



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

Volume XXXV, No. 7

October 2012



Organized by Voter Services Chair Anne Marshall and moderated by former LWVH president Susan Wilson, at podium, the League held its first candidates' debate of the season on August 29 at Southampton's Rogers Memorial Library. Candidates in the NYS Senate Democratic Primary were Jennifer Maertz, left, and Bridget Fleming, with the winner on September 13 facing NYS Senator Kenneth LaValle on November 6. LWVH past president Carol Mellor and *Southampton Press* managing editor Bill Sutton comprised the panel. Photo by Arlene Hinkemeyer.

LWVH ORGANIZES OCTOBER DEBATES

In this important election year, the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons has organized a series of debates across our area. Spearheaded by Voter Services Chair Anne Marshall, some events will be co-hosted by community organizations. Panels will include respected members of local media. These debates are in addition to the August 29th debate between NYS Senate Democratic Primary Candidates Maertz and Fleming (above) and a live community airing of the October 16th Presidential Debate.

DATES:

- * October 15, State Senate candidates (LaValle/Fleming), Hampton Bays Senior Center, Ponquogue Ave., Hampton Bays
- * October 16, Presidential candidates, Bay St. Theater, Long Wharf, Sag Harbor
- * October 22, State Senate candidates (LaValle/Fleming), East Hampton Firehouse (Cedar St.)
- * October 25, Congressional candidates (Altschuler/Bishop), Westhampton High School

What's Inside

President's Message2

Voter Services Committee Report.....3

Board Meeting Summary.....4

Government Committee Report.....5

Calendar7

Suffolk County Voter8

Natural Resources Committee Report9

Recent Events.....10

Welcome New Member.....11

DON'T MISS The LWVH Annual FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON

**October 29, 2012
12:30 PM**

**Muse Restaurant,
Sag Harbor**

**ALL ARE WELCOME
See Page 18 For Details!**

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

by Glorian Berk, Co-President

As we are in what the media calls the “silly season,” I’d like us all to focus on the privilege and the obligation of being able to vote for elected officials. As a youngster growing up in a small town in Queens, I learned this from both parents. My dad was a founder and very active member of our local Democratic party and I often accompanied him as he went door-to-door handing out campaign literature. When the primary and general elections occurred, I went along with Mom as she was a poll worker. Both my parents voted in every election and encouraged me to do so when I was able. And I always remember Dad telling me to learn about the candidates’ views on issues and then vote “my conscience”—not what another person or party would tell me. But first and foremost, vote!

As many of you already know, within the United States, New York State ranked 47th in voter participation, at almost 42%. Here on the East End, we did better at approximately 50%. In many countries, people have to risk their lives to vote. Compare these statistics from around the world:*

Malta 94%
Chile 93%
Czech Republic 85%
Romania 81%
Bulgaria 80%

So aside from voting ourselves, what can we do to encourage voter participation in this year’s presidential election? Here are some ideas:

- Encourage all of your friends and neighbors to attend our candidate debates so that they can be informed voters
- Remind and encourage your friends and neighbors to vote
- Offer to drive those who can’t get to the polls themselves
- In social situations, remind those present to vote
- When you attend meetings of other organizations, remind those attendees about the need to vote
- Encourage other organizations of which you are a member to include voting reminders in their member communications

Our League will be working hard to educate voters and encourage all to vote. Hopefully, with additional efforts by all of us, we will see an increase in voter participation in 2012. Results will be published when available.

*Wikipedia; national lower house elections 1960-95

A Positive Step Toward Wider Voter Registration Access

By Anne Marshall

The LWVNYS website cited a news release from the governor's office which is welcome news to those of us spending many hours in the "voter registration business." In August, Governor Cuomo announced the establishment of a process to allow certain citizens to apply to register to vote or update their existing registration through a secure Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) online site.

This certainly is a positive step towards increasing the percentage of eligible registered voters in New York State from its current abysmal 64%, placing us at 47 out of 50 in that category! But first people have to know that this approach is available.

As with many new processes, the steps may prove a bit daunting, especially for those older than 45, but since it is younger citizens who aren't registering, they may find this a much easier process than the current alternative of completing a handwritten form and mailing it in.

