



THE VOTER

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

Volume XL No. 40

January - March 2025

League Participates in Three LWNYS & L WVUS Consensus Studies

By Arlene Hinkemeyer

We were pleased to have three dedicated League committees—largely composed of our amazing new members—which tackled the research and made LWNYS and L WVUS consensus study presentations to our members in February and March at Bridgehampton’s Hampton Library.

The LWNYS consensus presentation on February 10 covered two topics—the process by which the NYS Board of Elections selects voting machines; and also, the use of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in primary and general elections, and the use of open non-partisan primaries.

The L WVUS consensus meeting on March 18 was a study of the Federal Judiciary—including both the federal judges and the Supreme Court Justices.

We’ve sent in our responses to the State and National Leagues, and as soon as other Leagues do so, and if state and national consensus positions are reached, we will be able to print the results in the next Voter.

Consensus photos on page 4



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You are Invited to Our 48th Annual Meeting

**Sunday, May 18, 2 p.m.
East Hampton Library, 159
Main St.**

**Featured speaker: Emily Mastaler,
New Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Stony Brook Southampton Hospital**

Awards, Refreshments.
Proposed Budget, Nominating Committee Report,
and Program Items will be emailed in advance.



The League of Women 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 four times a year: Jan-Mar/ Apr-June; July-September, and October-December by the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island, and the North Fork
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Lianne Alcon, Design & Production
Arlene Hinkemeyer, Photographer; Advertising Manager

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President's Message

As a member of this year's Presidential Team which has included Arlene Hinkemeyer, Susan Wilson, and Terry Wildrick, it was my honor to be president of our League for the months of January-March 2025.

Given the flurry of unprecedented events of the past few months, I think it's important to think about what it means for the League of Women Voters to be non-partisan. As we often say, the League is a political but non-partisan organization and, although we never endorse or oppose any candidate or political party, the League does take positions on issues. Our positions, however, are based on the issues supported by the consensus of our members. Support for issues of national concern are based on the results of a national consensus, such as is currently in progress on the Federal Judiciary; issues of concern to the state are based on the consensus of NYS members, as is currently in progress regarding rank-order voting; and issues of concern to our local community are based on a consensus of our local members. Once consensus has been reached on an issue, the League is empowered to lobby on that issue. Since the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) has a position on voting, the League - including our local league - can, for example, lobby against the S.A.V.E. Act. It doesn't matter which politician or political party has endorsed or opposed that issue; the League's position is based on how the issue comports with our policies. Our position is non-partisan even if the issue is one on which there are partisan differences. When we get action alerts from either the LWVUS or the NYS League, it is because they want us to take action on an issue on which we have a position - and it is our opportunity to support those positions.

It is also important to note that there is a major difference between the positions on which the League may lobby and those on which our individual members may lobby. Individual members - except for those who are in visible leadership positions and would be seen as speaking for the League - can lobby on any issue that concerns them. The current administration is taking many actions that are unprecedented and, although the League cannot take issue with all of those actions, our members are in no way restricted in their political activity as long as they are speaking for themselves rather than the League. In fact, we encourage our members to be politically active, not only by voting but also by becoming involved in the issues affecting us.

In closing, I would like to say how much I appreciate the trust you have shown in me as a co-president and member of this year's Presidential Team. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with so many devoted League members and will remain active in other capacities. I believe, however, that if we are to flourish, we must develop new leadership. I would like to thank all those who have served on the Board of Directors, have taken on co-chair positions and have served on our committees and I would like to encourage our newer members to become more involved. We need you!

Estelle Gellman

Mensaje del Presidente

Como miembro del Equipo Presidencial de este año, que ha incluido a Arlene Hinkemeyer, Susan Wilson y Terry Wildrick, fue un honor para mí ser presidente de nuestra Liga durante los meses de enero a marzo de 2025.

