



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

Volume XXXIV, No. 5

July - August 2011

ACCESSORY APARTMENTS:

Needed, Wanted and Legal

by Barbara Jordan, Off-Board Chair, Housing Committee

Our League will hold a forum on Accessory Apartments at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 2011, in the Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Panelists will include Southampton Town Councilman Chris Nuzzi; East Hampton Town Councilwoman Theresa Quigley; and the LWVSC's Housing Chair, Nancy Marr. Plan to come and bring your friends to a most informative evening.

Aging Population Grows; Young Move Away

News sources remind us that young adults are leaving Long Island, with the result that some communities and industries are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit workers, skilled or otherwise. This is equally true of our area as well.

Our aging population means an increasing need for services and the possible need for alternative living arrangements. But adults 25- to 35-years old can't afford to remain because housing and other costs are too high for starting salaries to cover. Why live in a constant struggle to survive when you can move to another state and live well on less?

What all this has in common is the need for our communities to do something that will enable our younger citizens to stay and hopefully to thrive. We need to maintain a workforce if our communities are to remain viable. We are a resort community and most workers in resorts or retail are low- to moderate-income earners. Where are they supposed to live?

Both Towns Try Solutions

One solution to that issue was provided when our towns adopted Accessory Apartment Laws in 2002 (Southampton Town) and 2007 (East Hampton Town). These laws permitted homeowners to add accessory apartments to their homes after meeting specific requirements. The thinking was that such apartments would be within the means of young workers starting out. Such apartments would also provide an alternative to seniors who want to downsize. They could inhabit their own accessory apartment while renting out the house, thereby giving them income

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Summer Events

* General Membership Meeting

Topic: Accessory Apartments

July 11 -- 7 PM

Hampton Library

Bridgehampton

* Flea Market Fundraiser

August 13-14 -- 10 AM - 6 PM

Westhampton Rotary Flea Market

Corner of Potunk Lane & Main St.,

Westhampton Beach

PLEASE JOIN US!

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, 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, 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 recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons 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 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, 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 eight times a year (January/February, March, April, May/June, July/August, September, October, and November/December) by the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, P. O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937.

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President's Message



New Co-president
Glorian Berk upon her
election at the LWWH
Annual Meeting.

*Photo by Arlene
Hinkemeyer.*

To my fellow LWWH members and colleagues,

I want to thank each of you for your confidence in me to share with Judi Roth the leadership of this wonderful organization. I'm excited by the challenges offered but I'm very aware I have big shoes to fill. So, a big "thank you" to Carol Mellor for her leadership and another big "thank you" to those leaving the Board: Ann Sandford, Barbara Jordan and Joy Lupoletti. We'll miss you at Board meetings but hope to see you at other events. And, a special "welcome" to our new Board members: Jane Dell, Naomi Epstein, Mireille Lister and Barbara McClancy.

For those of you who don't know me well, here is a bit about me. I've had a home in the Roses Grove section of Southampton for 32 years and moved full-time to the East End five years ago, when I retired. I worked for Time Warner for over 30 years in both finance and marketing. One of the benefits of early retirement was to live in one place full time and become part of the community. In addition to the League, I'm a member of both Southampton and East Hampton Trails Preservation Society and an appointed member of two Town of Southampton Boards (Trails Advisory and Audit). I take tap dance classes at the Rogers Memorial Library as well as yoga classes. I have a passion for taking care of the environment so, until recently, chaired the League's Natural Resources Committee.

Speaking of passion, I'm sure you are passionate about several things. I encourage you to take that passion and apply it to the League by joining one of our committees. One of the best things about the League is that members decide the agenda, so you can translate that sentiment into action on projects. While there are national and state positions, each League listens to its members and uses that input to define the agenda. So, let's hear about your passion!

Glorian Berk, Co-President

Housing Committee Report

Continued from page 1

and people to potentially help them with chores, etc.

While both towns have put accessory apartments in their town codes, there are significant differences in

each town's approach. Of particular interest is the fact that all accessory apartments in East Hampton Town can only be affordable while there are no rent restrictions in Southampton. See the chart below.

