NPV)?", was quite heated, with a number of delegates speaking out on both sides of the debate. Given this ener-

gized discussion, I attended a caucus on NPV later that evening to find out what the excitement was all about.

Caucus on NPV Study

A caucus, for those of you who, like me, are new to convention procedures, is an opportunity for a local league to put forth their positions on a topic. The NPV caucus was run by the Saratoga League, which feels strongly that the study should be undertaken. It was well attended by delegates from across the state.

So what is the National Popular Vote Plan? It is a plan whereby states would enact legislation in the form of an interstate compact. Each state participating in the compact would award all of their electoral votes to the presidential candidate receiving the most popular votes nationwide. The plan would take effect only when it

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National Popular Vote

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was enacted by states collectively possessing a majority of the electoral votes — that is, 270 of the 538 electoral votes in the Electoral College.

NPV Study Approved on Convention Floor

During the caucus there was much discussion about the study with questions such as what is involved, how long would the study take and what resources are needed, being asked. Attending the caucus did not answer the question about whether or not New York State should join the compact, nor should it have, because that is the purpose of the study and consensus process. But it did convince me that the issue should be studied and the pros and cons carefully considered before the LWVNY takes a position on such a very important issue. It obviously convinced others as well because at the plenary session on Sunday the delegates voted to adopt the study. Look for more information on this upcoming study in future issues of *The Voter*.

Joanne Knight

Committee Members Needed!

Are you interested in local issues and eager to make a difference? Two of our committees are seeking new members.

The **Local Planning Committee** gets involved in issues affecting our town, from the Route 120 Bridge to the Millwood Firehouse to the Reader's Digest property.

The **Environment Committee** is currently working with local and county officials to enact septic legislation and is looking at other issues to keep our local environment healthy.

Come to one of the committee meetings to find out more. Make an impact on your community. Email lwnnewcastle@optonline.net.

LWV New York State Convention 2007

On Being a State Board Member

Many years ago, when I was an officer and board member of the New Castle League of Women Voters, like many other board members, I complained about the PMP [per member payments] we had to send to the LWV of New York State (the "State League"). It seemed that all of our dues were going off to the national, state and county Leagues and we had to do a lot of fundraising in order to work on the projects nearer and dearer to our hearts right here at home. Two years ago, I was asked to be on the board of the State League. I decided to accept the position of Secretary/Treasurer and see for myself what goes on up in Albany — and I am so glad that I did.

My two years with the State League were filled with many exciting, interesting, wonderful times. Following a comprehensive study, consensus was reached on financing education in New York State and we have been lobbying for our position ever since. Doing a state study is much more difficult than doing a local study. Not only does the thorough research typical of League studies have to be done, the State League also has to make sure that enough Leagues participate and that those Leagues satisfy strict geographical requirements to assure that all sections of the state are represented in the study. And it must be done on a very tight budget.

The State League began a pilot LeaderSpark program aimed at developing leaders in high schools throughout New York State. The program worked in conjunction with Students Inside Albany. Local Leagues who participated were quite enthusiastic about LeaderSpark and all but one of them are continuing the program this year along with several additional new local leagues.

Before and during my tenure the State League was, and contin-

ues to be, a primary force in efforts to have verifiable paper trail voting machines in New York State under the federal Help America Vote Act. It is very difficult work considering the number of voting machine manufacturers lobbying against the idea and the fact that each county board of elections chooses its own machines, albeit in conformance with state requirements.

In addition the State League continued lobbying the state legislature for those issues that the local leagues have decided should be State League's top priority.

While all that substantive work was going on, the State League also had to deal with many administrative matters including fund raising (yes, it, too, cannot live on dues alone), moving to new premises, planning this year's convention, dealing with the national League and trying to be of service to the local Leagues in New York. On top of all that, due to a restructuring, the State Board members became members of the state Education Foundation as well. All in all, it was a very busy two years.

It was interesting and informative to work with League members from all parts of the state. Just like the women and men I worked (and still work) with in the New Castle League, the women I worked with at the state level are extremely intelligent, capable, industrious (and a lot of fun) and I have the utmost respect for them. It was a wonderful experience and I urge all of you to consider doing the same. I also urge all of you — when you get that next request for funds from the State League, to dig a little deeper and consider sending them a little extra. The State League deserves it.

