

PROChoice

Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion-PAC
Pro-Choice Voter



**Use the right to vote to
protect the right to choose**

2004 VOTING GUIDE

VOTE NOV. 2, 2004

- ☞ Tear off this yellow Voting Guide.
- ☞ Save it until Election Day.
- ☞ Make copies for your friends.
- ☞ Carry it openly into the voting booth.

**Our endorsed candidates are listed in
BLUE BOXES
VOTE ONLY FOR THEM**

FREEDOM OF CHOICE – VOTE FOR IT!

Please copy and distribute this page to other pro-choice Westchester County Voters.

2004 **PROChoice** Voting Guide
Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion-PAC
ProChoice Voter

WCLA Endorsement Policy, 2004

WCLA's endorsements are determined case by case. To be considered for endorsement, candidates must return WCLA's questionnaire and participate in an interview if requested by WCLA.

Incumbents shall be endorsed over pro-choice challengers if they have consistent voting records and have established a reputation for strong leadership and extra effort in advancing access to abortion and contraception. Non-incumbents will be endorsed if they have demonstrated leadership in the community on the issue.

To be considered for endorsement, candidates must unequivocally support:

- access to abortion and contraception for all women, unimpeded by laws, restrictions, or regulations;
- strict confidentiality for all reproductive health care;
- coverage by public and private insurance of abortion and contraception.

Judicial candidates: To be eligible for endorsement, judicial candidates must participate in an interview if requested by WCLA, and neither seek nor accept the Right to Life Party nomination.

Candidates endorsed by WCLA are highlighted in boxes. Help keep abortion legal and accessible. Vote for endorsed candidates.

**U.S. PRESIDENT/
VICE PRESIDENT**

George W. Bush/Dick Cheney* (R, C)
JOHN KERRY/JOHN EDWARDS (D,W)
RALPH NADER/PETER CAMEJO (PJP, I)

U.S. SENATOR

HOWARD MILLS (R)
CHARLES E. SCHUMER* (D,I,W)
Marilyn F. O'Grady (C)

NYS SUPREME COURT

9th Judicial District/(vote for 6)
Robert Neary (R,I,C,RTL)
Stuart Rosenwasser (R,I,C,RTL)
Matthew Byrne (R,C,RTL)
Joseph Alessandro (R,I,C,RTL)
HOWARD MILLER* (R,I,C,W)
Joseph Cerreto (R,C,RTL)
BRUCE TOLBERT (D,W)
ALFRED WEINER (D,W)
JOAN LEFKOWITZ* (D,I,W)
LES ADLER (D,W)
KEVIN GRIFFIN (D)
WILLIAM GIACOMO (D,I,W)
William J. Dowling (RTL)

**U.S. HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES**

• **District 17**
Mat I. Brennan (R)
ELIOT ENGEL* (D,W)
Kevin Brawley (C)

• **District 18**
Richard Hoffman (R)
NITA LOWEY* (D,I,W)

• **District 19**
Sue Kelly* (R,I,C)
MICHAEL JALIMAN (D)

NEW YORK STATE SENATE

• **District 34**
John Fleming (R)
JEFFREY KLEIN (D)
Stephen Kaufman (C,I)

• **District 35**
NICHOLAS SPANO* (R,C,I,W) **
ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS (D)

• **District 36**
RUTH HASSEL-THOMPSON* (D,I,W)
Andrew Osterczy (C)

• **District 37**
Michael R. Gianatasio (R,I)
SUZI OPPENHEIMER* (D,W)

• **District 40**
Vincent Leibell* (R,I,C)
JOSEPH A. D'AMBROSIO (D,W)

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

• **District 87**
J. GARY PRETLOW* (D,I)
Moira C. Dooling (C)

• **District 88**
AMY PAULIN* (D,I,W)

• **District 89**
Robert J. Castelli (R,C)
ADAM BRADLEY* (D,I,W)

• **District 90**
SANDRA GALEF* (D,I,W)

• **District 91**
Vincent Malfetano (R,C)
GEORGE LATIMER (D,I,W)

• **District 92**
RICHARD BRODSKY* (D,I,W)

• **District 93**
Louis Mosiello (R,C,I)
STEVE PLOSKI (D)

• **District 99**
WILLIS H. STEPHENS, JR.* (R,I,C)

WESTCHESTER COUNTY COURT

(vote for 2)
William Gerstenzang (R)
IRENE RATNER (R,I,C)
FRANCIS NICOLAI (D,C,W)
GERALD LOEHR (D,I,W)
Mary N. Clark (RTL)
Terrence J. Dwyer (RTL)

Key to ratings:

ENDORSED
PRO-CHOICE, NOT ENDORSED
Anti-choice
* Incumbent
** Former RTL

Parties:

R: Republican
D: Democrat
I: Independence
W: Working Families
PJP: Peace and Justice
RTL: Right to Life
C: Conservative



PROChoice

Newsletter of

WCLA and WCLA-PAC
and ProChoice Voter

Vol. 33, No. 2 Autumn, 2004

A Simple Reminder . . . Kerry Yes! Bush NO!