Dada la oleada de acontecimientos sin precedentes de los últimos meses, creo que es importante pensar en lo que significa que la Liga de Mujeres Votantes sea apartidista. Como decimos a menudo, la Liga es una organización política pero no partidista y, aunque nunca respaldamos ni nos oponemos a ningún candidato o partido político, la Liga sí toma posiciones sobre los temas. Nuestras posiciones, sin embargo, se basan en las cuestiones respaldadas por el consenso de nuestros miembros. El apoyo a las cuestiones de interés nacional se basa en los resultados de un consenso nacional, como el que se está llevando a cabo actualmente en relación con el Poder Judicial Federal; los asuntos de interés para el estado se basan en el consenso de los miembros del Estado de Nueva York, como se está llevando a cabo actualmente con respecto a la votación por orden de rango; y los asuntos de interés para nuestra comunidad local se basan en el consenso de nuestros miembros locales. Una vez que se ha llegado a un consenso sobre una cuestión, la Liga está facultada para ejercer presión sobre esa cuestión.

Dado que la Liga de Mujeres Votantes de los Estados Unidos (LWVUS, por sus siglas en inglés) tiene una posición sobre el voto, la Liga, incluida nuestra liga local, puede, por ejemplo, presionar contra la Ley S.A.V.E. No importa qué político o partido político haya respaldado o se haya opuesto a ese tema; la posición de la Liga se basa en cómo el problema se comporta con nuestras políticas. Nuestra posición no es partidista, incluso si el tema es uno en el que hay diferencias partidistas. Cuando recibimos alertas de acción de la LWVUS o de la Liga del Estado de Nueva York, es porque quieren que tomemos medidas sobre un tema sobre el que tenemos una posición, y es nuestra oportunidad de apoyar esas posiciones.

También es importante tener en cuenta que hay una gran diferencia entre las posiciones sobre las que la Liga puede presionar y aquellas sobre las que nuestros miembros individuales pueden cabildear. Los miembros individuales, a excepción de aquellos que están en posiciones de liderazgo visibles y que se consideraría que hablan en nombre de la Liga, pueden ejercer presión sobre cualquier tema que les preocupe. La administración actual está tomando muchas medidas sin precedentes y, aunque la Liga no puede estar en desacuerdo con todas esas acciones, nuestros miembros no están de ninguna manera restringidos en su actividad política siempre y cuando hablen por sí mismos y no por la Liga. De hecho, alentamos a nuestros miembros a ser políticamente activos, no solo votando, sino también involucrándose en los temas que nos afectan.

Para concluir, quisiera expresar cuánto agradezco la confianza que han depositado en mí como copresidente y miembro del Equipo Presidencial de este año. He disfrutado muchísimo trabajando con tantos miembros devotos de la Liga y seguiré activo en otras funciones. Creo, sin embargo, que si queremos prosperar, debemos desarrollar un nuevo liderazgo. Me gustaría agradecer a todos aquellos que han servido en la Junta Directiva, han asumido cargos de copresidentes y han servido en nuestros comités, y me gustaría alentar a nuestros miembros más nuevos a involucrarse más. ¡Te necesitamos!

Letter from the Editor

Reading the Voter Services report of committee members attending swearing in ceremonies of new American citizens (pg 5), I was reminded of another oath that has been recited countless times by nearly every American citizen since 1892: the Pledge of Allegiance. Most of us may not know that this oath has an author. His name is Francis Bellamy. I became familiar with the name when I was a child growing up in Rome, New York, where Francis Bellamy is buried in a family plot.

Bellamy was an American editor and clergyman who graduated from the University of Rochester in 1876 and from the Rochester Theological Seminary in 1880. He spent the next several years working as a Baptist minister in New York City and in Boston, Massachusetts.

Bellamy joined the staff of The Youth's Companion magazine in Boston in 1891. The next year, while working in the promotions department, he was chair of the committee that proposed that public schools celebrate Columbus Day, honoring the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the New World. Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance for that celebration. It was published in The Youth's Companion on September 8, 1892. Bellamy's version read:

I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands: one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all. The wording was changed a few times. In 1923 "my Flag" was changed to "*the flag of the United States*" ("*of America*" was added the next year by the National Flag Conference), and in 1954, at President Dwight D. Eisenhower's urging, the U.S. Congress legislated that "*under God*" be added.

These words, recited before gatherings large and small in all 50 States, confirm that first and foremost, we are a united nation. We are one for all and all for one.