Carol Zerbe Hurford

LWV New York State Convention 2007**Workshop — “Universal Healthcare in Our Time?”**

On Saturday morning, May 19th, Donna Packard-Mahoney, LWVNYS Off-Board Specialist for Healthcare, and Oliver Fein, M.D., Professor of Clinical Medicine and Clinical Public Health and Associate Dean of Affiliations at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, led a workshop on “Universal Healthcare in Our Time?”

They talked about how we came to our current system of healthcare; healthcare delivery initiatives in Maine and Massachusetts; and current New York State and national proposals to improve our present troubled healthcare system which, in spite of the staggering cost, still leaves 60 million people without health insurance at some point each year.

Physicians for a National Health Care Program

Dr. Fein presented the case for a move from the current state-based health system to a single-payer national health insurance program that is being promoted by the Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP). Dr. Fein described the proposed system’s key elements:

- Universal coverage — All residents eligible
- Comprehensive coverage — All necessary medical care covered
- Tier free healthcare — No co-pays or deductibles and no private insurance that duplicates public coverage as in Canada.
- Publicly funded — Combination of all employers contributing based on their payroll and a progressive income tax.
- Administrative costs drop — Simplified system for billing (overhead) without complicated private insurance.
- Maximum choice of provider — Consumer directed.
- Non-profit/private delivery system under local control — No socialization

In January 2007, Rep. John Conyers, Jr. of Michigan introduced HR 676 in the United States House of Representatives. HR 676 — the United States National Health Insurance Act (or the Expanded and Improved Medicare for All Act) — includes the basic tenets put forth by PNHP.

League Positions on Healthcare

According to the LWVNYS, many Leagues have taken an interest in single-payer legislation but, having spoken with legislators and healthcare advocates, they believe this remains a long-term goal. They feel local leagues should promote public education and dialogue on this issue. Handouts distributed at the workshop [reprinted below, in italics] discussed the healthcare positions that have been taken by LWVUS and LWVNYS:

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS National

The LWVUS believes that quality, affordable health care should be available to all US residents. Other U.S. health care policy goals should include the equitable distribution of service, efficient and economical delivery of care, advancement of medical research and technology, and a reasonable total national expenditure level for health care. Furthermore, the League believes that all Americans should have access to a basic level of care that includes the prevention of disease, health promotion and education, primary care (including prenatal and reproductive health), acute care, long term care and mental health care.

Through decades of work in their communities, League members have learned that Americans believe that fairness and responsibility, as well as access, are important values for any healthcare system. We believe that healthcare reform can only succeed if it takes all these values into account.

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of New York State

In New York State the LWV supports healthcare legislation, which meets the following criteria:

- Assures a basic level of quality physical and mental healthcare for all state residents.*
- Provides planning and regulations to assure New Yorkers, including the medically indigent, access to a basic level of quality care.*
- Provides a single-payer system as an acceptable way to contain cost and provide equitable access.*
- Contains costs without compromising accessibility or quality of care.*
- Devotes more resources to help promotion and disease prevention.*

In keeping with its position, LWVNYS supports two pieces of legislation for the 2007 session: 1. Employer/Public Partnership Bill: an act to amend the public health, social services and state finance laws, in relation to employer partnerships for child health plus, Medicaid and family health plus; and to repeal certain provisions of the social services law relating thereto. This bill would provide financial relief to low-income employees who are unable to pay their share of health insurance premiums. 2. Prescription drug assistance program (S.00316): a bill to organize collective bargaining to bring down the price of prescription drugs.

Many competing interest groups complicate healthcare reform but there is no question that change must take place in order for everyone to have access to quality affordable healthcare. It is important to stay informed and keep up with the conversation on this issue.

Amy McNamara

LWV New Castle: Annual Meeting and Spring Luncheon~

The League of Women Voters of New Castle held its annual meeting and spring luncheon at The Kittle House on May 23, 2007. The 2007-08 program, as amended and approved at the meeting, is printed on page 7; and the newly elected slate of officers can be found on page 2.

Our luncheon speaker was Chung-Wha Hong, Executive Director of The New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC), an umbrella policy and advocacy organization that is a leading voice for immigrant communities at the local, state and national levels. The NYIC's membership includes more than 200 groups in New York State that work with immigrants and refugees, serving one of the largest and most diverse newcomer populations in the United States.