ACCESSORY APARTMENT CODES COMPARED

CATEGORY	EAST HAMPTON CODE 255-11-63	SOUTHAMPTON CODE # 330-11.1
Permit Process	yes (Bldg + Co + Hsng. Dept. Aff. Acc. Apt. permit)	yes (building + CO+ ARB Approval)
# apts. per lot	one	one
Minimum Lot Size	15,000 square feet	30,000 square feet
Permit Limitations	Max. 20 A.Apt. permits per school dist.	No limitations
Apt. in Acc. Bldg.	Not Allowed	Allowed
Compliance	Needs to comply with all county, state and local ordinances	
Owner Occupied	Yes (in either apartment or house)	
Affordability	Yes	No unless owner so designates
Written Lease	Yes (One year year round minimum)	
Permit Limitations	None in AHO or HPOD or in houses with existing artist studio or home office	None in houses w/a B&B, rooming or boarding house, home occupation, home professional office, pre-existing acc. Apt. or multi-family dwelling
Tenant Criteria	Tenant must be a year round resident Apt. must be legal domicile of tenant Tenant must demonstrate legal residency in EH Town prior to renting Acc. Apt.	Tenant is owner or relative of owner, an employee of or within Southampton Town, a volunteer fireman or ambulance worker, or a regular volunteer for a non-profit.
Inspection of Apt.	Building inspector can inspect the apt. upon reasonable notice to owner. Failure to allow inspection is a violation and fines are imposed.	Bldg. Inspector inspects upon receipt of application to see that all violations corrected and upon permit renewal.
Size of Acc. Apts.	Minimum = 300 sq. ft. Maximum = 600 sq. ft.	Minimum = 400 sq. ft. Maximum = 1,000 sq. ft. Shall not exceed 35% of dwelling Housing for Income Eligible Units may range from 400 sq. ft to 750 sq. ft. but may not exceed 50% of dwelling Efficiency Units are no less than 200 sq.ft. exclusive of bthrm. & kitchen
No. of tenants	Two	Unspecified except for efficiency (2)
Max. No.of Bdrms	One	Two
Additional parking	Two spots in driveway	One for efficiency; two for 2 bdrm off street
Permit Fees	\$50 for initial permit:\$500 to legalize existing illegal apt.: renewal is \$25 Permits are for Affordable apts. only	\$100 fee for a 3 year permit which is waived if apt is owner occupied
Amnesty	Unlimited time period	No official Amnesty Program
Fines	\$500 - \$1,000	\$1,000 - \$1,500
# of Apts. since law enacted	Five	131 new apts. + 76 renewals as of May 24
Date of Law	2007	2002

Voter Services Committee Report

Getting More Than We Gave

by Gladys Remler

On Monday, May 2, under a sunny, blue sky, Anne Marshall, Chair of Voter Services, Estelle Gellman and I volunteered to observe 161 people become naturalized American citizens at the U.S. District Court for Eastern District of New York. The court is a most impressive building, as it should be for this important occasion!

Our responsibilities were to hand out voter registration forms should our new citizens request them. Many hands were raised after Anne announced who we were and why we were there.

The experience of congratulating all on becoming American citizens was emotional for us. We knew getting to this place at this time was not an easy journey. As we handed out forms, some broke into wide smiles, others stared at us as if questioning why we were doing this. We took the liberty of saying, "Now you have the greatest privilege: you can vote." That brought smiles to our faces as well as theirs.

The Pledge of Allegiance never sounded so heartfelt and proud. The presiding judge, Judge F. Bianco, set the tone of the ceremony with such warmth. He said he understood what the new citizens had gone through, since when his family arrived from Italy long ago they, too, struggled to succeed. His family took great pride in his becoming a Federal judge.

We were all delighted to have volunteered for this unique experience. We gained so much for just giving our time. As we left for home, a truck in front of us had a slogan on the back saying, "America the Beautiful." A perfect ending for a perfect morning.

Requirements for Naturalization

by Estelle Gellman

When we attended the naturalization ceremony, we realized we didn't know the requirements for becoming a naturalized citizen. In a nutshell, here's how.

A candidate must meet specified residence requirements, including having been:

- a permanent resident of the U.S. for five years
- in continuous residence (without leaving for trips of six months or longer) for five years
- a resident of the district or state in which they are applying for citizenship for at least three months.
- There are various modifications of the residence requirements.
- A child whose parents became citizens before the

child's 18th birthday is already a citizen and does not need to apply for naturalization.

A candidate must be of good moral character. In determining good moral character, the US Citizenship and Immigration Services relies on questions answered on the application form, an interview and the candidate's criminal record, if any.