Of course, in a nation of 300 million, this unity is not easy to maintain. The League of Women Voters believes that the surest way to govern the nation is by voting in elections that choose leaders who take another oath: to and defend the Constitution.

Consensus Studies Continued



Members of the LWVUS study of the Federal Judiciary were, left to right, Marian Zucker, Tracy Grathwohl and Renee Charles.



The LWVNYS consensus study on Ranked Choice Voting and open primaries included, left to right, Government Committee co-chair Andrea Gabor, Susan Wilson, Kathleen Mulcahy, Cathy Kenny, and not in photo, Rachael Foggo and Donna Vallone.



Members of the LWVNYS consensus study on voting machines included three League members who are also poll workers—left to right, Stacy Menzer, Julia Mead and Sharon Lewis.

Voter Services Committee Report

After a brief rest following the 2024 Elections, the LWVHSINF Voter Services Committee was back in action in February and March.

In February, we attended six naturalization ceremonies at the Alfonse M. D'Amato United States Courthouse in Islip, where immigrants to our country are sworn in as citizens and listen to a judge's inspiring speech about the benefits and responsibilities of citizenship. Voter Service committee members Glorian Berk, Stacy Menzer, Mary Pellicane, Sharon Lewis, Mary O'Brien, Donna Vallone, Ed Salsberg, Ellen Goldstein, Terry Wildrick and Alexis Mayer made the trip from the East End and registered 311 new voters.

On February 27, committee stalwarts Julia Mead and Sharon Lewis joined members of the three other Suffolk Leagues for an informational meeting with Suffolk Board of Elections officials in Yaphank. The highlight was the demonstration of a new electronic voting system made by Election Systems and Software. Voters would cast their ballots on a touchscreen machine behind a privacy curtain, and a paper ballot would drop into a box for them to review before finally submitting their choices. You can learn more about the machine and watch a video of it in action by copying this link into your browser: <https://www.essvote.com/products/expressvote-xl>.

The BOE tested the machine during the Southampton Special Election for an open Town Board seat on March 18, and it is also considering a similar machine from Dominion Voting Systems. The BOE says it will evaluate the results of the test before deciding whether to employ one of the machines and when to introduce it.

Finally, Voter Services conducted a debate on March 3 between John Leonard (D) and Richard Martel (R), the candidates for the open seat on the Southampton Town Board. The debate was broadcast live on Southampton's SEA-TV YouTube channel.

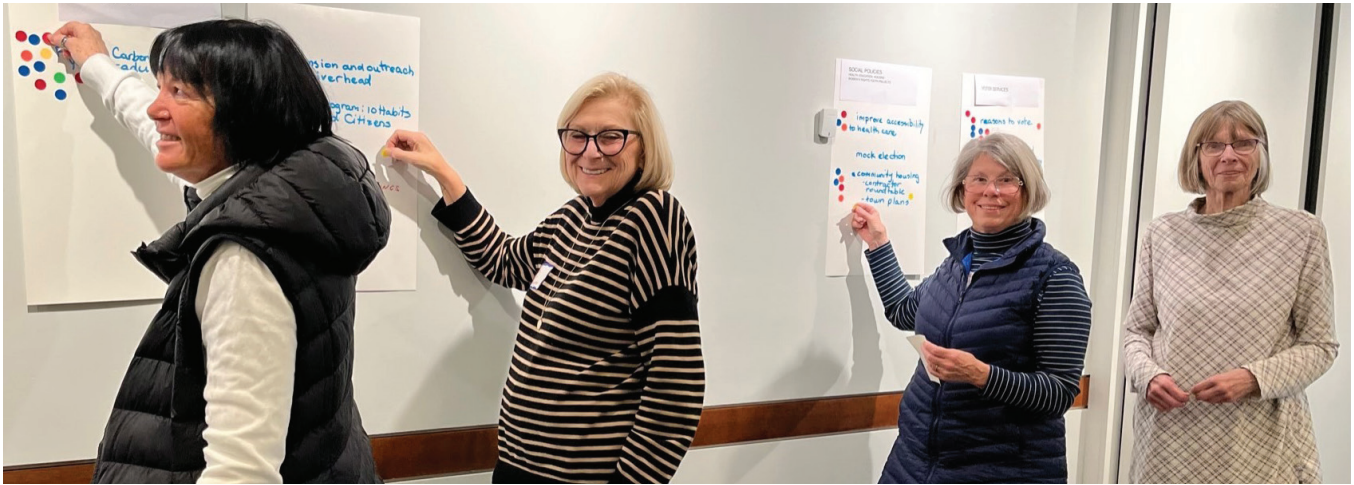
There will be important local elections in all our towns this fall. If you'd like to help us run these debates or get involved with voter registration or education, please contact Voter Services Committee chair Neil Cohen at neilcohen.8@gmail.com.