Ms. Hong's talk focused on the controversial immigration bill that has been under consideration in the Senate, followed by a spirited question and discussion period with our members and guests. Ms. Hong's presentation to the League was featured in an article by reporter Leah Rae in The Journal News, originally published in the May 24th edition of the paper. The article, below, is reprinted through the courtesy of The Journal News.



Membership Chair Mary Fox displays New Castle LWV's award for increased membership 2006-2007.

Immigrant Group Director Criticizes Latest Reform Bill

by Leah Rae

The Journal News, May 24, 2007

Article is reprinted through the courtesy of The Journal News.

CHAPPAQUA - The latest immigration proposal in Congress might work for a handful of politicians in Washington, but it wouldn't work in the real world, a New York advocate said yesterday.

Chung-Wha Hong, executive director of the statewide New York Immigration Coalition, detailed her opposition to the plan yesterday in a discussion with the League of Women Voters of New Castle. She said that her organization favors the concept of allowing illegal immigrants to earn legal status, but not the far-reaching policy changes proposed in the bill.

"What this bill does is it dismantles a family-based immigration system," Hong said.

The plan, supported by President Bush, would admit future immigrants in part through a point system that rewards people with education and skills. It would create temporary guest-worker visas, although the Senate voted yesterday to reduce the proposed number by half, to 200,000.

Hong said temporary workers, denied the right to bring family members along, would likely go underground and remain in the United States illegally. She said they would also create an inferior class in the labor force, bringing down wages and working conditions.

The League of Women Voters is conducting a two-year study on immigration, said Sheila Crespi, newly elected co-president of the New Castle chapter. It will go through a "consensus" process in developing a position. The local chapter met yesterday at Crabtree's Kittle House restaurant.

Eleanor Litwak, a retired history professor from Scarsdale, said the most compelling reason for immigration reform is a selfish one: that the U.S. economy will need immigrant labor to support an aging population. She counted herself among the older Americans whose numbers will need to be balanced out by younger, taxpaying employees.

"We are way ahead because of immigration in this country," she said, comparing the United States to France and Britain. "Other countries are suffering greatly because of overpopulation of the elderly and underpopulation of the working young."

Litwak also voiced some concerns about legalizing the undocumented. She questioned the common assumption that illegal immigrants are doing jobs — in poultry factories, landscaping or farming — that no American will do. Perhaps Americans would do those jobs for better pay, she said, and maybe they would start replacing immigrants if the wages do increase.

The discussion left other questions unanswered for Evelyn Bloom, a Chappaqua resident, especially, how to secure the border and protect national security. She pointed to the prospect of a terrorist sneaking across the border alongside immigrant workers. The solution, she said, is to "reinforce the border, which will never be done."

Hong said immigration can be better controlled, or "managed," by realigning U.S. laws to match the economy's demand for workers. She stressed the U.S. job market as the driving force behind illegal immigration.

"I don't believe in open borders," she added. "I think we have to manage the immigration flow."

"It's never going to be 100 percent airtight," she added. "It's a risk management."

LWV New Castle: Program for 2007-2008 as Approved at the May 23 Annual Meeting

A. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Monitor, study if needed, and take action on issues affecting government and planning in New Castle:

- a) Plans for Reader's Digest (aka Chappaqua Crossing) redevelopment, with particular emphasis on density and impact on the community.
- b) Plans for the Chappaqua Hamlet.
- c) Plans for the Millwood Fire House.
- d) Plans for pedestrian walkways and bicycle paths.

Monitor, and take action, as needed, on land use policy, in particular as it affects the acquisition and use of open space.

Monitor and take action on town budget, including special districts (fire, sewage, sidewalk, water, refuse, parking, etc.).

B. VOTER SERVICE

Prepare, publish and distribute nonpartisan information on registration, voting, candidates, ballot issues and elections including November general election, December fire

districts' elections, and spring school and library board elections.

Outlook for Work:

- a) Produce and distribute:
 - 1) Voters Guides
 - 2) Directory of Officials
 - 3) New Residents Mailing
- b) Organize Candidates' Nights
- c) Collaborate with LWV Westchester on Voters Service

C. SCHOOLS

Monitor and/or study any plans affecting the Chappaqua schools.

Outlook for Work:

- a) Observe and report on School Board meetings.
- b) Publish Voters Guides and organize Candidates' Nights for contested elections;
 - provide voter education for uncontested elections.
- c) Monitor school budget and take action as needed.
- d) Raise awareness of traffic congestion at the schools.

