



# THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Woman Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork  
Founded in 1977

Volume XXXIX, No. 14

February/March 2020

## League Plans “Day of Action” for LWVUS 100th Anniversary, February 14



On November 18, 2019, at Bridgehampton’s Hampton Library we celebrated the LWVNYS 100th anniversary on November 19 by announcing our 100th anniversary plans for 2020, and by presenting a PowerPoint on State League accomplishments through the decades. Now with the LWVUS 100th Anniversary coming up on February 14, all Leagues nationwide were asked to celebrate by registering their plans for a “Day of Action” in any of six different categories—public dialogue, social media, traditional media, advocacy, electoral outreach, and leadership development. Afterwards, five Leagues will be randomly selected to receive a \$1,000 award.

Arlene Hinkemeyer has submitted a detailed list of numerous activities our committees have planned.

### Shelter Island and North Fork LWV Merge with LWVH

Long-held plan gets approval from National and State Leagues See page 2

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### Save the Date

March 25, 12 PM – 2 PM

Spring Into Spring Luncheon and  
Fashion Show  
\$35.00 per person

Baron’s Cove Restaurant, 31 W Water St.,  
Sag Harbor



**The League of Woman Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork**

**Mission Statement**

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**Diversity Policy**

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork, in both its values and practices, is committed to diversity and pluralism. This means that there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of economic position, gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of the East End.

**Membership**

Any person who supports the mission of the League may become a member.

**The Voter Newsletter**

The newsletter of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork League, *The Voter*, is dedicated to bringing useful information, background, perspective and commentary on public policy issues confronting League members and other community citizens in Southampton and East Hampton Towns, Suffolk County and the State of New York. It explores the work of the League to promote positive solutions, and it empowers people to make a difference in their communities.

*The Voter* is published six times a year (October/November, December/January, February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September) by the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork, P. O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937.

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## Co-President's Message



Let me start by welcoming the League members from Shelter Island and the North Fork. We are delighted to now be the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork and we are excitedly looking forward to working together as we expand our activities.

We all know that February 14th is St. Valentine's Day, but this year we also have something else to celebrate that day. It is the 100th anniversary of the birth of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS), our national organization. It was a lengthy gestation period for our "mother" organization, the National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA), which had been fighting for many years to get the vote for women. With many states already giving the vote to women and national suffrage on the horizon, Carrie Chapman Catt, who was president of NAWSA, recognized the need for a new organization that would educate the women who would now be able to vote. The New York State Woman Suffrage Party had already voted to become the New York State League of Women Voters (LWVNYS) on November 19, 1919 and, on February 14, 1920, at their final convention, NAWSA founded the National League of Women Voters (later renamed the League of Women Voters of the United States) as their successor organization.

Although we won't be hosting a 100th birthday party for the LWVUS as we did for the LWVNY last year, our members will celebrate the day by engaging in many of the activities that Carrie Chapman Catt wanted the League to promote.

It should be noted, however, that these are the same type of activities in which we engage throughout the year. We provide information about voting and help eligible citizens register to vote (including new citizens at the naturalization ceremonies at Islip Federal Court ), we sponsor candidate debates and provide impartial information about candidates on Vote411, we study and educate the public on issues of concern to the community and advocate for issues we support and we educate our young people on how to vote and how our government works. We invite you to join in the action - our committees are all listed on the back of this issue and the committee chairs would be delighted to have you contact them. We hope to see you soon.

Estelle Gellman

# Tournament of Roses Parade on Jan. 1 Launches 100th Anniversary Celebration of 19th Amendment in 2020

by **Arlene Hinkemeyer**

The 131st Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena on January 1, with the theme of The Power of Hope, launched 2020 as the year celebrating the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in August 1920, granting women nationwide the right to vote after an over 70-year struggle that began with the Women Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, NY, in 1848.

The float, which was covered with thousands of yellow roses, featured a 30-foot replica of the Statue of Liberty holding a tablet inscribed with the 19th Amendment. It was sponsored by a variety of women's groups including the League of Women

Voters. Riders on the float included descendants of prominent suffragists including Elizabeth Cady Stanton (her descendant Coline Jenkins had also participated in our suffrage march in East Hampton in August 2017), Susan B. Anthony, Ida B. Wells, Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass. Behind the float were 100 walkers dressed in white with gold/purple/white "Votes for Women" sashes, representing each state.