A candidate must demonstrate a knowledge of English and civics. Applicants are also tested on their ability to understand English and their understanding of US history and governance. There are some modifications for older applicants. Candidates over 50 years of age who have been permanent residents for 20 years, or 55 years with 15 years of permanent residence, do not have to take the English test and may take the civics test in the language of their choice.

A candidate must be willing to support the US and its Constitution. All candidates must demonstrate their "attachment" to the Constitution by taking the Oath of Allegiance in which they promise to renounce foreign allegiances, support the Constitution and the laws of the United States and be willing to fight in the US Armed Forces, or perform noncombatant service and/or perform civilian service for the US.

Source: A Guide to Naturalization, on the website of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services at <http://www.uscis.gov/files/article/M-476.pdf>

A Heart-warming Experience That Only Takes A Morning

Spend one morning at the Central Islip Federal Courthouse helping new citizens register to vote. Guaranteed, you'll leave the courthouse beaming. The League Of Women Voters of the Hamptons and other Leagues across Suffolk County have volunteered for this truly joyous endeavor. Here's how you can join them.

When: A Monday or Wednesday during July and August. You must be in Islip by 9:00 a.m.

What do I do? Simple. After the new citizens are sworn in, be available to help them register to vote. Just give interested parties the forms so they can register on their own.

Interested? Contact Anne Marshall at 537-3257 or voterservices@lwwh.org for further information. And by way, bring a friend! Remember: All votes are important and all voices should be heard.

State Convention Delegation Report

We Took Part, Learned Fresh Ideas, Shared Our Successes

by Arlene Hinkemeyer

The Hamptons LWV sent four delegates to the state League's 54th Biennial Convention: Mary Blake, Terri Levin Davgin, Arlene Hinkemeyer and Susan Wilson. It was held May 20-22 at the Desmond Hotel in Albany.

Altogether, for both the pre-convention lunch and workshops on Friday and the regular convention workshops, speakers and plenary sessions on Saturday and Sunday, there were over 100 delegates and visitors, representing 34 local leagues, MALS (Leagues in formation) and ILO's (Inter League Organizations like the Suffolk County LWV) throughout the state.

Featured speakers included Albany County Executive Michael Breslin; former Vermont Governor and U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland Madeleine Kunin, who gave a most inspiring talk recounting her experiences as only the fourth woman in American history to be elected a governor; and internationally-renowned pollster John Zogby, whose methodology is known to be among the most accurate in the industry.

We Voted At The Plenary Sessions

- ✿ We viewed a draft of a new PowerPoint presentation on "Increasing Voter Participation in New York State: Problems and Opportunities" to be available in August.
- ✿ We adopted no new state programs, since local Leagues will be busy with two national LWV consensus studies next year: one on the Federal Government's Role in Education and one on Privatization. Those Leagues that did propose new studies (such as on Hydraulic Fracturing, a hot topic upstate) were told that the topics were already covered in national or state positions.
- ✿ We passed a reduced LWNVNY Budget of \$160,514 for 2011-13.
- ✿ We learned from LWNVNY President Betsey Swan that our financial house is in order and that no PMP increase is needed for the next two years.
- ✿ We elected LWNVNY officers and directors for 2011-13, including two from our Hamptons League. Arlene Hinkemeyer was elected to the new position of LWNVNY Public Relations Director, and Susan Wilson to the position of Nominating Committee chair. Also taking on a non-elected Regional Director position is Barbara Jordan, who will be responsible for helping Leagues in New York City, Nassau County and the Hamptons. In addition, past LWNVH president Carol Mellor will serve on a committee to increase grant acquisitions.

We Attended Workshops

Two especially informative ones were one on League lobbying activities, presented by Sally Robinson, LWNVNY Vice President for Issues and Advocacy, and LWNVNY Legislative Director Barbara Bartoletti. The second concerned www.vote411.org, the Electronic Voters Guide that the state League is offering for free this year. It was presented by Christine Alexander of the Saratoga LWV. To participate, we're told to contact LWNVNY executive director Laura Bierman by June 15.

We Gave Workshops!

In an attempt to reach all Leagues in attendance, Arlene Hinkemeyer gave three one-hour workshops on "How to Publicize Your League and Increase Visibility." In addition, Mary Blake and Terri Levin Davgin prepared excellent handouts and served on a panel about "Youth Programs," explaining how the Hamptons LWV has organized the "Running & Winning" workshop for high school girls and women elected officials for the past three years.

We Won Awards!

