

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

NEWSLETTER

Mansfield, Connecticut

November 2009

Coming very soon – the noon meeting at Angelinos?

Members of the Mansfield League as well as **guests from Windham's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness** will gather for a noon meeting at Angelinos (in the Big Y Plaza in Mansfield Center) this **Thursday, November 19th**. Local league member Kathy Dorgan will offer a presentation on affordable housing design. We will also have the opportunity to hear from the Ten Year Plan team on their efforts in addressing regional housing issues.

Our speaker, Kathy Dorgan is principal of Dorgan Architecture & Planning in Storrs. Joining us from the Ten Year Plan Team will be Jeffrey Beadle, Executive Director of the Windham Regional Community Council; Rheo Brouillard Savings Institute and Trust Company; MaryAnn DeMarco, Director of Social Services for Windham, Jean deSmet league member and Windham First Selectman; David Fenn, Executive Director of the No Freeze Shelter. Windham's Mayor- elect, Ernie Eldridge, will also join us.

League members who attended our Legislative Breakfast last January will likely remember that the genesis of this topic was a question posed to Windham First Selectman Jean deSmet about the interplay among Windham and surrounding communities and the social services Windham provides. This promises to be a very informative meeting. Won't you come?

Please let Carol McMillan (1-860-423-3774) or Gloria Bent (gsbent@earthlink.net) know if you will be attending. Last minute attendees are always welcome, but we would like to give Angelino's as much information as possible so they can meet their staffing needs.

Looking for a great little holiday gift?

Our famous League calendars might be just what you are looking for! Contact Careen Jennings (1-860-487-9990 or careenjennings@sbcglobal.net) to purchase one (or more)

MEMBERSHIP

THANK YOU to all of you who have sent in your dues for 2009-2010. I shall try to remind the rest of you individually, but if you respond right away I'll be saved that chore! Remember that these dues are for the FY 2009-2010, and we usually print a new roster in February.

Now please welcome new or returning members:

Blanche Brauneck, (in celebration of her 103rd birthday!), 54 Mansfield Hollow Road, Mansfield Center, 06250, 423-3465

Donna Clouette, 483 Woodland Avenue, Storrs, 06268, 429-0046, B: 423-1070, donnaclouette@charter.net

Meredith Lindsey, 72 Beech Mountain Road, Mansfield Center, 06250, 423-2252, merilindsey@snet.net

Catherine Sampson, 308 Chatey Road, Ashford, 06278, 487-6339, csampson@charter.net

Careen Jennings (487-9990, careenjennings@sbcglobal.net) and I still have some very useful LWV calendars (@\$5.), so do call if you're in need of one!

And remember to bring a friend or neighbor to the next League events!

Anne Smith

429-0529

anneksmith@charter.net

Help Wanted: Regional Housing Forum to be Planned ...

At the May 2009 annual meeting the League of Women Voters of Mansfield adopted a study of "regional proposals for ending homelessness in Windham and area towns." Our noon meeting on November 19th is a beginning to that study. The board would like to continue exploring the issue of housing through a **regional forum** to be held late winter or early spring 2010. The LWV of Connecticut will join us in sponsoring this event

Do you have a particular interest in housing issues? Are there approaches to addressing community housing needs that you would like to know more about? Do you have questions you might want to see such a regional forum address? Then we would love to have you **join an ad hoc committee** to help shape this upcoming event. This is a great way to experience some hands-on league activity for a finite length of time.

Please contact Gloria Bent at (gsbent@earthlink.net) or 1-860-423-8208 if you are interested in being on the ad hoc Housing Forum planning committee.

**Going to the LWVCT fall gathering on Health Care? (See pg. 4 for details)
For car-pooling contact Anne Smith (860-429-0529 or anneksmith@charter.net).**

90th Anniversary

Members! We need your help on a new committee to assist the Connecticut League of Women Voters in celebrating its 90th anniversary here in the Northeast. We've talked about having a tea party with an actress (without the recent politics!) or a wine tasting event at a local vineyard. Your thoughts and efforts would help us make this fund raising event fun and financially successful for our league as well as the state organization.

Call or email your President, Gloria Bent, gsbent@earthlink.net or Paulette Marie, new MLWV Financial Director, p-marie@comcast.net.

Also for the 90th Celebration – an Auction

LWVCT is planning a fund-raising auction as part of our 90th anniversary celebration. Local Leagues are encouraged to solicit local good and services contributions and will receive a portion of the proceeds from their donations. We may choose to participate in plan A (15% return to us, but we do the solicitation) or plan B (7% but LWVCT does the work. We send them names of individuals or businesses to contact). Also an option: our League's members can donate their own services (catering, tutoring, whatever).

Bring your thoughts on option A or B to the noon meeting on the 19th or share them with any board member.

Save the date ...

January 30, 2010 Annual Legislative Breakfast.

We will gather at 9 a.m. at the First Church of Christ in Mansfield (intersection of routes 89 and 195) for a continental breakfast, followed by a moderated conversation with state legislators who represent communities in eastern Connecticut. It will be a great opportunity to hear what our representatives consider to be pressing issues facing the legislature as well as to make constituent concerns known to them.