The float was especially appropriate, explained Pasadena Celebrates 2020, because parades and floats were a prominent way that women in large cities and small towns across the country brought attention to their cause in the 1910's.



Artist's rendering

## Education Bits and Pieces

by Judi Roth

The next step in the Running and Winning program is to return to the schools and work with the girls, i.e., the Voting Ambassadors, to implement their ideas on holding a pre-registration event.

Having learned that the new voter registration forms won't be available until mid-to-late January, we have selected February 14th to set up these meetings. That coincides with the national League's "Day of Action" on voting and suffrage. On that date we will:

- Go over the registration forms with the students.
- Set a date for the actual event; meet in a week or so before then to go over the registration forms again and to do a "rehearsal" if they think that is needed.
- Be present on the day of the event but not take part unless requested.
- Suggest that this event take place in April or May when more students will reach 16 and we can also register any 18- year-olds who haven't already been

registered in their classes.

- Send forms to the Board of Elections.

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Applications for the Betty Desch Scholarship for Leadership and Civic Engagement have gone out to all of the high schools including our new partner, Shelter Island. This scholarship is now valued at \$2,000 and we have redesigned the application to stress that we are looking for activities that show civic engagement such as writing letters to the newspapers, working in a political campaign, taking part in a League program, working on an issue such as recycling, better water quality or voter participation, running for a position in school government, etc.

\*\*\*\*\*

Applications are also being solicited from Pierson High School to send two students to the state program, "Students Inside Albany" in May.



Young women at last year's "Running and Winning" conference.

### New Online Census is Coming in March

**by Arlene Hinkemeyer**

The National League has alerted us about the importance of the 2020 Census, whose population data determine the distribution of over \$675 billion to states and localities for schools, roads, hospitals, senior citizen programs, and also our representation in the U.S. Congress and state legislature.

New this year, the census will be conducted mainly online. From March 12-20, most households will receive a postcard invitation to respond online. April 1 has been named Census Day. Those who don't respond digitally after a few postcards will receive the paper census forms in the mail. Those who don't send back the paper forms

will then receive a visit from a census taker (also called an enumerator) as early as June.

The census form asks for the name, sex, age, date of birth, and race of everyone living at that address. The Supreme Court has ruled that there will not be a citizenship question on the form.

LWVUS is encouraging Leagues to support full participation in the census, to have a representative on a state or local CCC (Complete Count Committee), and to build partnerships with other community groups.

Anyone wishing to be hired as a part-time census taker can contact the U.S. Census Bureau online at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).

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## Health Committee Report

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### New Health Initiative

On Friday December 13th 2019, at Parrish Memorial Hall on the campus of Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, Valerie King PhD, chair of the LWVH Health Committee, attended the annual meeting of the newly named East End Behavioral Health Initiative.

The organization evolved as a grassroots effort due to a crisis in access to mental health services for specific populations in our communities. In particular, school aged children and adolescents were in need of crisis intervention in the afterschool hours and clinically depressed adolescents needed a more efficient and effective process to access inpatient psychiatric hospitalization. Non English-speaking residents and the elderly in need of behavioral health services are also underserved populations.

The East End Behavioral Health Initiative includes all the major stake holders on both the North and South Forks and includes Shelter Island. Attendees of the annual meeting included local politicians, hospital administrators, behavioral health agency executives, law enforcement, school administrators, and community group representatives.

Much of the discussion at the meeting centered on the

continuation of blended state, county and local funding for behavioral health services. Family Service League has been designated a lead agency for local behavioral health services.

Participants viewed a video of DASH, a diversion program for psychiatric evaluation, and referral for treatment. In addition, hotlines, a mobile unit, medical residents with a psychiatric rotation between Eastern Long Island Hospital and Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, and tele-psychiatry are being made available. Other health related concerns, such as vaping and addiction services, were discussed.

The LWVHSINF Health Committee updates League members and community residents on important local health issues. The committee is currently planning a joint project with our Government Committee to conduct a public information meeting this spring to review and compare proposed single payer health insurance plans with current commercial and government health insurance plans.

