



THE VOTER

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

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Save the Date

Public Service Meeting
September 18, 7 PM
Bridgehampton Library

Our League's Sustainability Committee will be holding a Public Information Meeting, "Community Choice Aggregation and Community Solar."The speakers are Lynn Arthur, from the Sustainability Committees of Southampton, and Lena Tabori, representative of the Sustainability Committee of East Hampton.

These programs are new and expected to launch in the fall. They will help reduce carbon emissions and save money for consumers



Springs Farmers Market Registration Drive, page 14



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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Letter from the Editor

East Hampton Composting Program: Update

In the April/May/June issue of *The Voter*, we presented information about a plan for establishing a community composting program being considered by East Hampton.



This summer, a collaborative pilot program between the Town of East Hampton and ReWild Long Island was introduced at Farmer's Markets in Springs and Sag Harbor. One hundred households in these communities may now register to participate in the pilot. The managing firm, East

Hampton Compost, requests that residents sign up only if they are sure they can honor the commitment.

Food scraps may be dropped off at the two locations on Saturdays, with the possibility of more locations and times to be added in the months ahead. (NOTE: Scraps are NOT accepted at Town Recycling Centers.)

Acceptable "donations" include vegetable and fruit scraps (please remove the produce stickers), coffee grounds, and loose-leaf tea, eggshells, soil amendment from countertop composters, and cut flowers.

Details on the procedures for collecting and storing your food scraps may be found at EastHamptonCompost.org

Overwhelmed with invasive plants on your property? Get some goats!

That was just the solution proposed by the Concerned Citizens of Montauk at a recent Town Board meeting in order to control the invasive species, including Japanese honeysuckle, multi-floral rose, poison ivy, and green briar, that are choking the 40-acre Arthur Benson Preserve on Old Montauk Highway.



Landscape ecologist, Rusty Schmidt, told the board that goats find such plants very tasty; "they don't really eat the native grasses."

Goats are already at work in Heckscher State Park in East Islip, on Staten Island, and Riverside Park in Manhattan.

The Board was onboard with the CCOM's proposal. Planning Director Jeremy Samuelson commented that the plan is an "opportunity to embrace a public-and-private partnership that we think is responsible for not only the ecological resource but also the taxpayers."

If all goes as planned, work would begin in the winter, with the goats arrival in the spring. To make the goats feel right at home, fresh water and a shelter would be provided as goats don't like the rain.

--Thanks to reporting by Christopher Walsh in the East Hampton Star. -Eva Moore

President's Message



In June, Terry Wildrick and I attended the New York State Biennial Convention in Albany as Delegates representing LWVHSINF.

I was proud when our League was recognized with Honorable Mention Awards for two of our programs: For our Carbon CREW Project to educate voters to reduce their carbon footprint and our Youth Committee's Running & Winning Project to register high school students and engage them in the voting process.

Special thanks to Terry, who stepped up to make our scheduled Carbon CREW presentation, "Reduce Your Carbon Footprint," during the Environmental Caucus after I was sidelined by a fall.

Other highlights of the convention included a lunchtime address by former Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, who spoke about her work on the national Equal Rights Amendment. She reminded the group of the history of its passage and ratification and the need to still advocate for acceptance of the ratification and certification of the amendment. She also offered numerous stories of her many years of service in Congress. Ms. Maloney, now with the ERA Coalition and the Fund for Women's Equality, is working to get signatures on a petition to support legislation removing the deadline standing in the way of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) becoming the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. For more information on her work and to sign the petition, see sign4era.org

On the local scene:

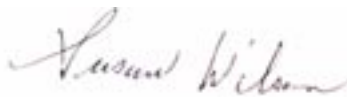
Three newly Appointed Directors were welcomed at our June Board meeting: Neil Cohen has assumed the position of Co-Chair of the Voter Services Committee; Michelle Corbett is working with Neil on that committee and also the Youth Committee, and Claudia Hunt is involved with the Sustainability Committee.

Arlene Hinkemeyer, Publicity VP, organized and hosted a lovely, successful fundraiser tour focusing on the hamlet of Bridgehampton. The event is a focus of this issue.

Special kudos to the Youth Committee. The results of the Teens Talk Voting Survey were published in all local East End newspapers. The Sag Harbor Express article included an interview that got the attention of some members of the New York City League visiting the area and now our two Leagues are sharing information and working to find additional ways to use the survey results. The project is also being shared with other leagues across New York State.