Year after year, across the U.S. in crowded courthouses, immigrants from countries all over the world recited the oath that has been repeated by all other immigrants before them:

I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty; of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform non combatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion I may; so help me God.



The March 3 debate for the special election for Southampton Town Council to replace retiring member Tommy John Schiavoni (now serving as our Assemblyman) featured candidates Richard Martel (R), lower left, and John Leonard (D), lower right. Estelle Gellman (upper left) served as moderator, Eileen Mercer (upper right) as timekeeper, and Julia Mead as backup.



The League held its Program Planning luncheon on January 13 at Bridgehampton's Hampton Library. Voting on the program ideas were, left to right, Karen Diamond, Terri Levin Davgin, Terry Wildrick and Eva Moore.

LWV Planning Meeting

The League held its Program Planning luncheon on January 13 at Bridgehampton's Hampton Library. Voting on the program ideas were, left to right, Karen Diamond, Terri Levin Davgin, Terry Wildrick and Eva Moore

On January 13th, 15 members attended a luncheon at the Hampton Library in Bridgehampton to discuss programs our League should concentrate on during the coming year. President Susan Wilson announced that she had received suggestions from five others who weren't able to attend the luncheon.

Following a lively discussion of a wide variety of topics, the group recommended the following LWVH/SI/NF Program Priorities for 2025:

1. The Environment

- To present the new Student Carbon CREW project to high school students, giving them an opportunity to earn community service credits and learn how to lower their carbon footprint.
- Continue to promote the new streamlined Carbon CREW sessions to adults.

2. Voter Services

- Educate citizens about the reasons to vote and focus on Getting out the Vote (GOT).
- Continue voter registration efforts for new citizens.
- Partner with the DEI and Youth Committees to reach students and other diverse segments of our community.

3. Government

- Review of the LWVUS National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. The Electoral College distorts the democratic promise of "one person, one vote" by awarding electoral votes from each state in support of a candidate instead of simply counting the total number of votes nationwide.

4. League Visibility

- Hold a Public Information Meeting: "Why and how to run for the schoolboard or elected office. Make this topic the theme of the Youth Committee's Running and Winning Program in 2025.

5. Membership

- Increase outreach to the underserved residents of Riverhead and the North Fork. In addition to holding National Voter Registration tabling events, we will find activities to promote membership in these areas.

6. In addition to these priorities, the group discussed the following important topics:

- Improving accessibility to health care on the East End
- Affordable Housing from the developer's perspective, perhaps conducting a roundtable with town officials and housing contractors.
- Holding a mock election
- Carpooling to live meetings.
- Conduct a PIM featuring Richard Haass's book *The Bill of Obligations: Ten Habits of Good Citizens*.

Youth Committee Report

The League of Women Voters believes that educating and empowering the youth of our country is vital to maintaining a democracy. The Hamptons League's Youth Committee operates programs that provide students with the information, motivation, and skills to become informed voters and engaged citizens. We have an excellent working relationship with the 10 high schools on the East End and North Fork and encourage students to participate in the topics of interest in their own communities.

We award two scholarships: the Betty Desch Scholarship recognizes student leadership, and the Mimi Brennan Award recognizes community involvement.

The committee also works with League's Voter Services Committee and The Civics Center to register all eligible high school students to vote and to GOTV (Get Out the Vote).

Here are some of the programs the Youth Committee is working on this year:

Student Day at the Suffolk County Legislature March 27, 2025

This one-day program gives students the opportunity to experience first-hand the inner workings of the Suffolk County Legislature. Students become "legislators" for the day, sit in the "horseshoe," participate in either a Pro or Con caucus, hold a mock debate on a proposed resolution and attempt to "pass legislation". This year we are sponsoring a total of 24 students from Hampton Bays High, Southampton High & Westhampton Beach High to participate.