If you are interested in joining the Health Committee contact Valerie King Ph.D. (email) [valeriekingphd@gmail.com](mailto:valeriekingphd@gmail.com) (voice) 631-267-3282

## LWVH Holiday Party December 11, 2019

On one of the most enchanting evenings of the year –with snow glistening from every branch of the trees along the roadside after a morning mini-storm -- revelers gathered in “The Parlors,” a cozy cottage behind the Bridgehampton Presbyterian Church, for our annual Holiday Party. This year we again featured a silent auction, which was a tremendous success, garnering more than \$4,000 for our treasury. Thanks to all who participated, and to Ginny Poveromo, Joanne Samborn, and members of the Events Committee, and to co-presidents Estelle Gellman and Susan Wilson for their roles as perfect hostesses.



Beth Barth surveys an array of items up for auction. More than 30 individuals or companies donated goods or time to the event.



Thanks to Mary O'Brien for expediting the sales.



Lucky bidders walked away with these prizes.

**LWVH Holiday Party December 11, 2019**



Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Cappiello (center) with VP Judi Roth and husband Howard.



Ann Marshall, Valerie King, and Richard Mellor



Isabel Sepuveda de Scanlon, Vicki Umans, and Alazaz Betolaza, visiting from Bilbao, Spain



Treasurer Cathy Peacock (right) congratulates Ginny Poveromo, head of the Events Committee, for a job well done.

**Coming Events**

In August, the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island, and the North Fork will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the 19th Amendment giving voting rights to all American women with a series of discussion teas in various locations. Look for information in upcoming issues of *The Voter*.

## The League Goes to the United Nations

by Alexis Mayer

I am happy to report about my day at the UN with my longtime friend and new League member, Susan Rausch. We were there on December 4, 2019 to attend a special event sponsored by the National League of Women Voters.

Our day began in front of the building with other volunteers, checking in members and guests coming from Albany, Buffalo and other cities in New York as well as from other states, such as North Carolina, and even some from Canada.

It warmed my heart on a very chilly day to be breezed through the layers of security to join the crowd, mainly women (it was good to see some men there as well). We were broken into groups of 20 for the tour; our group was led by a lovely, enthusiastic Latina guide. Her discourse on the three pillars of the UN (Rights, Peace and Security, and Development), plus all the work the UN is doing internationally on so many programs and initiatives had her audience totally enthralled.

As we walked through the building, we saw murals,

sculptures, and other art work from all over the world and info boards demonstrating all that the UN does and strives to do. I was especially impressed with a full-sized rendering of the 'School in a Box' program which brings an entire classroom to impoverished war torn areas of the world.

After lunch in the delegate's dining room overlooking the East River, there were fascinating briefings by Satya Tripathi UN Assistant Secretary General and Head of NY office at UN Environmental Group, and Omar Hernandez, Public Information Officer UN Academic Impact Outreach Division and Department of Global Communications. The speakers touched on the many current undertakings around the globe and what we can do locally, followed by lively discussions, questions and answers.

After my day at the UN, I am more thankful than ever to have the UN at work for 70 years chiefly avoiding war and providing a safe place for communication to be facilitated

## Heroes of the Women's Movement #5



**Angelina Emily  
Grimké Weld  
(1805-1879) (standing)**  
**Sarah Moore Grimké  
(1792-1873)**

As we celebrate the 100th year of women's suffrage, we look back to some of the heroes who laid the groundwork for this monumental law. Among the first influential advocates for women's rights in this country were Sarah Moore Grimké and her younger sister, Angelina Emily Grimké.

They began as fervent opponents of slavery, a system they witnessed firsthand growing up in a wealthy and prestigious family in Charleston, South Carolina. It is said that as a child of four or five, Sarah was so distraught after witnessing the beating of a woman slave that she ran to the harbor and asked a ship captain to take her somewhere where such things didn't happen. Unable to escape, Sarah did what she could to protect and minister to the family servants, even risking the wrath of the law to secretly teach her little maid to read from a spelling book.