As usual, Voter Services is busy planning summer Voter Registration tabling events and candidate debates.

And Valerie King, Off-Board Health Committee Chair, will be working with our new volunteer intern and the 2022 and 2023 recipients of the LWVH/SI/NF Betty Desch Scholarship to write an article on vaping. The subject was suggested by the students.



Susan Wilson

Mensaje del presidente

En junio, Terry Wildrick y yo asistimos a la Convención Bienal del Estado de Nueva York en Albany como delegados en representación de LWVHSINF.

Me sentí orgulloso cuando nuestra Liga fue reconocida con Premios de Mención Honorífica por dos de nuestros programas: por nuestro Proyecto Carbon CREW para educar a los votantes a reducir su huella de carbono y el Proyecto Running & Winning de nuestro Comité Juvenil para registrar a los estudiantes de secundaria e involucrarlos en el proceso de votación.

Un agradecimiento especial a Terry, quien dio un paso adelante para hacer nuestra presentación programada de Carbon CREW, "Reduzca su huella de carbono", durante el Caucus Ambiental después de que fui marginado por una caída.

Otros puntos destacados de la convención incluyeron un discurso a la hora del almuerzo de la ex congresista Carolyn Maloney, quien habló sobre su trabajo en la Enmienda Nacional de Igualdad de Derechos. Recordó al grupo la historia de su aprobación y ratificación y la necesidad de seguir abogando por la aceptación de la ratificación y certificación de la enmienda. También ofreció numerosas historias de sus muchos años de servicio en el Congreso. Maloney, ahora con la Coalición ERA y el Fondo para la Igualdad de la Mujer, está trabajando para obtener firmas en una petición para apoyar la legislación que elimina la fecha límite que se interpone en el camino de la Enmienda de Igualdad de Derechos (ERA) que se convierte en la Enmienda 28 a la Constitución de los Estados Unidos. Para obtener más información sobre su trabajo y para firmar la petición, consulte sign4era.org

En la escena local:

Tres directores recién nombrados fueron recibidos en nuestra reunión de junio de la Junta: Neil Cohen ha asumido el cargo de Copresidente del Comité de Servicios al Votante; Michelle Corbet está trabajando con Neil en ese comité y también en el Comité de Jóvenes, y Claudia Hunt está involucrada con el Comité de Sostenibilidad.

Arlene Hinkemeyer, vicepresidenta de publicidad, organizó y organizó una encantadora y exitosa gira de recaudación de fondos centrada en la aldea de Bridgehampton. El evento es un foco de este tema.

Felicitaciones especiales al Comité de la Juventud. Los resultados de la encuesta de votación Teens Talk se publicaron en todos los periódicos locales del East End. El artículo de Sag Harbor Express incluyó una entrevista que llamó la atención de algunos miembros de la Liga de la Ciudad de Nueva York que visitaban el área y ahora nuestras dos Ligas están compartiendo información y trabajando para encontrar formas adicionales de usar los resultados de la encuesta. El proyecto también se está compartiendo con otras ligas en todo el estado de Nueva York.

Como de costumbre, el Comité de Servicios al Votante está planeando eventos de presentación de registro de votantes de verano y debates de candidatos.

Y Valerie King, presidenta del Comité de Salud Off-board, trabajará con nuestra nueva pasante voluntaria y los beneficiarios de 2022 y 2023 de la beca LWVH / SI / NF Betty Desch para escribir un artículo sobre el vapeo. El tema fue sugerido por los estudiantes.

League Tours Bridgehampton Community Sites, June 21

by Arlene Hinkemeyer, organizer

Renewing its pre-COVID practice of holding fundraising tours of historic and cultural community sites, the League visited four noted sites in Bridgehampton on June 21: the five-acre demonstration Bridge Gardens, the newly-reconstructed Nathaniel Rogers House museum, the newly-built Bridgehampton Child Care & Recreation Center, and the iconic Candy Kitchen. Twenty-six Leaguers and guests registered for the first-day-of-summer tour, and received a marigold plant in celebration as well as a LWV Directory of Public Officials.



LWV member Judi Roth, left, who led the tour of Bridge Gardens, donated to the Peconic Land Trust in 2008, here speaks in the four-quadrant herb garden, featuring culinary, medicinal, ornamental and textile/dye plants.



