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*Protecting Our Health From Toxics  
In Our Everyday Lives*

*Tuesday, November 10, 2009*



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WESTWOOD/WALPOLE

THE BULLETIN Volume 70, Issue 3

November 2009

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*This month, I would like to move the focus away from our local League, and stress the importance of our State's League of Women Voters U.S. Senate Candidate Forum in Amherst, Massachusetts on Sunday, November 8 at 7:30 PM. I hope you can all join me, and the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts Board of Directors in watching this Debate, live, at the UMASS AMHERST College campus. We're expecting attendance to swell to around 450 to 500 guests, and we want YOU to be a part of our historic moment.*

*By hosting this forum, the State League is upholding it's responsibility and tradition of educating and informing voters. Again, please join me in participating in this historic moment. By attending, you'll get a chance to meet Mike Capuano, Martha Coakley, Steve Pagliuca, and Alan Khazei. For more information, please visit [www.lwvma.org](http://www.lwvma.org), or call 781-326-8944.*

*Thank you for being an informed, educated, and motivated member of our voting population.*

*Best Wishes,  
Greg Agnew  
President*

*Westwood/Walpole League of Women Voters*

**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Prospective Members

Have you ever wondered about the perfect meeting to bring that prospective member? I think this month we've got one for you! It's *Protecting Our Health From Toxics in Our Everyday Lives*.

I was thinking about my neighbors with the little kids. Who wouldn't do anything to protect their kids from invisible things that might kill them? But then, I read about the linkage with breast cancer, and all cancers..... In short, this meeting should apply to all of us who are living and want to stay that way! A very good meeting for all your friends, neighbors, relatives - see you there!

Marcia  
Membership Chair

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## *PROTECTING OUR HEALTH FROM TOXICS IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES*

### **Protecting Our Health from Toxics in Our Everyday Lives**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009**

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Westwood Library Downstairs Meeting Room

*There is an invisible chemical in your home, and it may be killing you right now.*

More than one third of the U.S. population is suffering from a range of chronic diseases and disorders, including cancers, asthma, autism, obesity, learning disabilities, endometriosis, Parkinson's disease and others. Scientific evidence increasingly indicates that many of these illnesses could be prevented by reducing our exposure to toxic chemicals. Unfortunately, too many of the products that we use in our everyday lives are made from toxic chemicals that get into our bodies, even though safer alternatives are available. It can be overwhelming to learn all this information, and it can feel like as a conscientious shopper you need to bring a chemistry textbook to the store to keep your family safe! But this shouldn't be necessary. By teaming together, we can change the rules of the game on toxic chemicals and make safer products the norm. Come find out how.

Phoebe Joseph, organizer of this event, suggests you read the Newsweek Sept. 21, 2009 issue, page 57 under Health Environment entitled "Early Exposure to Common Chemicals May Be Programming Kids to Be Fat" by Sharon Begley. This article explains how toxics are turning little babies cells into fat cells (adipose tissue) and making them overweight! Who would have thought that's how we got fat babies and toddlers!

#### ***Our Presenter***



Elizabeth Saunders is the Environmental Health Legislative Director for [Clean Water Action](#) where she has worked on toxics campaigns for seven years. In that time she has given countless presentations on toxic chemicals, led the efforts of the Alliance for a Healthy Tomorrow to pass the Massachusetts Mercury Products Bill, and acted as a lobbyist, media liaison, coalition coordinator, and grassroots organizer.

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## *MARK YOUR CALENDAR*

**November 7 - Pre-Primary Forum for Senate Candidates**, doors open at 7:00 pm and the Forum starts promptly at 7:30 pm in Bowker Auditorium on the UMASS Amherst campus. A second forum is planned in January before the general election on January 19. The League encourages all candidates in the special election to participate in these forums. All forums are free and open to the public. For more information please call 617.523.2999.

**November 10 - "Protecting Our Health from Toxics in Our Everyday Lives"**, 7:30 - 9:30 PM in the Westwood Public Library downstairs meeting room. Our presenter will be Elizabeth Saunders from [Clean Water Action](#).

**November 19 - Legislative Update Forum Featuring State Senator Marian Walsh**, 7:30 PM in the Community Room, Norwood Police and Fire Station sponsored by the Norwood LWV. Come and hear from our State Senator and have your questions answered on today's legislative issues. For further information please contact Diane Jeffery, Norwood League Legislative Liaison at: 781-762-6026.

Refreshments will be served.

**December 3 - "Don't Just Stand There-Run"**, 7:30 - 9:30 PM in the Westwood Public Library large meeting room.

**January 10 - Winter Social**, 5:00 - 9:00 PM at Steven Greffenius's house, 51 Oriole Road, Westwood.

**February - State Program Planning**. Date, time, place to be decided.

**February 7 - Community Meeting on New Westwood Library**, 2:00 - 4:00 PM at the First Parish Hall, Westwood.

**March - LWVMA studies**. Date, time, place to be decided

**April 11 - Westwood Candidates Forum**, 3:00 - 5:00 PM at First Parish Hall, Westwood.

**May 17 - Walpole Candidates Night**, 7:30 - 9:00 PM at Old Post Road School, Walpole.

**June - Annual Meeting**. Date, time, place to be decided.

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## OCTOBER TREASURER'S REPORT

Westwood/Walpole League of Women Voters

Reconciliation Statement

October 1-31, 2009

Starting balance	\$5094.56
Income/Deposits	
Interest	.64
Total Income	.64
Total Assets	\$5095.20
Expenses	
Commonwealth of MA - PC filing fee	35.00
Commonwealth of MA - Annual Report	15.00
Total Expenses	50.00
Current Balance	\$ 5045.20

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## NATIONAL & STATE LWV NEWS

### ***At the National Level - Enough is Enough!***

The League of Women Voters airs a 30-second television ad condemning the intentional lies and desperate tactics of health care reform opponents. [Full Story](#)

### ***At the State Level - LWV Plymouth Kicks Off Phonathon!***

The Plymouth League is the first to hold a calling session during the three-week calling period of October 12 - October 30 when they gathered on Thursday,

October 15. Several Leagues are using the option to call individually from home when it is convenient and a good time to reach members, so they will be starting to call as well.

Many thanks to all of the members who have contributed so far, helping us get off to a good start toward our goal of \$90,000 for 90 years of protecting democracy in Massachusetts.

You can contribute anytime by going to [www.lwvma.org](http://www.lwvma.org) and clicking on the "90 for 90" logo.

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Dear Members and Friends,

The goal of this bulletin is to keep you informed of League happenings - local, state and national. If there's information of particular interest that you would like included, please let me know. I welcome your input!

Pat Krusko  
Bulletin Editor  
Westwood/Walpole LWV

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