When Sarah was 12 years old, the Grimké family was

*Continued on page 16*





# Suffolk County Voter

<https://my.lwv.org/new-york/suffolk-county> Box 1440, Stony Brook, NY 11790-1440 631 862-6860

February 2020

LWVSC Board Meeting: Wed. Feb. 19, Riverhead Library 10:00am-12noon

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## Making Democracy Work: She took action to ensure the vote... will you?

*Published January 30, 2020 in TimesBeaconRecord newspapers: The Village Times Herald, The Port Times Record, The Village Beacon Record, The Times of Middle County, The Times of Smithtown and The Times of Huntington-Northport as the monthly League of Women Voters of Suffolk County column in their Arts & Lifestyles section.*

The new year brought the optimism of lengthening days, even as the undeniable effects of climate change frighten and yet drive the desire to “do something.” Nationally, January brought the commemoration of Dr. King, stopping us to think about his legacy; inspiring yet so unfulfilled more than fifty years after his death. The legions of civil rights workers, volunteers, freedom riders, protesters, and women and men of all faiths, colors and origins knew that past and present wrongs could be exposed through demonstrations and civil disobedience, and then made right by law. And 100 years ago, after many decades of struggle, women finally won the right to vote in the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to the Constitution. Yet the United States was born out of compromise and states’ rights, leading to today’s patterns, in many states, of voter suppression eroding the democracy we had strengthened for nearly 250 years.

Yes, all women and men 18 and over have the constitutional right to vote. But in practice many eligible individuals don’t register, or don’t exercise their right to vote, or have that right taken away if they’ve been convicted of felonies, or are arbitrarily removed for the voting rolls, or they are gerrymandered to limit the value of their vote, etc. Yet voting this year, 2020, is critical; for President, for all members of the House of Representatives, and for one-third of Senators. In a polarized and cacophonous political climate, what can be done to ensure a fully participatory democracy?

Meet Lisa M. La Corte, a resident of Riverhead township, who wanted to honor Dr. King as an icon for civil rights and voter engagement, and honor the suffragists and all people who risked and gave all for the right to vote in a free election. The League of Women Voters learned about someone who was riding the Patchogue-Riverhead Suffolk Bus in the afternoons in January, getting passengers to register to vote. We invited her to a recent board meeting, and heard her story.

Ms. La Corte boarded the bus at the beginning of its weekday route, introduced herself to the driver, and when everyone had boarded she stood at the front and made a public announcement, introducing herself. She said she was there to help register voters and hear riders’ concerns of poor transportation for underserved communities as well as other issues. She stressed the importance of the passengers’ having their voices heard through the vote. She then walked from the front to the back asking each person individually if they were registered and if not (but eligible) she would register them then and there.

Most passengers are shy or skeptical but Ms. La Corte perseveres. When speaking with riders who do not want to register, she reminds them that is “what they want for you to not do is vote” and that by staying out of the democratic process elected officials can ignore or minimize their needs and concerns. Their voices are not heard and their community exerts no pressure for change.

The challenge for someone working with communities of color, in her view, is that black and brown people have no trust in any level of government or the process in general because they have been left behind so many times. Poor people feel that they don’t count no matter what they do, resulting in a sense of hopelessness. Our fractured communities are separated by a chasm of real-life experiences; why should they participate in a system that ignores or mistreats them? Why is authority not being held accountable? Why are black and brown people incarcerated on a hugely disproportionate basis, breaking up families and communities?

Ms. La Corte engages with all riders, whether or not they register to vote. She listens to their stories and challenges and hopes to build trust and commitment to the vote. As she said to the League, “I would love a movement that would transcend what I could ever imagine. I am but one person with ideas that hopes to inspire others. Like James Baldwin said ‘Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until its faced’.”

What are you doing to ensure access to the vote for all our fellow-citizens, educate them on the issues, and re-establish trust in our civic institutions and government?  
 by Lisa Scott

## Heroes of the Women's Movement #5

*Continued from page 14*

blessed with a new addition, bringing the total number of offspring to 14. Named Angelina Emily, the baby became the focal point of Sarah's life. From the very first, she was as much a mother to Angelina as a sister; the two formed a lifelong bond that would make the Grimké name famous in a way that would jolt the society of the times – as public speakers and activists.