WCLA has endorsed John Kerry for President and John Edwards for Vice President because they have promised to protect Roe v Wade, to support women's reproductive rights, and to promote stem cell research. Their voting records make their commitment credible. Contrary to the myths propagated by the Republican Party, Kerry and Edwards say what they mean, and they mean what they say.

For all those who still may need convincing, here is a **smattering** of headlines under the Bush Administration, as reported verbatim from KAISER DAILY REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH REPORT:

- "Prominent Scientists Criticize Bush Administration for Suppressing, Distorting Science, Including Abortion, Condom Data" (2/9/04);
- "Bush's FY 2005 Budget Proposal Would Double Funding for Abstinence Education Programs" (2/23/04);

- "Bush Bypasses Senate on Judicial Nomination, Seats Pryor During Recess"
- "House Passes Unborn Victims of Violence Act; Injuring Fetus During Attack on Pregnant Woman Would Be Separate Crime" (2/27/04);
- "DOJ Subpoenas Abortion Records From Six Planned Parenthood Affiliates for Defense of 'Partial- Birth' Abortion Ban" (2/27/04);
- "Bush Administration 'Packing' Scientific Panels With 'Ideologues,' Union of Concerned Scientists' Report Says" (7/9/04);
- "GOP Draft Platform Calls for Constitutional Ban on Abortion, Supports Bush's Embryonic Stem Cell Research Policy" (8/25/04); "The platform's section on abortion -- titled "Upholding the Rights of All" -- has been expanded from the

See Reminder on page 6

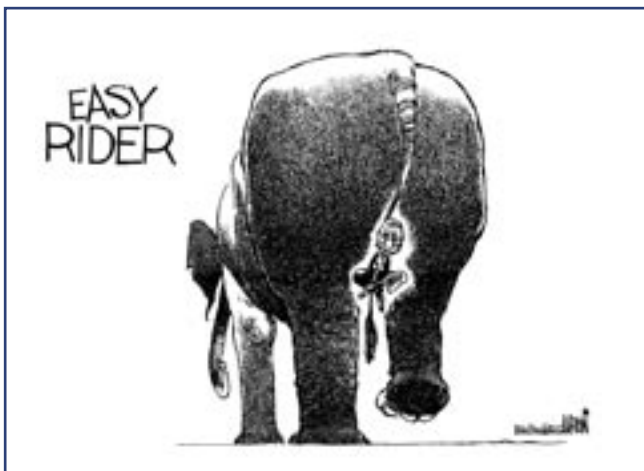
Senate District 34 Jeff Klein – A Must Win for Choice

The 34th Senate District presents an absolutely clear choice for pro-choice voters. **Assemblyman Jeff Klein** has an unequivocal record supporting a woman's right to choose. He knows the issues and has always been and will continue to be a strong proponent of women's reproductive rights.

In contrast, his opponents are not to be trusted. John Fleming, who is running solely on the Republican line after losing his bid to represent the Conservative Party, has systematically skirted the issue of choice. He does not return calls, does not put forth a position on this issue and has failed to return his WCLA questionnaire. Anti-choice candidate Steve Kaufman, who was defeated by Klein in the Democratic Primary (thanks to you—the WCLA voter!), is running on the Conservative and Independence lines. Kaufman's anti-choice voting record in the State Assembly shows that he wants to criminalize certain safe abortion procedures and put government squarely between women and their doctors.

A win by Jeff Klein is of paramount importance for the 34th SD and all residents of New York State. This victory for choice will bring us one step closer to a pro-choice New York

Reprinted from the Palm Beach Post/Wright



Nader = Bush

By Concetta Erca Agro and Rachele "Rocky" Richard

Why on earth is Ralph Nader running like a man possessed? While for years his advocacy work was a critical force, he is alienating so many of his followers who once supported his causes. Doesn't he care that he will succeed

See Nader on page 4

See Klein on page 4

A Wake-Up Call

by Catherine Lederer-Plaskett
President/Chair of the Board



“If we don't suppress the Detroit vote, we're going to have a tough time in this election.” Michigan's Republican state legislator John Pappageorge uttered those words just a few weeks ago. He was, it seems, referring to the black vote. But, as a subsequent telephone conversation with *New York Times* editorialist Bob Herbert made clear, all groups—women, Hispanics, whoever—that tend to vote Democratic are fair game.

This is 2004, not 1904. Why aren't people outraged and demanding Pappageorge's resignation? Perhaps we're no longer surprised. He gave voice to what many feel has become the *modus operandi* for winning elections. In recent years, old fashioned voter intimidation has come back in style, e.g. Florida's recent biased voter felon list; students in Texas threatened with arrest for voting where they attend university; minority names simply vanishing from the voter rolls. Now we have electronic voting machines with no paper trail.

Every year, since I was 18, I have voted. Since I have had children, my husband and I have taken first one, then two, and now all three to vote with us. We want our children to feel a sense of responsibility to their country and to themselves. As African-Americans, they know that their forefathers and mothers died for this right; as grandchild-

dren of Holocaust survivors, they know that you can never afford to sit idly by as someone else decides your fate; as children of a family with a diverse religious background, they know that no faith trumps another on Election Day.