The remainder of this article are excerpted verbatim sections from the DMV's website. To view the entire list of FAQ's, go to:

<http://www.dmv.ny.gov/mydmv/motvfaqs.htm>

How Does It Work?

- Upon signing into the MyDMV application, you may select Electronic Voter Registration Application to complete a Voter Registration Application online.
- You will be asked to answer a series of voter registration application questions related to age, citizenship, prior voting history and political party selection. You will be asked to affirm to the Board of Elections Affirmation.
- You will be asked to agree to the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles Attestation.
- Upon completion, your application is forwarded to your County Board of Elections for processing.

Don't I Have To Sign My Application?

When you agree to the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles Attestation in the voter registration application, you authorize DMV to send the Board of Elections your digital signature we have on file from when DMV issued you your Driver License, Non-Driver ID Card or Learner's Permit. Agreeing to the attestation is the legal equivalent of a handwritten signature.

What Happens Next?

The electronic voter registration application is transferred from DMV to your County Board of Elections for review. Once processed, your County will notify you either that you are registered to vote or additional information is needed to complete your application.

DMV DOES NOT APPROVE OR DENY VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS. DMV ONLY SENDS THE APPLICATIONS TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS FOR THEIR REVIEW.

A New US Citizen With LWVH Connection

By Anne Marshall

At a naturalization ceremony on September 10, LWVH members Ann Reisman, Ann Sandford and I were offering voter registration and information to 178 new citizens at the Central Islip Federal Courthouse, when a happy coincidence occurred:

One of the new citizens introduced herself by asking "Do you know Jason Belkin?" I certainly do. Jason Belkin, the owner of the Hamptons Coffee Company, has been a generous supporter of our annual "Running and Winning" program since its inception, donating the breakfast as well as providing delicious lunches at a reduced cost. He also advertises in our *Voter*.

Thus I met Jason's wife, Theresa (above), a native of Ireland, now a new US citizen and the soon-to-be mother of a second son. It was a special pleasure to see Theresa sworn in and to be able to wave to Jason as he sat proudly in the visitors' section that day.

This activity is part of the LWVH's commitment to encourage citizens to register to vote. We share the responsibility on a rotating basis with the other LWV units of Suffolk County.



LWVH Board Meeting Summary

Held on September 5, 2012

INFORMATION ITEMS

- Suffolk League voted to hold future annual meetings at Culinary Institute in Riverhead, with each local league taking a turn at managing the meeting. We will be in charge in 2015.
- Post-Election brunch – November 11 at Bellport Country Club. No price known as yet.
- 2013 Students Inside Albany will be April 14-17.
- Suffolk League received a grant for doing new citizen voter registration at Naturalization ceremonies. They used some of it to print items with vital info related to voting. See Voter Services report.
- Report on Gladys Remler's prognosis from recent fall: she remains in physical rehab.
- Report on Leadership/Membership Development meeting. Arlene reported 38 attended, some from as far as Westchester County. Discussed "the ask" of all we make contact with. Also written plan for how will incorporate recruitment with every event.
- John Brady from JP Morgan/Chase described two investment opportunities for maximizing stewardship of Betty Desch funds. Both differ from ACT-Navellier/Dial Income Opportunity Portfolio in that it is not a fixed selection of bonds; instead, bonds are traded within the funds. Board to decide at November meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 10 member meeting -- board expected to attend. Joy joins Eموke to provide refreshments.
- Voter registration at Islip Courthouse. See Voter Services report.
- October 16. Televised national presidential debate at Bay Street Theater, with their management making all arrangements. Theater will sell refreshments in lobby.
- Sag Harbor Luncheon/FUNDRAISER. Voted to hold at Muse, on Monday October 29, 12:30. Charge \$50/ticket. Admission includes hearing guest speakers Kathryn Szoka and MaryAnn Callendrille, from Canio's bookstore, discuss "East End writers past and present." No Chinese auction nor raffle.
- November member meeting, Nov. 12 at Hamptons Library. Speaker: Carol Mellor on campaign finance reform. Refreshments by Anne and Arlene.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Presentation of donation request letter for information purposes. Voted to include a donor slip with added sentence about requesting info about LWVH. Will not

include our brochure.