Several of Sarah's siblings shared her concerns about slavery, but, as adults, she and Angelina found it unbearable to live under its shadow. Around 1830, when Sarah was 38-years-old and Angelina 25, they left Charleston and went North.

The sisters settled in Philadelphia, and, needing a place of refuge, became affiliated with the Quakers, whose principals of service to others and opposition to slavery were in line with their own beliefs. The Friends, however, were not interested in the growing call for abolition. But Angelina was.

After studying the movement, she felt a call to action, writing in her diary in May of 1835, "... I had long regarded this cause as utterly hopeless, but since I have examined anti-slavery principles, I find them so full of power of truth, that I am confident not many years will roll by before the horrific traffic in human beings will be destroyed in this land of Gospel privileges." To Angelina's great distress, Sarah was not ready to make this move, fearing they would risk being disowned by the Friends. (They eventually were disowned, in 1838, but only because Angelina got married to fellow abolitionist Theodore D. Weld.)

It would be a year before Sarah would join her sister in the cause, but she did so wholeheartedly. In October of 1836, the two traveled to New York to meet with Elizur Wright, founder of the American Anti-Slavery Society headquartered in New York. He asked them to join his newly created National Female Anti-Slavery Society.

It was proposed that the sisters hold parlor meetings for women in which they would encourage their listeners to persuade their husbands and brothers that slavery was a sin against humanity. The first meeting in December, which drew 300 women, was the first assembly of women not Quakers in a public place in America, addressed by American women. More meetings and larger audiences followed.

"How little, how very little I supposed, when I used so often to say 'I wish I were a man' that I could go forth and lecture, that I ever would do such a thing," Angelina wrote in January 1837. "The idea never crossed my mind that as a woman such work could possibly be assigned to me."

Such shocking behavior exposed the Grimkes to ridicule and contempt; they were denounced in the press and from the pulpit, but were firm in their belief that God had sent them on this path in life and held strong. Many of their critics complained that not only were they speaking in public, but they were discussing a political issue--not something that women should be concerned about.

Thus began a new crusade for the sisters--humanizing women as equals to men. In fact, it was as if this was the moment Sarah had been waiting for all her life, ever since, as a child, she had begged her father to let her participate in her brother's education to no avail because of her sex, to despite her obvious intelligence.

In May, Sarah published a 70-page pamphlet, *Appeal to the Women of the Nominally Free States*, handed out at the National Female Anti-Slavery convention in which she argued: "The denial of our duty to act in this cause is a denial of our right to act; and if we have no right to act, then may we well be termed 'the white slaves of the North' for like our brethren in bonds, we must seal our lips in silence and despair."

Just as Angelina had been the force behind the sisters' participation in the cause of abolition, Sarah became the leader in this new mission.

Perhaps her most compelling arguments appear in a subsequent publication, *Letters on the equality of the sexes, and the condition of women* published in 1838.

She wrote: "The pages of history teem with women's wrongs, and it is wet with women's tears. -- For the sake of my degraded sex everywhere ... I entreat my sisters to arise, in all the dignity of immortal beings, and plant themselves, side by side, on the platform of human rights, with man to whom they were designed to be companions, equals, and helpers in every good word and work."

The Grimké sisters retired from public speaking in 1838. They spent the rest of their lives in the New England

states, continuing to work for the causes that had propelled them from the start. Both died in New Hyde, Massachusetts and are buried there in New Hope Cemetery.

As Catherine H. Birney, who knew the sisters in their later years, noted in a book published in 1885: "Though [the revolution in sentiment respecting woman's sphere] was met at the outset with much the same spirit which opposed abolitionism, [it] soon spread and became a principle of reform as conscientiously and as ably advocated as any other, moral or political. Neither Sarah nor Angelina had any idea of starting such a revolution, but when they found it fairly inaugurated, and that many women had long privately held the same views... and were ready to follow in their lead, they bravely accepted,

and to the end of their lives as bravely sustained all the responsibilities their opinions involved. They were the pioneers in the great cause of political freedom for women..."\*

-- Eva Moore

\**The Grimké Sisters / Sarah and Angelina Grimké: The First American Women Advocates of Abolition and Woman's Rights.*



## Membership Application

### **Not a member of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork?**

Please join us by mailing this application form and a check payable to LWVH to:

League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork;

P.O. Box 2253; East Hampton, NY 11937

Individual Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Other Household Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Dues:** Full-time Student \$15      Household \$90      Individual \$60

Donations to our local league may be made payable to LWVHamptons and may be included in your dues check.