They, like I, watch with fascination as masses of people are registering to vote. My kids are convinced that the election is in the bag—“Kerry is sure to win,” they say, and add with conviction, “Look at all those new voters.”

I don't want to burst their bubble, but if there's one thing WCLA has taught me, a voter is not a voter until s/he pulls the lever. All those new registrants are nothing without a good dose of behavior modification. Just as a smoker needs to be taught not to light up and a dieter not to take that extra bite, a voter needs to be taught to go to the polls. That's something that we at WCLA do very well; by constantly staying in touch, we actively encourage people throughout the year to make their voices heard on Election Day. Our people (you) turn out!

Most likely those new registrants are not part of that highly coveted 2004 election population—the undecided voter in the swing state. That voter baffles the mind! How can anyone be undecided at this point? The two candidates have completely different positions on just about every issue. Bush's positions are clear. He is in favor of: criminalizing abortion, prohibiting stem cell research, and passing a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage; he wants to drill in Alaska; privatize health care, refuse insurance coverage for women's birth control, and give tax breaks to benefit the very wealthy. Simply put, John Kerry isn't.

Kerry is an advocate of civil rights, women's reproductive rights, environmental protection, affordable health care, separation of church and state, and telling the truth.

In the end, the undecided voters will only have as much power as we give them. For every single one of the new registrants that goes to the polls, the weight of an undecided decreases.

My family has decided to watch the debates together. As of press time, we've made it through three, with one more to go. Each of us has our own reason for watching; our 11-year-old has the most concrete—it's the homework assignment. Our daughter on the other hand is already well on her way to becoming a politico, while our five-year-old just likes family time; and my husband and I...well, we believe that the good times are yet to come, and we're going to be there for every step along the way.

After all, as Michael Douglas said in the movie *Wall Street*, “This is your wake-up call.” I hope America is listening.

P.S. If you know of efforts to discourage or prevent people from voting, the Election Protection Coalition hotline number is: 1-866-OUR VOTE

Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion, Inc. © 2004

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Editorials

What's at Stake on Nov. 2? EVERYTHING!

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of Election 2004. With the presidential choice between John F. Kerry and George W. Bush, and the election of the entire House and one-third of the Senate up for grabs, voters will be deciding the fate of this country for years to come. As the last four years have shown, the ideologies of the two parties could not be more different. WCLA has made its position clear. We are endorsing

John Kerry, the candidate who unequivocally supports women's reproductive rights.

At the end of the day, we know that it is not WCLA, the NRA, the DNC or the RNC who will decide the fate of our country. It will be the voter — apparently a relatively rare commodity these days.

Remember, every time a person decides not to vote, those who vote have more power.

A Short History Lesson on the Privilege of Voting

The women were innocent and defenseless. And by the end of the night, they were barely alive. Forty prison guards wielding clubs and their warden's blessing went on a rampage against the 33 women wrongly convicted of 'obstructing sidewalk traffic.'

Paul, embarked on a hunger strike, they tied her to a chair, forced a tube down her throat and poured liquid into her until she vomited. She was tortured like this for weeks until word was smuggled out to the press.

They beat Lucy Burn, chained her hands to the cell bars above her head and left her hanging for the night, bleeding and gasping for air. They hurled Dora Lewis into a dark cell, smashed her head against an iron bed and knocked her out cold. Her cellmate, Alice Cosu, thought Lewis was dead and suffered a heart attack. Additional affidavits describe the guards grabbing, dragging, beating, choking, slamming, pinching, twisting and kicking the women.

So, refresh my memory. Some women won't vote this year because – why, exactly? We have carpool duties? We have to get to work? Our vote doesn't matter? It's raining?

Thus unfolded the 'Night of Terror' on Nov. 15, 1917, when the warden at the Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia ordered his guards to teach a lesson to the suffragists imprisoned there because they dared to picket Woodrow Wilson's White House for the right to vote.

Last week, I went to a sparsely attended screening of HBO's new movie "Iron Jawed Angels." It is a graphic depiction of the battle these women waged so that I could pull the curtain at the polling booth and have my say. I am ashamed to say I needed the reminder.

For weeks, the women's only water came from an open pail. Their food – all of it colorless slop – was infested with worms. When one of the leaders, Alice

My friend Wendy, who is my age and studied women's history, saw the HBO movie, too. When she stopped by my desk to talk about it, she looked angry. She was — with herself. "One thought kept coming back to me as I watched that movie," she said. "What would those women think of the way I use — or don't use – my right to vote?" The right to vote, she said, had become valuable to her 'all over again.'

[See Lesson on Page 6](#)

You Asked Why I Vote?

By Rachele "Rocky" Richard

All MEN are created equal. I never quite felt that that noun was inclusive. If it were, I would no longer have to fight, in the year 2004, to have birth control pills covered by health insurance plans while Viagra is a given, and its advertisements for free samples too prevalent.

choice and then turn around and support anti-choice candidates? YES! But, too many Americans, regardless of class, race, ethnicity, gender and age have forgotten that a powerful struggle took place in this country granting so many of us the right to vote, and far too many take this precious right for granted. Voting is a means of term limits. Voting can be a vehicle for change.