Judi Roth leading a tour of the spectacular rose garden



The Nathaniel Rogers House museum, a Greek Revival architectural gem, after its lengthy reconstruction.

Special Events



Nina Dec, second left, executive director of the Nathaniel Rogers House museum, spoke about the history of the house, its reconstruction, its many owners including the American miniature portrait artist Nathaniel Rogers, and then led tourgoers to the many rooms upstairs, used when it was once also an inn.



The Bridgehampton Child Care & Recreational Center, rebuilt in 2023, after first established in 1950.



Bonnie Cannon, second left, executive director of the new Bridgehampton Child Care & Recreational Center, and her two assistants spoke about the Center's many programs for children in need in all age groups. She toured visitors through rooms that offer computer training, dance and yoga classes, after-school and community spaces, and spoke of plans to add pre-K in another building and build an indoor gym and pool.

After the tour, parched Leaguers enjoyed homemade ice cream treats at the historic Candy Kitchen restaurant.



News Nuggets from LWVNYS 60th Biennial Convention, June 2-4

by Arlene Hinkemeyer

Our President Susan Wilson and Board member Terry Wildrick were among the 86 delegates from 28 Local Leagues, two ILOs (Inter-League Organizations), two MAL (Member At Large) Units and nine from the State Board who attended the LWVNYS Convention, June 2-4, in Albany. Elected president was Nancy Rosenthal of Long Island, a former president of the Nassau County League, and former LWVNYS Voter Services Chair.

The LWVNYS Board-recommended program was adopted:

- . a concurrence with the long waste position adopted by the four Capital District Leagues;
- . a new study on the use of Ranked Choice Voting

(RCV) and alternatives to party primaries for state, congressional and local office.

. a new study on the process used by the NYS Board of Elections to approve voting systems with the purpose of seeing if the process can be improved to be more effective in ensuring that approved voting systems meet a balance of the SARAT (secure, accurate, recountable, accessible and transparent) criteria.

Our League received two Honorable Mentions in the LWVNYS contest—one in the category of “Thinking Out of the Box” for the Carbon CREW project, and one in the category of “Shaping Our Future Award (Youth Award)” for our “Running & Winning” program in April 2022.



LWVHSINF Vice President Terry Wildrick and president Susan Wilson flank retiring Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney.

Students inside Albany



Two Sag Harbor Pierson High School students, Isabelle Caplin (left) and Rachael Monaco, were selected to represent the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork by the Voters Youth Committee last month at the League of Women Voters Students Inside Albany Conference on May 21-24. While at the conference they with NYS Assemblyman Fred Thiele.

Workshop on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the Convention

By Terry Wildrick, Chair of LWVHSINF DEI Committee

The LWV NYS Convention operated under the umbrella of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). By now, we are familiar with these terms. Diversity and Inclusion seem easy to understand. But we need to keep in mind that diversity pertains not only to race and ethnicity, but also to age, sexual orientation, abilities, and culture. To be more inclusive, we should be aware of ways in which different groups are excluded and to work to remove those barriers. Equity is different from equality, in that equity means giving each person what they need to succeed.

In the Saturday morning workshop entitled “Successes, Missteps, and Next Steps in Our Journey to DEI,” \$1.6 million for from the top on the system presenters shared their efforts to work with other organizations that have goals aligning with ours. One chapter invited representatives from several local organizations to a meeting at their headquarters.

This served as a networking and listening opportunity. It gave organizations a chance to share their needs and plan co-sponsored events. It resulted in League presence at parades, fairs, and other events. League members may train volunteers from partner organizations to provide voter information and registration forms.

The LWV NYS DEI Task Force has sponsored a few 21-

Day Challenges. When you register for a challenge, you receive a daily email containing a list of choices related to the topic. Debbie Irving, author of *Waking Up White* (and finding myself in the story of race) has left her challenge open. Take a look at <https://debbyirving.com/better-listening/>. You can spend a few minutes or an hour reading, watching or listening to a variety of presentations. Look for more challenges in the near future in newsletters from LWV NYS and emails from our League.

Our local League has taken several steps toward our DEI goals. We have changed our board meeting time to accommodate more people who are still working. Neil Cohen has stepped up to participate in our voter services events. And this year, our annual Running and Winning selection will be open to all 11th and 12th graders, not just young women.