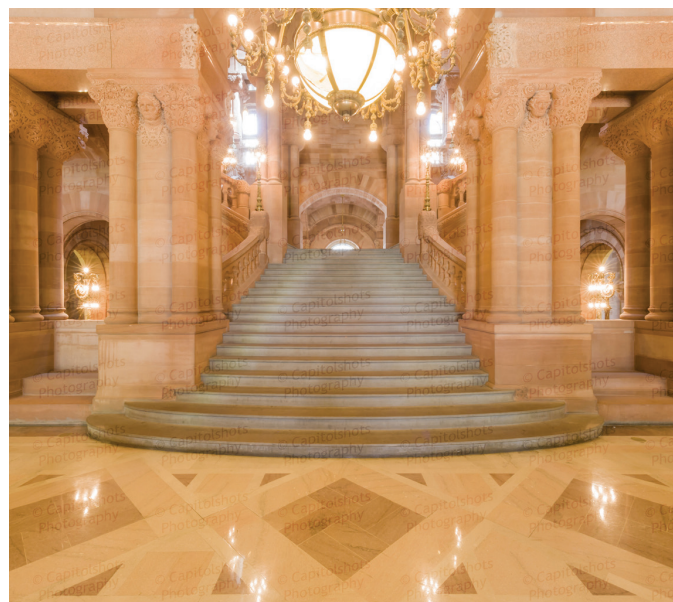
Students Inside Albany Conference (SIA) May 18-21, 2025

This Conference is an intensive four-day training experience held in the spring and is designed to immerse students in the process by which public policy is proposed, enacted and changed in New York State and educate them as to how they can influence and affect this process. Albany insiders discuss the operations of the New York State government including how policy is shaped and enacted. Students develop knowledge of the disparate forces that influence policy development. Additionally, students have the opportunity to observe Assembly and Senate sessions and to shadow both their Assembly members and Senators.

Kara Flynn, from Westhampton Beach High School is



Suffolk County Legislature



Grand staircase in State Assembly

our 2025 SIA recipient and will report on her experience in the next Voter when she returns.

The Youth Committee is always looking for new energy and creative ways to engage our youth. If you have suggestions and would like to join the Youth Committee, please contact Susan Wilson: hamptonssw@gmail.com or call or text 631-495-9288.

Health Committee Report

Is Politics Stressing You Out?

by Valerie King, Chair

According to an American Psychological Association survey, (*Stress in America 2024*, [APA/pubs/reports/stress-in-america/2024](https://www.apa.org/pubs/reports/stress-in-america/2024)) there is science which shows that politics can harm our physical and mental wellbeing in the finding that 77% of U.S. adults said that the future of our nation was a significant source of stress in their lives.

In general, we know that chronic stress can lead to negative effects on physical and psychological health. Psychological responses to political circumstances may result in high cortisol levels, hypertension and behaviors such as obsessive and intrusive thoughts, anxiety, sleep loss, and irritability. How an individual manages their political engagement depends on effective coping strategies such as regulating exposure to political information and fostering positive social connections to mitigate adverse effects of political stress.

Five Steps to Cope With Political Stress Toward Feeling More Human provided by KGA, Inc (mykgalifeservices.com) for the employee assistance program for Harvard University is in my opinion a useful guide. An edited version is below:

1. Find one or two news sources you trust with balanced, researched viewpoints to stay informed. Pay attention to your mood and physical reactions

while consuming news and limit your time with these resources.

2. Take a social media break and unplug from devices. Find people you trust to share your thoughts in person and communicate without judgement. Avoid discussions if you think there is the potential to create conflict.
3. Focus on what you can personally control. Decide on how you wish to engage politically through **voting** and donating time or money to organizations of your choice.
4. Live your values and beliefs which guide your behaviors.
5. Socially engage with significant others such as family and friends, through enjoyable outdoor activities and/or attend uplifting cultural & community events.

Whatever happens politically, nationally and internationally, different expectations may occur but eventually we all must adapt to reality and reduce stress to ensure our psychological health and well-being. Professional psychological services can be beneficial for some, to prevent chronic stress.