The cost will be \$10.00 per person. For those who plan way ahead, there is a registration form below. You will get an email or snail mail reminder at the beginning of the new year.

I/We will attend the Legislative Breakfast on January 30, 2010. Enclosed is my check for _____ persons @ \$10 per person.

Name(s) _____

phone _____

Please make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Mansfield and mail by **January 25th** to:

MLWV Breakfast
c/o PO Box 486
Mansfield Center, CT 06250-0486



HEALTH CARE IN CONNECTICUT: WHAT'S NEXT?

A PANEL DISCUSSION INCLUDING:

Nancy Wyman, State Comptroller
Kevin Lembo, Healthcare Advocate
Elizabeth Rosenthal, MD, *Physicians for a National Health Plan*
(others to be announced)

Moderator: Kay J. Maxwell

New Location!

South Congregational Church
277 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06106
(map & directions on next page)

Preliminary Program

9 - 9:30 am Registration &
Continental Breakfast
9:30 - 11 am.....Speakers
11 - 12 noon Q & A

Single Payer? Public Option? Optional Public Option?
How will federal action affect our state?
How dependent is Connecticut on the insurance industry?
How will the SustiNet Board work?

South Congregational Church is not a co-sponsor of this event.

To register (\$15 per person) before Monday, November 30, please send this form with your check made out to **LWVCTEF to:**

League of Women Voters of Connecticut Education Fund, Inc.
1890 Dixwell Avenue, suite 203
Hamden, CT 06514-3183

Phone: 203-288-7996
Fax: 203-288-7998
E-mail: lwwct@lwwct.org

After November 30 or at the door, registration will be \$20 per person.

Fall Conference 2009 Registration

Name _____ League _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Number of people _____ Enclosed \$ _____

DIRECTIONS TO 277 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD

For car-pooling to the Fall Conference contact Anne Smith (860-429-0529 or anneksmith@charter.net).

From Interstate 84 Eastbound

Follow Route 84 East to exit 48B – Capitol Avenue (the exit is split into a ‘Y’; stay to the right).

At the end of the exit, turn left onto Capitol Avenue.

Continue on Capitol Avenue through 2 traffic lights (at the second light there will be a large statue of a horse and rider on your right).

At the third light, turn right onto Hudson Street.

At the next light, turn left onto Buckingham Street.

The first right is John Street. Parking lots for South Church are located on John Street.

From Interstate 84 Westbound

Follow Route 84 West to exit 54 – Downtown Hartford.

As you approach the central business district, you will go over a bridge with a light at the end. At this light, turn left onto Columbus Boulevard.

Follow Columbus Boulevard through 4 traffic lights and over a little bridge (the silver building on the left will be 50 Columbus).

At the fifth light, turn right onto Charter Oak Avenue. Go up the hill to the intersection with Main Street.

South Church is across the street on the left-hand side of the intersection. Cross Main Street onto Buckingham Street.

The first left is John Street. Parking lots for South Church are located on John Street.

From Interstate 91 Northbound

Follow Route 91 North to exit 29A – Capitol Area. Stay in the right lane. As you merge with traffic, move over to the far right lane.

Take the first exit, Columbus Boulevard. Turn left at the end of the exit onto Columbus Boulevard.

At the second light, turn right onto Charter Oak Avenue.

Go up the hill to the intersection with Main Street. South Church is across the street on the left-hand side of the intersection.

Cross Main Street onto Buckingham Street.

The first left is John Street. Parking lots for South Church are located on John Street.

From Interstate 91 Southbound

Follow Route 91 South to exit 29A – Capitol Area. Stay in the right lane.

Take the first exit, Columbus Boulevard. Turn left at the end of the exit onto Columbus Boulevard.

At the second light, turn right onto Charter Oak Avenue.

Go up the hill to the intersection with Main Street. South Church is across the street on the left-hand side of the intersection.

Cross Main Street onto Buckingham Street. The first left is John Street. Parking lots for South Church are located on John Street

**Mansfield League of Women Voters
c/o 156 Hillyndale Road
Storrs, CT 06268**

CALENDAR

- November 19, 2009 (Thu) Noon Meeting, Kathy Dorgan will offer a presentation on affordable housing design, Angelinos (in Big Y plaza).
- December 5, 2009 (Sat.) 9:00 a.m. LWVCT Fall Gathering on Health Care at South Congregational Church, 277 Main Street Hartford
- January 30, 2010 (Sat) 9:00a.m., Legislative Breakfast, First Church, Mansfield Center.

The League of Women Voters of Mansfield web page address is
<http://www.lwvct.org/lwvmansfield>

Communications to the **Mansfield** LWV can be emailed to lwvmansfield@lwvct.org



For more information about items in this newsletter or about membership in the LWV, please contact President Gloria Bent (423-8208; e-mail: gsbent@earthlink.net), or Membership Chair Anne Smith (429-0529; e-mail: anneksmith@charter.net). Membership is open to both men and women. Dues are \$45 per year and should be sent to Anne Smith, 156 Hillyndale Road, Storrs, CT 06268. Lisa Peterson-Blinn, Newsletter Editor (377-6132), e-mail: lisajpb@gmail.com).