We were surprised to win three state awards—one on Citizen Engagement, for the Government Committee's Town Manager consensus study and advocacy; one on Visibility, for our public relations program; and one on Youth Programs, for our "Running & Winning" workshops.



Above: LWNVH delegates display the three awards won by our League. From left, they are Mary Blake, Terri Levin Davgin, Arlene Hinkemeyer and Susan Wilson.

Editor's Note: LWNVH is very grateful to the many companies and individuals who contributed items to our fund-raising Convention 'Basket.'

LWVH Board Meeting Summary

Held on June 1, 2011

INFORMATION ITEMS

- * State Annual Meeting. Attended by Arlene Hinkemeyer, Terri Davgin, Mary Blake, and Susan Wilson. Glorian read a recap from Arlene Hinkemeyer (see page 5).
- * County Annual Meeting. Tim Bishop's keynote address covered holding the line against proposed legislation to repeal regulations on the environment and protecting the county against further budget cuts. Sarah Meyland, Co-Director of the Center for Energy, Environment and Economics at NYIT, presented a convincing argument for the Suffolk League to support creation of a Long Island-wide, non-partisan authority to protect and control our groundwater supply.
- * Hamptons Annual Meeting — judged a success.
- * Naturalization events. Members are encouraged to attend in July or August, when LWVSC has asked for two days in the same week once per month.
- * Co-Presidents' committee liaison responsibilities:
 - Judi: Education, Health, Publicity, Special Events, Voter Services and *The Voter*
 - Glorian: Government, Membership, Natural Resources, Publicity, Webmaster and Budget
 - Liaison to State League: Arlene Hinkemeyer
 - Liaison to County League: Sue Wilson
 - Liaison to National League: Seeking a volunteer

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- * Village debates. Anne Marshall noted that historically Voter Services does not initiate organizing village debates. She requested an ad hoc committee to set policy regarding participation in the sometimes difficult process of planning a debate.
- * July 4th Parade participation. Judy Samuelson will send Constant Contact survey to members regarding two alternatives: marching or maintaining a table to register voters along the parade route. All agreed we need to encourage non-active members to get involved in this and other League activities.
- * "Sharing the American Dream" video. Grania Brodin would like LWVH to sponsor a screening of NISI's film on the immigrant experience. While board agreed our members are not the right audience (most already support immigration), we will invite Grania to be part of the team going to naturalization ceremonies.
- * Suggested topics for planning meeting in July:
 - Orientation for new members
 - Federal role in education
 - Observer Corps

- Shared services within the towns to maximize efficiency and purchase power
- 2011/12 meeting topics
- Engaging currently passive members

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

- * Special events – Gladys/Ursula. They have arranged another screening of "The Last Fix," Jacqui Lofaro's film on alternatives to incarceration on June 8 at Westhampton Beach library. Constant Contact notice requested.
- * Natural Resources – Sue Wilson. Committee hosts June 13 membership meeting. Plans in place.
- * Voter Services – Anne Marshall. See above re sponsoring village debates.
- * Education – Mary Blake/Terri Davgin. Reported new ideas gained at LWVNYS workshops.
- * Website – Judy Samuelson. Reported that the Board and committee heads were updated on the site. Web email addresses have been assigned to Board members. Messages will be forwarded automatically to their personal email accounts. The purpose is to direct enquiries to the website. Shall we reconsider separate, password protected site for board? Could be useful.
- * *The Voter* – Joy Cordery. Moved ad deadline to July 5.
- * Hot Topics – Terri Davgin. Evaluating program
- * Government – Barbara McClancy shared report on Council/Manager model presentations to community groups.

Next meeting will be on July 6 at 5:15 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m. at Bridgehampton Bank.



A reception with delicious sweet and savory selections made by the LWVH Board, preceded the business portion of the LWVH Annual Meeting at the Southampton Cultural Center, May 7. More photos of the Annual Meeting can be viewed online at www.lwvh.net. Photo by Arlene Hinkemeyer.

Keeping Nuclear Power Available and Nuclear Material Protected

by Judi Roth

The keynote speaker of this year's LWVH Annual Meeting on May 7 was Carol Kessler, Chair, Non-proliferation and National Security Department of Brookhaven National Laboratory. Carol Mellor spoke for the group in expressing our pleasure to be addressed by a female scientist speaking about nuclear energy.