So, am I cynical? Yes! Am I disappointed with politicians on both sides of the aisle who stand up for

So . . . why do I vote?

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[See Vote on Page 6](#)

Nader from page 1

in pulling votes away from Kerry, and, perhaps, provoke the same result as he did in 2000? Apparently not! So one asks, "How is he doing it? How can one man raise the money, carry petitions in each state, and fight the legal battles, especially after the debacle of 2000?"

The answer is simple: with help from the Republican Party. The GOP has rushed to his aid and political reformer Ralph Nader has been very willing to accept their dubious charity.

Show me the money

A significant percentage ". . .of Nader's contributors who have given him at least \$250 each have a history of supporting the Republican President, national GOP candidates or the party," reported *The Dallas Morning News* last March. According to *The San Francisco Chronicle* in July, "Nearly one in ten of Nader's major donors—those writing checks of \$1000 or more—have given in recent months to the Bush-Cheney campaign." Some notable Republicans are among Nader's newest contributors: Jeno and Lois Paulucci, the frozen food magnates, have contributed over \$150,000 to GOP causes since 2000; Jack and Laura Dangermond, operators of ESRI, who recently donated \$40,000 to Republican causes; and Michigan developer Ghassan Saab who has given \$30,000 to the RNC since 2001. Nader has also received more than \$20,000 in "bundled" money, a type of contribution that he had previously denounced.

Armeý's army

Republicans have openly acknowledged that many of their members are making donations to Nader as a means to help George W, particularly in swing states. Hoover Institute research fellow and veteran GOP strategist Bill Whalen explained, "Republicans have no problem with it, if the goal is to keep President Bush in office." He continued, "...you absolutely want your activists to get out there and help Ralph run . . ." because of his effect on the 2000 election. His third party candidacy successfully drew more votes from the Democratic Party, thereby helping the Republicans win.

And the Bush activists have done just that. Nader's petition drives to get on the ballot in key battleground states like Oregon, Michigan, and Florida have relied on the necessary boost from conservative groups. The Oregon Family Council, a conservative anti-choice anti-gay group, and Citizens for a Sound Economy, an anti-tax group led by Republican Dick Armeý, made no attempts to hide the fact that they are trying to keep Kerry out of the White House by helping Nader, says *The Washington Times*. Both groups telephoned Oregonians and urged them to attend a Nader rally geared towards getting the required one thousand registered voters to sign the petition needed to get Nader on the ballot. After Oregon, Dick Armeý's troops issued a press release committing themselves to helping Nader "in key battleground states like Wisconsin, Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and

elsewhere."

In Michigan, when Nader's own volunteers only collected 5,400 signatures, about 25,000 less than needed to be placed on the Michigan ballot, the Republican cavalry came to the rescue and collected an additional 43,000, according to the AP.

AlterNet reports that in New Mexico, JSM Inc., a Florida-based marketing firm with known Republican ties, flew petitioners in from out of state, housed them in local hotels and paid between \$1 and \$3 per signature. According to a KUNM news report, the petitioners interviewed believe they were working for the Republican Party. They did not, however, disclose that information to the public unless asked. JSM was also involved in the petition drive in Nevada.

Familiar faces

Regarding Nader's legal matters, high profile Republican lawyers have been more than willing to lend a hand. For example, after a Florida judge barred Nader's name from appearing on the ballot, Ken Sukhia, an attorney with strong ties to President Bush, having worked on behalf of the GOP in the 2000 Florida recount, joined the campaign and agreed to represent Nader to fight the ruling.

Apparently, Sukhia was successful because as of September 17th, the Florida Supreme Court rendered the final decision and Nader secured a position on the ballot. As reported in *The New York Times*, Scott Maddox, Chairman of the Florida Democratic Party, said "This case will serve to further illuminate the fact that Ralph Nader is a tool of the Republican Party," and continued that "Glenda Hood and Jeb Bush did everything in their power to get Ralph Nader on the ballot." Maddox further asserted that Secretary of State Glenda Hood is an appointee of Governor Jeb Bush, George W's brother, and has used her office, similar to that of her predecessor, Katherine Harris, as a means of promoting the Republican Presidential nominee.

As of September 18th, Ralph Nader is on the ballot in 27 states, thanks to the hard work of the GOP. He could appear on as many as 13 more, pending the outcome of litigation.

As of October 8th, friends of the Swift Boat Veterans have contributed thousands of dollars to Nader.

Please don't be fooled. As GOP strategist, Bill Whalen says, "do the math." A vote for Nader is equal to a vote for Bush.

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Klein from page 1

Senate. His opponents Fleming and Kaufman will side with the anti-choice majority of the Bruno-controlled NYS Senate. Jeff Klein will promote women's reproductive rights and will fight for us, the pro-choice majority.

Electing Judges: Pro-Choice vs. No-Choice

Unlike those running for political office, candidates for judge are limited in terms of offering opinions on disputed legal and political issues. In its judicial endorsement process, WCLA sends no questionnaires, but does discuss with candidates their general philosophies regarding pregnant women and the law. To qualify for consideration by WCLA, candidates must agree to an interview and eschew the Right to Life Party.