D. LIBRARY

Monitor and/or study the needs of the Library.

Outlook for Work:

- a) Observe and report on library board meetings.
- b) Monitor library budget and take action as needed.

E. ENVIRONMENT

Monitor and take action on local environmental issues covered by National, State, County and local LWV positions, i.e., air quality, energy, land use, water resources, waste management, and nuclear issues.

Take action on the position from the sewage disposal options consensus.

Monitor the Town's policy on educational programs on the care and maintenance of septic systems.

Monitor the Town's implementation of Stormwater Phase II Regulations, including coordination with the Northern Westchester Watershed Committee.

F. SOCIAL ISSUES

Monitor and take action on local social issues covered by National, State, and County LWV positions, including domestic violence; senior, workforce and other forms of affordable housing; and childcare.

Outlook for Work:

- a) Gather information and engage in educational outreach on community health care centers.

G. ELECTION LAW

Collaborate with LWV Westchester on HAVA Implementation.



Leaguers look at the agenda before the opening of New Castle's Annual Meeting, held at Crabtree's Kettle House May 23, 2007

Observer Notes

Board of Education Meeting - May 22, 2007

Board Members Present: President Susan Habermann, Robert Gursha, Janet Benton, Lisa Davis, Jay Shapiro Faculty Present: Superintendent Dr. David A. Fleishman, Asst. Superintendent Dr. Lyn McKay

Appointments and Resolutions

Thirty-two faculty members received tenure including Dr. Jerry Wishner, Director of Special Education; Mr. Michael Taylor, Assistant Principal, Horace Greeley; Mr. Mark Bayer, Assistant Principal, Horace Greeley; and Ms. Debra Alspach, Assistant Principal, Douglas Grafflin.

After an extended search, Mr. John Chow was appointed Assistant Superintendent for Business.

Resolutions were passed approving the abolition of a .6 music position at the high school and a .6 music position at the elementary schools. The Board approved the creation of a full time counselor position and a full time psychologist position at the high school.

Continuing Education

Presenter: Randi Cohen, Director of the Chappaqua Continuing Education Program

The program has averaged 768 students since 1996. Profits have increased since '04, possibly because the brochure now goes to surrounding communities as well as residents of Chappaqua. Since '06 the number of senior citizens and the number of students taking courses has increased. Many classes are offered to senior citizens free of charge and

Continuing Ed took over the Driver's Education classes last year. Board members raised the question of whether there was a bidding process for the driving school that runs the Driver's Ed course. Ms. Cohen said there had not been, but that the school has been doing a good job and the program has made a profit.

Possible issues to be investigated are:

Should the program accept credit cards on the Internet?
What computer technology might be offered?
Should out-of-district students be allowed to take driver's ed?

Student Code of Conduct

Presenters: Dr. Fleishman, Susan Habermann

Ms. Habermann reported that the Code of Conduct has been used for a year. She asked the building principals and assistant principals, who were in the audience, how they thought the code was working. Tim Doyle, Assistant Principal at Bell, replied that the code was very helpful for guidelines, was flexible and was useful as an educational tool. The other administrators appeared to agree with him.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Fleishman thanked Christine Zumwalt, bus driver of the Roaring Brook school bus trapped by downed trees in the recent storm, and Peggy Jakacki, a parent who took many children into her home. He praised the workers from a landscape company who carried children off the bus and asked for anyone who can identify the company to let him know so they can be thanked.

Dr. McKay presented the results of the 2005-2006 elementary English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science tests, and the secondary English and Mathematics tests. Only 83% of grade 8 students scored at or above level 3 on the English Language test, while more than 90% of students in other grades were at or above level 3 on the ELA and the other tests. However Dr. McKay reported that for the '06-'07 year, there has been an increase in the grade 8 ELA to 90%.

Dr. McKay presented a brochure listing extensive summer curriculum work and in-service course offerings for the faculty. The cost will be between \$115,000 and \$120,000 with \$80,000 coming from the district and the rest from grants.

School Policies

The Board approved a policy on the Disposition of District property, which delineates how to deal with disposal of property bought with district funds. The Board corrected some items that had been omitted from the Student Code of Conduct and clarified some language. The Board had a first reading of a comprehensive policy on the Education of Homeless Students, which details how students are to be given access to public education. Dr. McKay estimates that there are currently about 10 homeless students in the district.