After the atomic bomb that ended WW II, President Dwight Eisenhower envisioned "Atoms for Peace" to allow the world to focus on something positive coming out of the birth of atomic energy. Today, Ms. Kessler told us, about 440 nuclear power reactors in the world provide electricity. There have been only three accidents in the past 60 years (Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, and Fukushima) and the technology today is light years ahead of the early years.

After a crash course in weapons grade uranium and how that differs from the uranium needed for energy usage, Ms. Kessler spoke about Safety, Security and Safeguards – all areas in which Brookhaven National Laboratory is involved.

Triple Measures In Place: Safety, Security, Safeguards

Safety refers to how you protect the public and the environment from exposure to radiation. For example, Brookhaven works with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Energy Department in designing reactors with improved safety.

Security refers to preventing access to nuclear materials by people or nations that might misuse them. For example, with the demise of the Soviet Union, reactors and nuclear materials are spread around the newly independent countries of the former USSR, making the job of controlling and protecting the materials all the more difficult. Brookhaven National Laboratory sends professionals to teach such countries how to protect this valuable resource.

Safeguards deal with the whole field of nuclear non-proliferation. This includes helping countries protect nuclear facilities from access by terrorists or others who should not be able to gain access to a nuclear plant, and to account for all nuclear materials within the facilities. Brookhaven is a resource to the IAEA and other Member State organizations dealing with non-proliferation.

Even Oil-Rich Countries Want Reactors

Ms. Kessler observed that even oil rich countries are interested in having nuclear reactors so they can sell their oil or gas and generate their own electricity with nuclear power.

Questioned about Millstone, Ms. Kessler was very forthright. She would willingly live down the street from the reactor. The industry knows with great certainty that in the unlikely event of an incident, 10 miles is the right radius for evacuation. She also said that the industry is getting very close in knowing how to manage nuclear waste and described how Finland has found clay substances that allow them to safely bury it.



Many thanks to Ann Reisman for her assistance and expertise in reviewing and editing.

Hot Topics Luncheon Previews LongHouse Exhibits for 2011



As a perfect opening to spring, Matko Tomicic, center, executive director of the LongHouse Reserve in East Hampton, was the speaker on April 28 at the second Hot Topics luncheon organized by Terri Levin Davgin, right, at the American Hotel in Sag Harbor.

On the left is LWV Board member Mary Blake, who also serves on the LongHouse Board. Mr. Tomicic previewed the exciting exhibits planned for the 20th season of LongHouse, the 16-acre sculpture garden and home of internationally-known textile designer and art collector Jack Lenor Larsen. *Photos by Arlene Hinkemeyer.*



Suffolk County Voter

www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org Box 1440, Stony Brook, NY 11790-1440 631-862-6860

Wednesday July 20 LWVSC Board Meeting, SCCC, 20 E.Main St., Riverhead 10:00am - 12:00noon

July 2011

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Representatives of Brookhaven, Hamptons, Huntington, Shelter Island, and Smithtown Leagues met at SCCC's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center in Riverhead on May 17 for the **LWVSC Annual Convention.**

Keynote speaker Rep. Tim Bishop gave a sobering and frank assessment of the environment and the government's ability to protect it. Sarah Meyland (NYIT Professor) presented a slideshow and discussion on "Do LI's Aquifers Need Protection? Yes, and Here's Why."



Mary Finnin was awarded the 2011 LWVSC Liberty Award, which honors an individual or organization whose passion, leadership, and action have had a significant impact on a priority issue of the League of Women Voters of Suffolk County. Mary has been able to foresee problems when cutbacks suggest changes in the delivery of services, since she is knowledgeable about the health system of Suffolk County. She speaks forcefully for the health needs of all county residents, is known and respected by the health community, and thus has a major impact on the decision-making of the county legislators.

The LWVH's own **Arlene Hinkemeyer** was recognized by LWVSC for her exceptional research, proofreading, and patience in producing the 2011 Directory of Public Officials on-time and accurately.

Each local League presents a certificate of recognition as well. LWVH's was awarded to **Cile Downs** "for her tireless efforts to preserve and protect our natural resources, most particularly in connection with the Accabonac Protection Committee, and for her contributions to our Natural Resources Committee."