This year, there are six open seats for the State Supreme Court (14-year term) in the Ninth Judicial District, which includes Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Rockland, and Orange Counties, and two open seats for Westchester County Court (10-year term).

WCLA endorses the following Democrats (6) and Republicans (1) for NYS Supreme Court:

County Court Judge Les Adler (D) who has served as a Westchester County Court Judge since 2000; prior to that, he was an Assistant District Attorney, a criminal defense attorney, and a Greenburgh Councilman for 17 years; **Supreme Court Justice Joan Lefkowitz (D)** who has served as a Supreme Court Justice since 1991, and served as a Family Court Judge prior to that; **Acting Supreme Court Justice Bruce Tolbert (D)** who has served on the bench for the last

20 years, in both Family and Supreme Court; **Acting Supreme Court Justice Al Weiner (D)** who has served on the bench for the past 40 years, in Family Court and as Rockland County Surrogate; **Judge William Giacomo (D)** who was a former Port Chester Town Justice and law clerk to Superior Court judges in Connecticut; **Attorney Kevin Griffin (D)** who was an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx, a lawyer in the Westchester County Attorney's office, and has been in private practice for the past 7 years; and **Supreme Court Justice Howard Miller (R)** who served as a Supreme Court Justice in the Ninth District before becoming an Associate Justice in the Appellate Division Second Department in 1991.

WCLA endorses the following Democrats (2) and Republicans (1) for Westchester County Court:

Attorney Gerald E. Loehr (D) who was an Assistant District Attorney for NY County, a former Yonkers Mayor and a Yonkers City Councilman; **Judge Francis Nicolai (D)** who is a Supreme Court Justice and the Administrative Judge of the 9th Judicial District, and has also served as a County Court Judge; **Judge Irene Ratner (R)** who served as a County Court Judge in 2002 and is Court Attorney-Referee to Family Court Supervisor Joan Cooney.

RTL Rears Its Ugly Head

The Right to Life Party is back – at least in the 5 counties representing the 9th Judicial District.

Despite the fact that the Right to Life Party (RTL) was dropped from the ballot after the last gubernatorial election*, two candidates for County Court Judge and six candidates for Supreme Court Justice are so committed to denying women control of their own bodies that they collected over 3,500 signatures in an attempt to resurrect the RTL line.

Their commitment to an anti-choice position goes well beyond anything seen in recent memory in New York State. In-

stead of joining an existing party that reflected their beliefs, they went out of their way to recreate a platform from which to espouse their anti-choice position. Their actions warrant judicial review.

BEWARE: Five of the eight candidates—Joseph Alessandro, Matthew Byrne, Joseph Cerreto, Robert Neary and Stuart Rosenwasser—are also running on the Republican and Conservative lines!

Because of a restriction in NYS election law, these five candidates are forbidden to appear on the Republican Party line and a non-established line. Thus, they

found a solution: they are taking the Conservative line which will now read Conservative and RTL, and the symbol of the RTL Party, a picture of a fetus, will be placed next to it!

The possibility that any of these eight candidates might be elected should instill fear in all of us!

*To retain a place automatically on the ballot, a party must receive, at a minimum, 50,000 votes in a gubernatorial election year. The Green Party and the Right to Life Party both failed to reach that minimum in the 2002 election.

Every time you consider not voting, remember these words:

"I am outraged that [the abortion issue] is viewed from the perspective of the woman—a femme-centric perspective that condones the self-indulgent conduct of the woman who was damn careless in the first place." These words were spoken by an elected official, Dick Armey, former U.S. Majority Leader (R-Texas).

What does your elected representative say, and how does s/he vote?

"I will do everything in my power to restrict abortion." These words were spoken by the present President of United States, George W. Bush.

Your vote can stop him from saying it again as an elected official.

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Vote from page 3

I vote to honor my grandparents who fled Europe and came to America so that their future children would be born free from persecution. I vote for my relatives and the people who were robbed of their future.

I vote for my foremothers, the suffragettes, who had the audacity to fight a male regime in order to secure – for us – the right to vote.

I vote to prevent the appointment of court justices who believe that women are inferior, subservient, second class citizens, at best, whose views are reminiscent of another male Texan whose vile remark, "if you're gonna be raped, just lay back and enjoy it," jokes about the most violent attack against a woman.

I vote for rape victims who were violated again in the courtroom prior to the rape shield laws. I vote for the countless women who died from back alley abortions because they had no choice. I vote for the young woman who has no one to turn to when she finds herself pregnant. I vote for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. I vote for all women who have been silenced.

I vote for the person who I believe will best represent me and my interests, not necessarily the person who I think will win an election. I vote because I cannot sit idly by while my

Reminder from page 1

two paragraphs in the 2000 platform to five paragraphs and discusses a "culture of life," according to the Times (Kirkpatrick, New York Times, 8/25). The platform calls for a constitutional ban on abortion and says that "the unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed." (Woodward, AP/San Francisco Chronicle, 8/24). The platform also applaud[s] "President Bush's restrictions on federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research, according to the Times (New York Times, 8/25)."