We have been invited to offer voter registration to members of the Shinnecock nation. Next steps will include a meeting with other local organizations as described above.

In our area there are numerous opportunities to experience diverse cultural and artistic expression, from Juneteenth commemorations to Pride parades, festivals, exhibits, concerts, etc. Many of us live in homogeneous neighborhoods. Why not challenge yourself to attend something you have never attended before? You will almost certainly be warmly welcomed.

League Holds Combination Live/Zoom Shelter Island Town Democratic Primary Debates at Shelter Island Library, June 4

There were 75 Shelter Islanders in attendance, plus standees and others turned away at the door, in addition to 35 watching on Zoom, when the League sponsored two highly informational Shelter Island Town Democratic primary debates at the Shelter Island Library on June 4, before the NYS Primary on Tuesday, June 27. Debating first were Town Supervisor candidates Gerard Siller and Arnott Gooding, followed by Town Council candidates Benjamin Dyett, Robert Waife and Albert Dickson.



Here, Town Council candidates, left to right, Benjamin Dyett, Robert Waife and Albert Dickson respond to questions posed by moderator Jo-Ann Robotti.



Organizers of the LWV Shelter Island debates were, left to right, timekeepers Valerie Levenstein and Lois B. Morris, moderator Jo-Ann Robotti, and greeter Michelle Corbett.


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Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of Seneca Falls Convention

July 19th and 20th 1848

One century and 75 years ago the first women's rights convention ("a convention to discuss the social, civil, and religious condition and rights of women") was held in the Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. The momentous event was conceived and organized by activists Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann M'Clintock.

For two days, the leaders delivered stirring speeches and presented a Declaration of Sentiments, based on the Declaration of Independence, to the audience of 300 women and men. Mott was the first to endorse the Declaration. However, she and many others objected to an accompanying resolution by Stanton that women's "right to the elec-

tive franchise... is the same, and should be yielded to her, whether she exercises that right or not." Noted abolitionist and human rights activist Frederick Douglass was in attendance and played a key role in persuading the other attendees to agree to the resolution.

The convention gained widespread attention and inspired more women's rights conventions, including the Rochester Women's Rights Convention in Rochester, New York, two weeks later.

In 1850 the first National Women's Rights Convention was held in Worcester, Massachusetts. There, the issue of the right to vote became the central tenet of the women's rights movement

Wesleyan Chapel



300 men and women attended the unprecedented event.

The Leaders



Elizabeth Stanton & Lucretia Mott

Elizabeth Cady Stanton (1815-1902) has become one of the most legendary figures in the women's movement. The mother of seven still found time to engage in, and write about, activities supporting women's rights and abolition of slavery. She lived in Johnston, New York.

Lucretia Coffin Mott (1793-1880), a Quaker minister earned the sobriquet "the foremost white female abolitionist in the United States," traveling to many states and to England on her mission. In 1833, she and her husband James formed the Anti-Slavery Society in Philadelphia. Mott proceeded to be equally committed to the advancement of women's rights. She had six children.



Frederick Douglass in 1840's



Mary Ann M'Clintock (1800-1884), like Mott, was a Quaker, and along with Mott, a founder of the Female Anti-Slavery. She had been a minister and anti-slavery activist in her native Philadelphia, then relocated with her husband and five children to Waterloo, NY in 1836. The Declaration of Sentiments was composed on her kitchen table; she was credited by Stanton for her contributions to the document.

Making Democracy Work: Promoting Social Justice and Human Understanding

by *Lisa Scott, President*

Tucked away on the Ammerman Campus of Suffolk County Community College is a remarkable entity most residents are unaware of: The Center for Social Justice and Human Understanding, home of New York metropolitan region's largest collection of Holocaust artifacts. In a three-room museum, over one hundred original objects are displayed and viewed by hundreds of students every year since its inception in 2003. The collection of photographs, documents, uniforms, and historic newspapers tell the story of the Holocaust, beginning with Hitler's rise to power and ending with the horrific images captured by liberators at the end of the war. The collection is both impressive and moving. The Center also maintains two smaller collections of artifacts, one dedicated to documenting the transatlantic slave trade and another dedicated to the life and legacy of Jackie Robinson.