The LWVHSINF Health Committee mission is to provide information on health-related issues and services for our membership and in our community. If you would like to participate on our Health Committee please contact Valerie King Ph.D. by email: valeriekingphd@gmail.com or cell: 646-217-1825

Stars of the Women's Movement

by Eva Moore

From the archives of The Voter, we look back on a few lesser-known heroes of the women's movement.

From June/July 2019

LUCY STONE (1818-1893)

A rebel with a beautiful, quiet bell-like voice who refused to write her college graduation essay unless she was allowed to read it herself, set her sights on improving women's rights.

As early as 1849, as president of the New England suffrage association, she began to petition Massachusetts state legislatures for a woman's right to vote and was active in the movement as president of the New England suffrage association.

Although she was ridiculed and hated by some for her stance throughout her long life, Lucy Stone pursued the course of conduct she felt best calculated "to promote the highest good of the world."



From Augst/September 2019

VICTORIA WOODHULL (1838-1927)

As a child in the backwoods of Ohio, Victoria had only three years of formal education; but her innate intelligence led to her becoming the first woman to, along with a sister to open a brokerage business in New York City. This was the first step to her goal of becoming the first woman President of the United States. In 1872 Victoria ran as the nominee of the Equal Rights Party.

Even though she wasn't yet 35 years old she was convinced she was destined by prophecy for this position. And continued her crusade after moving to England in 1877, where she wrote and spoke to large audiences.



ANNA LORD STRAUSS (1899-1979)

After graduating from college in 1923, Anna found a successful career with Century Magazine..but "retired" after six years to open an opportunity to some talented young woman. This proved to be a boon to women in



CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Health Committee Report

Embracing Organ Donation to Save Lives

By Terri Davgin and Susan Wilson

The LWV of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork (LWVH/SI/NF) educates our citizens on issues important to them and is dedicated to the health and wellbeing of all of our citizens. In 2014 we were part of the New York State League's partnership with organ donor organizations to increase organ donation awareness and participation through League Voter Registration tabling events. We shared organ donation information and encouraged those registered to vote to consider checking the box to authorize organ donation. The effort has been ongoing.

Organ donation is much more than a medical procedure – it is a beacon of hope that changes lives. As a member of LWVH/SI/NF and a kidney recipient Terri, as a cowriter, has a very personal interest and is driven to educate, enlighten and encourage organ donation. She owes her life to organ donation.

As of early 2025, over 105,700 people are waiting for a kidney transplant, with approximately 89,977 individuals specifically waiting for a kidney transplant. Kidney transplants remain the most in-demand organ transplant, significantly outnumbering those waiting for liver, heart, or lung transplants.

Specifically, one in three adults in the United States are at risk of kidney disease mostly due to diabetes and high blood pressure. One in seven adults have kidney disease and 90% don't know it. Our community is not immune.

Not only does organ donation save lives but it also reduces health care burdens and enhances economic wellbeing. Organ donation reduces the financial strain on families and fosters participation in all aspects of society.

Unfortunately, many myths about organ donation keep people from participating. Let's dispel those persistent organ donation myths now.

Myth: I'm too old or too young to be an organ donor.

Truth: Individuals 18 and older can register to donate and there is no strict upper age limit for donation.

Myth: My religion does not support organ donation.

Truth: Most major religions support organ donation as an act of compassion and charity. If unsure, consult your religious leaders.

Myth: Organ donation will interfere with funeral arrangements.

Truth: All customary funeral practices can be carried out after organ donation. You can choose to donate your organs or specifically choose to donate only your eyes or tissues.

Myth: I have to be in perfect health to be a donor.

Truth: Every donor is evaluated for the suitability of their organs.

It is crucial to communicate your decision to family members or significant others who you have identified as your Health Proxy. Knowing your wishes can help guide their decisions during challenging times. Register your decision to be an organ donor on your driver's license or identification card, on the Health app on your iPhone, Voter Registration Form or register with Donate Life America.

Here are some reliable sources to learn more about organ donation, including living donation:

Donate Life America – donatelife.net – Provides information on organ, eye and tissue donation in the United States.