- "House Passes Provision Prohibiting Officials From Requiring Individuals, Institutions To Offer Abortion-Related Services" (9/16/04);
- "Scientists Form PAC To Speak Against Bush Policies on Stem Cell Research, Other Issues" (9/24/04);
- "Bush Administration To Offer Federal Employees Health Care Plan That Excludes Contraception, Abortion-Related Services" (9/27/04);
- "DOJ To Appeal Nebraska, New York Judges' Rulings That Struck Down Federal Abortion Ban" (9/29/04);

...and this is taken from just the last ten months.

This is the most important election in this country's history. What you do, or don't do, will affect us all for years to come.

Protect Your Rights!
VOTE!!!

country is destroyed by the radical right. I vote because it is a right and a privilege of my citizenship. I vote because I want a better future. I vote because I am patriotic. I vote because I want to see democracy reign, not a dictatorship. I vote because how "free" one is should not be based on the size of one's pocketbook.

I vote because George W. Bush uses the terms *liberty*, *freedom of choice* and *freedom from oppression* for the Iraqis, but at every turn he attempts to prohibit such freedom for women in his own country! Remember, if a woman cannot control her reproductive system, she is not free to control her destiny. I vote because I am terrified that should I decide to have a child, that s/he will never have the "freedoms" that I have enjoyed.

I vote because I believe in the First Amendment. I vote because I have a voice and I am not afraid to use it. I vote for those who stand up for women's rights and reproductive freedom – to ensure liberty and justice for all of us. I vote because I am proud to be an American, even in these trying and frightening times.

I vote to commemorate 3,000 innocent people who went to work one sunny Sept. 11th and never came home . . .

I vote, because in the end . . . there is simply no other choice.

Lesson from page 3

HBO will run the movie periodically before releasing it on video and DVD. I wish all history, social studies and government teachers would include the movie in their curriculum . . . and anywhere else women gather. . . . We are not voting in the numbers that we should be, and I think a little shock therapy is in order.

It is jarring to watch Woodrow Wilson and his cronies try to persuade a psychiatrist to declare Alice Paul insane so that she could be permanently institutionalized. And it is inspiring to watch the doctor refuse.

Alice Paul was strong, he said, and brave. That didn't make her crazy. The doctor admonished the men: "Courage in women is often mistaken for insanity."

Attribution Unknown

WCLA
mourns the loss of
Christopher Reeve,
a true hero
1952-2004

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Women's Votes Matter

By Rep. Nita Lowey

As I write, the first debate between President Bush and Senator Kerry has taken place, and the race is tightening by the minute. I am certain that this election will go down to the wire, and that we need every pro-choice voter at the polls — the future of our country could truly be riding on one vote.

Like you, I feel America is at a crossroads. This November, Americans will make a fundamental decision about our character, values, and priorities. We have a chance to stop the extremists in the Republican Party from using our government to push through a far-reaching and radical agenda.

The stakes are so high, especially for those of us who support a woman's right to choose, expanded family planning access, responsible sexuality education, and stronger STD and HIV prevention strategies.

I don't have to tell you that women's health priorities have taken a battering. The U.S. reneged on its commitment to fund family planning programs overseas, even in war-torn areas. President Bush signed the first-ever ban on abortion procedures, without any exception for a woman's health, knowing full well the ban was unconstitutional. The Ashcroft Justice Department unsuccessfully attempted to subpoena women's private medical records from hospitals and Planned Parenthoods, arguing women didn't have the right to confidentiality when they had abortions. The Food and Drug Administration rejected a proposal to allow the Plan B emergency contraceptive to be sold over-the-counter, overriding the overwhelming recommendation of two scientific advisory committees. And the Administration's record of appointments to the federal bench demonstrates the most pronounced ideological tilt in modern history.

As the campaign heated up this summer, the Bush campaign had the nerve to launch an ad campaign aimed at securing women's votes called "W Stands for Women". That's an outrage. "W" does stand for a lot of things, not for women's rights! George W. Bush has waged an all-out war on women's rights and health ever since he took office.

We need a pro-choice President and Congress that will lift the Global Gag Rule, which for four years has dramatically limited our effort to keep women healthy overseas; provide healthy increases to the Title X family planning program, which is being starved deliberately by the Bush Administration; pass a law that creates a strong, responsible sexuality education program for our nation's kids, and stop in its tracks the rush to fund unproven abstinence only until marriage education programs. We need a pro-choice President and Congress to protect and defend Roe v. Wade, to pass contraceptive coverage in all health insurance plans.

22 million single women did not vote in the last election. Don't you dare let that happen again! Our country, our future, our lives are at stake.



Congress: WCLA Endorses Engel, Lowey and Newcomer Jaliman

Congressional District 17 - Eliot Engel

Congressman Eliot Engel is a staunch and knowledgeable proponent of women's reproductive rights. Since his days as a NYS Assemblyman, he has distinguished himself as an informed advocate for choice. In Washington DC, where he represents the 17th Congressional District, Eliot Engel has worked to ensure that women in the USA and around the world have the right to choose. He has co-sponsored significant pieces of legislation including the Freedom of Choice Act and the Freedom of Choice for Women in the Uniformed Services Act.