Redistricting Update

At the close of the LWVSC annual convention, those in attendance were asked to give direction to the board. The consensus was that we should immediately and strongly advocate for the prompt formation and meeting of the Suffolk County Redistricting Commission, as required by the 2007 "Charter Law to Ensure a Non-Partisan, Fair and Objective Process by Which the Legislative Districts are Reapportioned." The LWVSC, under Katherine Hoak's leadership, assisted in researching and drafting this legislation, which has long been a LWV priority. Members of the LWVSC board have since been actively engaged in communicating with the appropriate legislators and officials, and we are pleased to report that as of the writing of this Voter, all commission members have been appointed. We have been advised that by the end of June the commission will have scheduled its first meeting. Nancy Marr (LWV Brookhaven President and LWVSC board member) is the League's appointed representative to this commission.

Needed: LWVH members interested in observing the Suffolk County Legislature at work in Riverhead!

The legislature alternates general meetings between Hauppauge and Riverhead. Please consider helping us maintain League presence at these meetings (which are held six times a year), and report back with your observations. For more information, please email lisawscott@gmail.com or marymclaughlin54@gmail.com.

July - August 2011

Note: Meeting dates and times are published several weeks in advance and are subject to change. Please contact the Chairs or visit our website at www.lwvhamptons.org for updates. If you don't see a meeting for a committee of interest, contact the Chair of that committee. Contact information is listed on last inside page of The Voter and on the website, www.lwvhamptons.org.

July 6 - 5:15 PM Wednesday	Board of Directors Meeting	Bridgehampton National Bank, Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton. Members and guests welcome.
July 11 - 7:00 PM Monday	General Membership Meeting	"Accessory Apartments: What's Happening" Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Barbara Jordan 324-6144.
July 12 - 10:00 AM Tuesday	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Susan Wilson 283-6549.
July 15 - 12:30 PM Friday	Voter Services Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Anne K. Marshall 537-3257.
August 1 - 12:30 PM Monday	Hot Topics	East Hampton (Location TBD). Contact Terri Levin Davgin 329-3217.
August 1 - 11:00 AM Monday	Education Committee	East Hampton (Location TBD). Contact Terri Levin Davgin 329-3217 or Mary Blake 907-4499.
August 2 - 10:00 AM Tuesday	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Susan Wilson 283-6549.
August 3 - 7:00 PM Wednesday	Board of Directors Meeting	Bridgehampton National Bank, Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton. Members and guests welcome.
August 10 - 12:30 PM Wednesday	Voter Services Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Anne K. Marshall 537-3257.
August 13-14 - 10 AM-6 PM Saturday-Sunday	Flea Market	Westhampton Rotary Flea Market, Corner of Potunk Lane & Main St., Westhampton Beach. Contact Gladys Remler 288-9021.
LOOKING AHEAD		
September 17 Saturday	Peconic Community Council Picnic	Westhampton Beach
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS		
July 7, 21 - 7:00 PM	East Hampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton
July 12 - 1:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
Jul 26 - 6:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
August 4, 18 - 7:00 PM	East Hampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton
August 9 - 1:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
August 23 - 6:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton

Government & Education Committee Reports

Keeping Council/Manager Form of Government Before the Public

by Naomi Epstein and Libby Hummer

It is especially important in this local election year that LWVH continues to educate citizens of East Hampton and Southampton about the advantages of the Council Manager model of town government. We want to keep this issue before the candidates running for office as well as the voters.

Thus far, the Government Committee has contacted a majority of the Community Action Committees (CAC's) and service organizations within the two towns, and committee members have made presentations to a good many of them. Now we have obtained four copies of the video of the LWVH Town Manager Forum. These will be offered to all service organizations and CAC's as an educational program they can present to their members. In addition, our educational pamphlets will be placed for distribution at all libraries within the two towns. In support of our position (reached by membership consensus in December 2009), our efforts focus on assuring that the public understands the benefits that typically result from the Council Manager model of town government. We hope that understanding will lead to a widespread demand for the adoption of this form of government in our two towns.

If you are a member of any organization that would like to have educational material for distribution, a presentation by the league or a screening of the video, please let us know by sending an e-mail to governments@lwhampton.org. The March 2011 issue of *The Voter* is a good source of information on the subject. Go to www.lwhampton.org and choose *The Voter* from the menu on the left; then choose March 2011.

“The Last Fix” Heightens Public Awareness of Drug Court

by Ursula Lynch

At the Westhampton Free Library on June, 8, 2011, LWVH sponsored a screening of “The Last Fix, An Addict’s Passage from Hell to Hope.” The film describes the work of the Southampton Town drug court. Later, Judge Deborah Kooperstein and her team, filmmaker Jacqui Lofaro and a graduate from the drug court answered questions from the audience. The drug court benefits society in many ways. The offender’s slate is wiped clean and no criminal record exists. The participant has a real chance of recovery and of leading a responsible, productive life.