National Kidney Foundation – [kidney.org](https://www.kidney.org) - A trusted resource for kidney donation and transplant education.

OrganDonor.gov – A resource for understanding organ donation and transplantation. It offers information on becoming a donor, the donation process and organ donation statistics.

Organ donation is an act of compassion and a way of contributing to a healthy society, adding to the quality of life of donors and recipients as well as strengthening and elevating our community and everyone in it.

If you would like to join our LWV/SI/NF Health Committee please contact Valerie King Ph.D at email valeriekingphd@gmail.com or cell 646-217-1825.

Welcome New Members of 2024-25

BRIDGEHAMPTON

Stacy Menzer

EAST HAMPTON

Barbara Burnside & Paul Gartside

Renee Charles

Karen Diamond

Barbara Feldman

Ellen Goldstein

Kimberly O. Johnson

Inge LaSusa

Julia Mead

Evelyn Wolff

Marian Zucker

EAST QUOGUE

Donna Vallone & Edward Salsberg

GREENPORT

Sylvia Baruch

MONTAUK

Carolyn Balducci

REMSEMBERG

Jeannine Dowling

Mary Pellicane

SAGAPONACK

Diane Vacca

SAG HARBOR

Rachael Foggo

Linley Pennebaker Hagen &

Heather Whelan (daughter/student)

Jackie Leopold

Eva McKelvey (full time student)

Barbara Roberts

Cara Power

SHELTER ISLAND

Janet & Donald D'Amato

Dee DeDebarnardis

Keturah Hurst

Alice Boles Ott

Enass Said-Pappas

Ruth Vollmer

Lynne Weikart

SOUTHAMPTON

Jean MacKenzie

WATER MILL

Andrea Klausner

WAINSCOTT

Virginia Edwards

Merry & Marc Frons

WESTHAMPTON

Sue Wirick

NEW YORK CITY

Theodora ("Dorrie") Klissas

Membership Renewal Alert

Please note that, since the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) is now processing membership renewals, you will not be getting the usual membership renewal notice from the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, Shelter Island and the North Fork. Instead, you will be receiving a renewal notice from the League of Women Voters of the United States shortly before your membership expires. Most probably, the renewal notice will come via email. Please follow the instructions in the renewal notice to renew your membership.

CONTINUED FROM PG 12

Stars of the Women's Movement

the US as she then set on her life's work as a women's rights activist volunteering with the NYC League of Women Voters in 1939, and continuing in various important facilities for the LWV of the United States for 15 years.

She became well known in Congress and the White House; and after leaving her post with the League, President Harry Truman asked her to serve as a US delegate to the United Nations as director of the American Association for the U.N.

Anna was a force in many other civic organizations including the National Association of Negro Women's Educational Fund, the National Institute of Public Affairs, and the Fair Campaign Practices Committee.

From April-May 2020

EDNA BUCKMAN KEARNS (1882-1934)

Edna Kearns of Rockville Long Island was an energetic suffragist who believed that women should be seen not only heard. When she participated in a



parade in Huntington in the 1910s riding in a slogan decorated horse-drawn wagon labeled "The Spirit of 76" she met with backlash from some female anti-suffragists.

Kearns was not discouraged. She kept on with public appearances touring with other suffragists and spread the word in a variety of newspapers, including the Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

Her columns advised women not to scold opposers but to "smile kindly, speak sweetly, and chide them gently."

From February -March 2022

MARGARET CHASE SMITH (1897-1995)

Perhaps no American woman before her achieved so much in government as Margaret Chase Smith.

From a schoolgirl in Skowhegan, Maine, to eight years representing her state in the US House of Representatives and 24 years in the Senate, Smith left her mark as the first woman to serve in both houses of government.

She continued her exceptional record: first woman to sail on a US Navy ship (1944); strong supporter of NASA (1967-1972), Civil Rights Advocate (1950s and 60's),

In 1950, Margaret delivered a speech against undemocratic actions by a group of US Senators, calling for an end to their platform of "fear, ignorance, bigotry and smear."

In 1989, President George Bush presented Margaret with the country's highest honor: the Presidential Medal of Freedom.



LWVH/SI/NF Board

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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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