Congressional District 18 - Nita Lowey

Congresswoman Nita Lowey has been a voice for women and reproductive rights throughout her career in public service. As the Congresswoman for the 18th Congressional District, Nita Lowey advocates and educates. Rather than merely a reliable vote, she speaks out on issues crucial to the pro-choice community. She sponsors legislation, authors articles and gives speeches. She is committed to providing insight into issues confronting women nationally and internationally.

Congressional District 19 – Michael Jaliman

WCLA is endorsing Michael Jaliman who is running against Sue Kelly. Jaliman has stated unequivocally that he stands on the side of a woman's right to choose. Unlike his opponent, Jaliman will not turn his back on 51% of the population—women.

Sen. Chuck Schumer: Advocate for Choice

Since Chuck Schumer was elected to Congress in 1980 he has voted 100% pro-choice. He is a man of action and a true leader in the fight to protect women's rights.

When he became alarmed by the frightening and deadly rise of violence at reproductive health clinics across the nation, Schumer became determined to pass legislation that would afford doctors and their patients the freedom to access basic health care without suffering anti-choice harassment. To that end, Schumer wrote the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE) to protect women, doctors and clinics. Schumer worked to protect FACE by including language in the Senate version of the bankruptcy legislation. His amendment would have prevented people from using bankruptcy procedures to avoid civil and criminal damages resulting from FACE.

When President Bush nominated anti-choice extremists to the federal judiciary, Senator Schumer objected. Together with fellow Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee, Schumer strived for all nominees to the federal courts to hold views within the constitutional mainstream...not the arch-conservative fringe. He is working to protect our constitutional rights!

Senator Chuck Schumer is being challenged by Assemblyman Howard Mills (R) and anti-choice extremist Marilyn F. O'Grady (C).

Authorized by Lowey for Congress

Paid for by ProChoice Voter

**ACTION
ALERT!
ACTION
ALERT!**

These elected officials represent you. Contact them and let them know how YOU want them to vote.

Your Elected Officials: Keep For Future Reference

U.S. President

President George W. Bush [-] R,C
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20500
Opinion phone: 202/456-1111
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CD 18 Nita Lowey [+] D
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CD 19 Sue Kelly [+/-] R,C
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County Executive

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Westchester Board of Legislators

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White Plains, New York 10601
Switchboard 995-2800

CBL 1 George Oros [-] R,C ◇
CBL 2 Ursula LaMotte [-] R,C, I
CBL 3 Robert Astorino [-] R,I,C
CBL 4 Michael Kaplowitz [+] D, I, W
CBL 5 William Ryan [+] D, I, W
CBL 6 Martin Rogowsky [+] D,I,W
CBL 7 George Latimer [-] D, W
CBL 8 Lois Bronz [+] D, W
CBL 9 Richard Wishnie [+] D, I, W
CBL 10 Vito Pinto [+] D, W
CBL 11 Jim Maisano [+] R, I, C
CBL 12 Thomas Abinanti [+] D, W
CBL 13 Clinton Young, Jr. [+] D
CBL 14 Bernice Spreckman [-] R,C,I, W
CBL 15 Louis Mosiello [+/-] R,C,I,W
CBL 16 Andrea Stewart-Cousins [+] D,W
CBL 17 Jose Alvarado [+/-] D, W

Key

+	Pro-choice	I	Independence
-	Anti-choice	L	Liberal
+/-	Mixed, qualified	RTL	Right to Life
D	Democrat	W	Working Families
R	Republican	◇	Has run on RTL
C	Conservative		

This list keeps improving because YOU elect pro-choice candidates.

To write
letters to
the editor

The New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York, NY 10036
Fax: 212/556-3622

e-mail: letters@nytimes.com

The Journal News
1 Gannett Drive
White Plains, NY 10604
Fax: 696-8396

e-mail: letters@thejournalnews.com

Weekly papers:
Check the mastheads
for addresses and fax
numbers.

Please return this coupon with your contribution to Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion.

I value this newsletter. Here's my contribution to help keep up the good work!

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Political Party _____ Phone _____ I will do phoning.

I won't vote for candidates who would restrict abortion.

Checks are payable to WCLA. Mail with this coupon to 237 Mamaroneck Ave., White Plains, NY 10605. Contributions to WCLA are not tax deductible. To phone in a charge, please call (914) 946-5363.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ Election '04 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Senate District 35 Nick Spano – A Strong Advocate of Choice

Nick Spano has been a proponent of choice since 1990—that's 14 years of advocacy! Despite pressures from Republican power brokers, Spano has remained strong on choice. Spano was a co-sponsor of the Women's Health and Wellness bill; he sponsored his own bill mandating that hospital emergency rooms provide emergency contraception for rape survivors, which has become law; and this spring, he sponsored a bill promoting stem cell research.

WCLA knows that the essence of issue politics is re-

Senate District 40 Joe D'Ambrosio – The Clear Choice

Knowing nothing of newcomer Joe D'Ambrosio other than his responses to WCLA's questionnaire, the Board requested that he come in for an interview. After a lengthy discussion, it was determined that this candidate is 100% pro-choice and perfect for a job in public service. He has spent his entire life in the non-profit sector, creating programs such as Community Partnership for Children and Families and the State of Connecticut's first Child and Adolescent Service Project. He understands the truth behind balancing a budget, finding jobs, and the need for education. When he speaks of a commitment to reproductive rights, he does so because he has witnessed, first-hand, the consequences of a lack of availability of adequate medical services for women.