Tax-deductible donations may be made by separate check payable to: LWVNYS - Education Foundation

I am interested in:

Education Committee     Membership Committee     Voter Services Committee  
 Government Committee     Natural Resources Committee     Communications  
 Health Committee     Special Events Committee

*Questions? Call us at 631-324-4637 or email: [membership@lwvhamptons.org](mailto:membership@lwvhamptons.org)*

# Highlights of the January 8, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting

## Presidents' Report:

- The merger among Hamptons, Shelter Island and unaffiliated North Shore league members is complete and the board expresses warm welcomes to new fellow Leaguers.
- Transition to MyLO. Judy will devote more time in the next weeks to making as much progress as possible absent any help from IT professionals or board volunteers.

## Discussion Items:

- Board meeting venues in 2020. Cooper Hall at Rogers library reserved for Feb. meeting.
- Lynn Dawson has agreed to become Membership committee co-chair with Vicki Umans. Joanne Samborn has resigned the position to focus on duties as co-chair of Special Events.
- Program Planning for the year will be on January 29 at 12 pm at Hampton Library. Lunch will be provided.
- LWVUS 100th Anniversary, February 14, will be celebrated as "a day of action." Our message: the LWVUS and the LWNYS were formed out of the Nat'l American Woman Suffrage Party, and the NYS Woman Suffrage Party. It was our organization that worked hard and successfully for women's suffrage.
- Arlene noted at least five projects included in Committee Reports that she will report to LWVUS as action items.
- Board voted to buy advertising in several local newspapers to celebrate our history and current agenda.
- Annual Meeting in May. We'll seek a venue on Shelter Island to honor the addition to LWVH membership. Lois Morris will explore Shelter Island venues. Sag Harbor mayor Kathleen Mulcahy will be asked to speak. Her availability will determine whether meeting will be on May 3 or May 17.
- Future meetings & PIMs. January: Program Planning. February: Blahs luncheon/fashion show. March: Newly elected officials. April: Navigating Health Insurance. May: Annual Meeting.

## Committee Reports:

- **Education Committee** Judi Roth noted that this year's Inside Albany students will be chosen from Pier-

son HS. Follow-up to Running & Winning. Committee is working with students who attended R&W to conduct voter pre-registration drives at their schools.

- **Government Committee** Cathy Peacock noted that Affordable Housing has been tabled as a PIM topic since Gov. Cuomo vetoed the bill to add a percentage of CPF for housing. Assemblyman Thiele will work with Governor to create a bill he will approve. Senator LaValle will not run for another term.
- **Health Committee:** The Committee has been working on how to best present the complicated topic of Health Insurance options. On January 13, Cathy Peacock, Ann Sandford, Estelle Gellman and Judy Samuelson are going to a presentation on the current state of ACA and of Medicare/Medicare Advantage in Holbrook NY, sponsored by the Brookhaven League.
- **Membership Committee** Vicki reported:
  - We have a total of 113 paid members for 2020. This includes 9 new members.
  - Ambassador Program is making first appearances in our local libraries. Doreen Q, Amagansett October 2019, Lynn D, Southampton December 2019, and Bev L, Sag Harbor in January 2020.
- **Publicity Committee** Arlene reported successful PR both before and after our events..
- **100th Anniversary Committee** In addition to items listed under "Discussion Items," we will hold afternoon teas at libraries in August to coordinate with the Nassau/Suffolk 100th Anniversary Committee in August of 2020.
- **Special Events:** Joanne Samborn & Ginny Poveromo are working on Blahs Lunch venue and date.
- **Electronic Communications:** Judy reported: Website holds steady. Two Constant Contacts were issued in December. Average open rate continues between 45% to 52%
- **Next Board Meeting:** February 5, 2 pm at Cooper Hall, Rogers Memorial Library.

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# The Voter

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Making democracy work through voter education,  
issue advocacy, and civic participation.