In support of their mission to educate the community on historical events, and to promote cultural understanding and respect for human dignity, the Center hosts academic programs for students at the College and the public. In the last academic year, programs were dedicated to a wide range of topics; one focused on human rights abuses exposed during the World Cup, another on the story of an enslaved woman on Long Island during the American Revolution. Ultimately, all of the work is anchored in the lessons of the Holocaust and the need to acknowledge all lives as valuable.

This approach is also taken in the support the Center provides students at the College. Center staff is integral in the work of several task forces focused on the needs of students from marginalized communities. These include LGBTQ+, undocumented, and those facing basic needs insecurities. The Center serves as a landing place for these students often connecting them with the resources and assistance they need.

The latest endeavor of the Center is *By Design: The History of Oppression on Long Island*, a documentary series focused on the untold stories of the region's past

and how they impact residents today. Episodes highlight stories such as the influence of the KKK in the development of Suffolk County's landscape, the Nazi camp in Yaphank during the 1930s, and the existence of migrant labor camps on the East End among many others. The project is a collaboration of the Center and the Radio and Television Production Program at the College. Suffolk County Community College students help produce each of the episodes which are being shared with college faculty and the broader community in order to stimulate dialogue and create meaningful change in our communities.

The Center aims to achieve those same goals with high school students. Annually, the Center hosts Unity Day, a gathering of several hundred students who come together for a day focused on empowerment and leadership. Students hear a keynote speaker, work together in breakout sessions, and meet with community organizations who can offer them valuable resources. This October, Unity Day will feature Kane Smego, an international spoken word poet and artist, who will energize and inspire students from schools across the island. In addition to Unity Day, middle school and high school students visit the center for field trips that include a presentation from a Holocaust survivor, guided tour of the collection, and workshops.

The work of the Center is timely and necessary. In a world where division and extremism are growing exponentially, there is a need for organizations like this to foster greater inclusivity among residents of Suffolk County. We encourage seniors, parents, students and elected officials to visit the Center at the Huntington Library, Suffolk County Community College, Selden, NY 11784 (just north of the LIE, east side of Nicolls Road). Slowly read and observe, engage with staff and let the collection move you to a deeper grasp of the evils in our shared past. Visit the Center's website at <https://www.sunysuffolk.edu/experience-student-life/csjuh/> and learn how the Center promotes themes of coexistence, tolerance, and respect for differences.

Voter Services Committee Report

Can You Spare Some Time?

The LWVHSHNF Voter Services Committee has two important initiatives over the next few months and needs your help to make them successful.

Volunteers are needed in East Hampton, Bridgehampton, Southampton, Westhampton Beach, Sag Harbor, Shelter Island and the North Fork to help with tabling at farmers' markets throughout the summer, as well as at these special events: the East Hampton Artists & Writers Charity Softball Game (Aug. 19), Harborfest in Sag Harbor (Sept. 16-17), the Southampton Anti-Bias Task Force Picnic (early September) in Hampton Bays, and National Voter Registration Day (Sept. 19) all over the South and North Forks and Shelter Island. Volunteers will get free LWV t-shirts, while they last.

Volunteers are also needed to help with organizing the candidates debates we are sponsoring for East Hampton and Southampton Town supervisors and

boards and Suffolk County legislature candidates. Although these debates will be held in early to mid-October, the League wants to get an early start in contacting the candidates, coming up with debate questions, and other debate preparations.

If you can help with any of these, please contact VSC co-chair Neil Cohen at neilcohen.8@gmail.com or 917-880-7304.



July 17 Voter Registration at Springs Farmers' Market
Standing: Arlene Hinkemeyer and Neil Cohen
Seated: Judy Samuelson and Estelle Gellman

NOT A MEMBER? JOIN OR DONATE NOW

Membership Dues /_ / \$60 Individual /_ / \$90 Household /_ / No Charge Full-time Student /_ / \$___ Donation

Dues Year is June 1 through May 31.

Questions? Call us at 631-324-4637. Send this form and payment option (with check or credit card information) to League of Women Voters, P.O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937. Make checks payable to LWVH.

Individual Member's Name _____

Additional Household Member's Name _____

Mailing Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

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I'm interested in these committees: _____

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You can also join or donate on our website LWVHSHNF.org

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631-283-0759



LWVH/SI/NF is looking for some priceless people to work on our various committees. Contact any officer listed above if interested in volunteering for the committee.

The Voter

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Making democracy work through voter education,
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