Barbara Meyers, Observer

Become a League Observer and keep up with what's happening in your town. Openings available for Town Board, School Board and Library Board meetings.

Contact the League at lwnnewcastle@optonline.net

**Observer Notes
Summary**

**Board of Education
Meeting June 19, 2007**

The Board and the PTA paid tribute to Lisa Davis, who is retiring from the Board after 9 years of service. The Board approved a number of gifts, contracts, and bids. They also approved the transfer of funds for reconstruction of the Horace Greeley bleachers and a bond for the EXCEL construction projects for various buildings. Policies for the education of homeless children and a policy for the education of students with educational disabilities were approved; and Susan Habermann and David Fleishman responded to community concerns about the proposed schedule changes at Horace Greeley High School.

See the full version of the notes from this meeting on our website:
www.lwvnewcastle.org.

2007/2008 Membership
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW CASTLE
PO BOX 364, Chappaqua, NY 10514

Membership Dues: to June 30, 2007
Individual \$55; Family \$80; Student \$21
Check payable to LWV of New Castle

I enclose for membership \$ _____

I am adding a tax-deductible contribution
to the LWVNC Citizen Education Fund \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

I would like to work on:

<input type="checkbox"/> Local Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> State/National Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Voter Service
<input type="checkbox"/> Schools	<input type="checkbox"/> TV Production
<input type="checkbox"/> Call me to discuss what I can do	<input type="checkbox"/> Observe Public Meetings

I cannot be active at this time, but I want to support LWV goals with my membership.

Summer 2007

Route 120 Bridge
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movement of large vehicles, including Chappaqua school buses. Plans call for relocating the boulder and widening the turn; however, the boulder may have to be removed altogether if it blocks the line of vision.

Mr. Faiella outlined periods when two-way traffic will be maintained during construction. These include the morning and afternoon peak hours, the evening peak for commuters, and Saturday mornings for an extended period when the town experiences high volumes of traffic.

Future Changes?

While not part of the current construction project, two ideas are under consideration for feasibility and possible future action. One is the possibility of extending the third lane from the bridge into town, so that it forms a dedicated right-hand turn lane onto South Greeley Avenue. The Town is bringing Project for Public Spaces, consultants on downtown Chappaqua, into this discussion. The second idea is to construct a stairway from the Route 120 Bridge directly onto the Metro-North platform. However, certain Metro-North

design regulations governing such stairways would have to be either met or waived before this project could go forward.

Sheila Crespi

Update after the June 26th Town Board Meeting: The Town has notified the DOT of its decision to extend the third lane of the bridge into town, with the possibility that the work can be included in the bridge replacement project. In an e-mail on June 14 to the Town, the DOT discussed details of the retaining wall. Without the extension of the third lane, the retaining wall is approximately 165 feet long. Its height "is about 18 feet at the abutment (which includes the stone faced parapet wall)," and tapers to about 8 feet. With the third lane extension, "The wall... extended toward Greeley will be approximately 265 feet long. The wall towards the end will be decreasing in height and final grading will determine the exact length." The two-tiered wall design chosen by the Town may affect the height. The DOT writes, "We are revising the wall height...to consist of two walls (stepped walls)." Drawings of the bridge and certain design elements are on display at Town Hall, and may become available on the town website (www.town.new-castle.ny.us) over the summer.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF NEW CASTLE**
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CHAPPAQUA, NY 10514

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CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 10th 7:45pm	Town Board Town Hall
Tuesday, July 11th 8:15pm	Board of Education (Reorganization) Seven Bridges
Tuesday, July 17th 7:30pm	Library Board Chappaqua Library (No August Meeting)
Wednesday, July 18th 9:30am	LWV Board Meeting Home of Joanne Knight 90 Smith St., Chappaqua
Tuesday, July 24th 7:45pm	Town Board Town Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 14th 7:45pm	Town Board Town Hall
Tuesday, Sept. 11th 7:45pm	Town Board Town Hall
Tuesday, Sept. 25th 7:45pm	Town Board Town Hall
Saturday, Sept. 29th 10am-4pm	Community Day Train Station

**Volunteers Needed
at the LWV Booth**

**Community Day
Saturday, Sept. 29th**

Join the festive spirit of Community Day by volunteering at the LWV booth! Meet and greet your friends and neighbors, and help them learn more about the work of the League of Women Voters of New Castle.

Contact Mimi Foldes-Leibner at
lwvnewcastle@optonline.net

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