All involved stressed the need for the public to

know about the drug court as an alternative to incarceration. Jacqui Lofaro and Judge Kooperstein will show the film at request of any civic or other group and hope more high schools will invite a screening. The League thanks the Westhampton Free Library and its extremely competent and helpful staff for providing the venue, publicity and technical support.

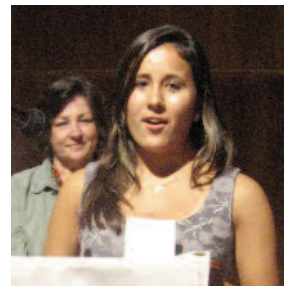
Thalia Olaya Receives Betty Desch Scholarship

by Mary Blake

Who was Betty Desch? Our benefactor was a quiet but determined advocate for women who supported League endeavors with pride and passion, generously bequeathing funds so that, on an annual basis, the League could reach out, acknowledge and reward a young person from our community who shows an understanding of what it means to be a leader in our society. Out of those funds, each year LWVH selects a deserving local high school senior to receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Criteria

The award recipient should be a role model, who, in the opinion of teachers and administration, exemplifies leadership, good judgment, appropriate risk taking, initiative, intelligence and integrity. With a host of exemplary applicants, one in particular caught our attention: this year’s Scholarship winner, Thalia Olaya (right). In the words of her nominating teacher: “Thalia is a true leader, with the passion, drive, kindness, creativity and intelligence to help make our world a better place.”



Thalia is a senior from East Hampton High School; a member of the National Honor Society; and a leader in the school’s Century Club who has given more than 100 hours of community service. She participates in the Free the Children Foundation, an organization working to improve the lives of children overseas through the building of schools and water projects. She is a founding member of the Retreat’s Teen Leadership Institute and spearheaded projects to help prevent teen dating violence and abuse. A member of East Hampton’s Town Youth Court she will pursue her passion for law next year at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. As the first in her family to graduate with a B.A., Thalia wants to become a legal advocate for women or Juvenile Court Counselor. There is no doubt that she will accomplish her goal.

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Can't use it? We can! Donate it!

by Gladys Remler & Ursula Lynch

For some, summer means changing closets, planning barbecues and bracing for an onslaught of welcome guests. For the LWVH, it means thinking about our annual fun-filled participation in the Westhampton Rotary Flea Market on August 13 and 14. We have heard that we have the best things to sell. Of course, in addition to raising funds for LWVH, it's a chance to promote the League. At our booth, we greet everyone warmly, talk about LWVH and hand out brochures.

Please start thinking about what you might donate. Last year, we had a wonderful selection of home accessories, kitchen utensils, china, designer hand bags, picture frames and costume jewelry as well as fine jewelry, antique toys and collectables. All should be in good and clean condition. We can't accept furniture or books.

We are happy to have three drop-off points. Please call first. We cannot accept any items before July 15 or after August 6. If you have questions, or are willing to volunteer to work at our booth, please contact Gladys or Ursula at specialevents@lwvhhamptons.org.

- Montauk, Amagansett and East Hampton can leave items at the home of Sally James: 267-2582.
- Water Mill, Southampton and environs will find it convenient to visit Joy Cordery: 283-7863

- Quogue, Westhampton and points west can drop items at Ursula Lynch: 288-4721.

We will have schedules for volunteers to help in our booth. Even better, why not join the special events committee? Together, we will make this a huge success!

Congratulations to all!

by Judy Samuelson

The accomplishments of the LWVH members noted in this issue have been recognized by local, county or state Leagues or by other organizations in the Hamptons. We're proud of all, and also thank other League members whose contributions were not singled out this year.

In addition to the three awards we received at last month's LWVNY and SCLWV conventions, (see pages 5 and 16) our own Barbara Jordan was honored as the East Hampton Rotary Club's Person of the Year. The Rotary Club commended Barbara Jordan for improving the quality of life in East Hampton, citing her work on affordable housing and the Maureen's Haven homeless shelter. You can read the article online in the *East Hampton Press* of May 25, page 26A.

Incidentally, Barbara is taking on a non-elected Regional Director position, responsible for helping Leagues in New York City, Nassau County and the Hamptons with housing issues.

The Voter

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