WCLA not only endorses Joe D'Ambrosio, we state unequivocally, we need Joe D'Ambrosio. Now is the time to say "no" to anti-choice incumbent Vincent Leibell who has, for far too long, taken his seat for granted.

**Vote Nov. 2!
Don't Forget!**

warding legislators' outstanding efforts no matter who the challenger is. This year, Spano is being challenged by County Legislator Andrea Stewart Cousins, also of Yonkers. Our readers will remember that in past elections WCLA has fought hard for Cousins to retain her seat in County Government. But, in election 2004, she is the challenger.

WCLA is clear: We endorse Nick Spano. As his voting record shows, Nick Spano has remained true to us. Let's remain true to him.

NYS Senate and Assembly: Pro-Choice and Endorsed

WCLA is proud to endorse seven incumbents: Ruth Hassell-Thompson (SD 36), Suzi Oppenheimer (SD 37), Gary Pretlow (AD 87), Amy Paulin (AD 88), Sandy Galef (AD 90), Richard Brodsky (AD 92), and Willis Stephens Jr. (AD 99) Westchester and New York State as a whole are only as powerful as our representation. These representatives to the NYS Senate and Assembly have proven themselves to be strong proponents for women's reproductive rights. They have been there year after year advocating for choice. They have clearly earned our support on November 2!

Assembly District 93 Steve Ploski: The Pro-Choice Vote

The 93 Assembly District-Yonkers, finds pro-choice candidate Steve Ploski (D) and anti-choice candidate Lou Mosiello (R) vying for the seat previously held by WCLA endorsed Republican Michael Spano. Simply put, Spano was everything Mosiello is not!

Anti-choice Mosiello believes in legislated restrictions and wants to place government squarely between a woman and her doctor.

In sharp contrast, Steve Ploski understands that being pro-choice means trusting women and their doctors to make the right decisions. He is committed to the enforcement of Roe v Wade.

WCLA is proud to endorse Steve Ploski. Remember, every vote matters in the fight to preserve women's rights.

Westchester Coalition
for Legal Abortion, Inc.
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Lest We Forget

From 1965 until 1973 when the law changed, JANE was a Chicago based abortion counseling service that not only provided advice, but eventually trained women to perform abortions on over 10,000 women who were in need.

In 1965, after returning from work in the civil rights movement Mississippi Summer Project, Heather Booth was approached by a friend who asked if she could find someone to perform an abortion. The contact was made; the abortion was successful. Word spread. A short time later someone else asked for help. Then another. Then another. By 1968, Heather recruited a group of women to provide the counseling, raise funds and provide support. By 1969, some of the women took control of the process and starting performing the procedure themselves. Women from every part of society—by race, education, income and age—came through JANE. Some were college students. Some were from the poor communities. Some were wives of Chicago policemen. Many were from other states. The quality and care of the Service were (and are) unsurpassed even in these days of legalization.

It was a valiant effort that felt like just doing what needed to be done. It was often terrifying, usually exhausting and deeply affecting all who were involved. There is now a book about this experience called The Story of JANE, the legendary underground feminist abortion service, by Laura Kaplan. There is a movie documentary that is now on video that played on some PBS stations about this, called "JANE: an abortion service." May we celebrate their work, but never have to relive those days again.

(Taken verbatim from the WCLA archives, source not found.)

Paid for by ProChoice Voter

Great photos!

ProChoice Voter wishes to thank Mark Kornbluth for photographing our wonderful event with Senator Clinton on May 16. His photographs made a fantastic photo montage in the last newsletter. For those who want information or copies of his pictures, Mark can be reached at 914-572-0663.

AD 89 Adam Bradley— The Right Choice

WCLA is proud to endorse Adam Bradley for his second term in Albany.

A co-sponsor of the Unintended Pregnancy Prevention Act (A.888) which would allow pharmacists to dispense emergency contraception without a personalized prescription from a doctor, Bradley is a proponent of women's reproductive rights. Bradley was also a former treasurer of WCLA-PAC.

Bradley is being challenged by anti-choice candidate Robert Castelli.

George Latimer: The Right Choice

WCLA looks forward to seeing **George Latimer** bring his 13 years of experience as a Westchester County Legislator including his two terms as Chairman of the Board of Legislators, and one term as Minority Leader, as well as his four years as a Rye City Councilman to Albany when he wins the 91st Assembly District seat on November 2.

Latimer has been a reliable voice for women's reproductive rights throughout his tenure in office.

He is running for the seat previously held by Ron Tocci. Latimer faces anti-choice extremist Vincent Malfetano.

Inside

A Wake-Up Call	2	Electing Judges.....	5
A Short History Lesson.....	3	RTL Judges.....	5
Why I Vote.....	3	Nita Lowey.....	7

Congressional Endorsements.....	7
Your Elected Officials.....	8
State Endorsements.....	10