- How can we help SEA-TV raise funds? Sue suggested we offer free advertising space in *The Voter*. This in-kind donation approved by Board, which denied proposal to give SEA a money donation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ✳ Voter Services.
 - Schedule for Islip Naturalization ceremonies:
 - ✳ September 10: Ann Sandford, Ann Reisman, Anne Marshall
 - ✳ September 17: Ursula Lynch, Anne Marshall
 - ✳ September 19: Estelle Gellman, Glorian Berk
 - ✳ September 24: Judi Roth, Vicki Umans
 - Democratic Primary on September 13.
 - Debates:
 - ✳ October 15, State Senate candidates, Hampton Bays Senior Center, Ponquogue Ave., Hampton Bays
 - ✳ October 16, Presidential candidates, Bay St. Theater
 - ✳ October 22, State Senate candidates, East Hampton Emergency Services Guilding (Cedar St.)
 - ✳ October 25, Congressional candidates (Altschuler/Bishop), Westhampton High School
 - ✳ Media. Script re National Voter Registration Day sent to radio stations WLNG and WPPB for airing.
 - ✳ Special Events. We voted not to use Flower Power as a fundraising tool.
 - ✳ Membership. Vicki Umans will learn national list maintenance and take over from Afton DiSunno
 - ✳ Education. Exploring an adaptation of a program for at-risk girls called "Girls' Day Out" developed by a league in Schenectady, NY. Opportunities included beauty, education and social worker meetings. To be discussed in Ed. Committee's next meeting.
 - ✳ Natural Resources. Committee developed environment-related questions for the Mayors panel on 9/10.
 - ✳ Government and Health. Committee held first meeting in August and meets again on Sept. 27. New members welcomed.
 - ✳ Public Relations. Arlene said all local media came to the August 29 debate for candidates for NY State Senate seat. *Independent* followed up with front page article about the debate.
 - ✳ *The Voter* – Sally and Joy. Deadline for Oct. issue is Sept. 15. Sally collected all known-so-far dates for events and meetings.

The next meeting will be held on October 3, 7:00 PM at the Bridgehampton Bank.

Respectfully submitted by Judy Samuelson

A Fresh Beginning For Important Committee

By Judy Samuelson

A newly-energized group, chaired by Naomi Epstein, met on August 17 to plan integrating the government committee with a reconstituted health committee to promote an agenda of good government and improved health services for the East End.

We agreed to educate ourselves, and then the public, about developments in health care, especially the Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590). This landmark legislation, titled "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," was passed on December 24, 2009. It's 2,409 pages; a consolidated version is a spritely 974 pages. We acknowledged that elements could change after the Presidential election on November 7.

The national League's position, as expressed by LWVUS President Elisabeth MacNamara on July 31: "because of the Affordable Health Care Act, beginning August 1st, millions of women around the country will be able to receive free preventive health care benefits..." Read her entire letter on the League's national website: type in <http://www.lwv.org/our-work/other-policy-work/health-care>.

Innumerable sources for information, often broken down by constituencies, include:

- The Kaiser Family Foundation: www.kff/healthreform.org
- U.S. government: www.healthcare.gov/law.gov
- National Coalition on Health Care: www.nchc.org
- *The Voter*, the Hampton League's publication, carried related articles in April 2010, September 2010 and October 2010. Those can also be found at our website: <http://lwvnet.org/lwv/ny/hamptons/TheVoter.html>

In addition, the committee intends to learn details of how Suffolk County delivers services such as Women/Infants/Children Nutrition Program (WIC) to recipients as far east as East Hampton and Montauk.

We met again on September 27, 10 – 12 p.m. at the Hamptons Library in Bridgehampton. Any member interested in the subject of government and health care is not just welcome at our October meeting– we need you! Contact Naomi Epstein at 324-9371 for information and date.

Village Mayors Offer Candid Views

By Judy Samuelson

On September 10, those who skipped the "Meet the Mayors" Membership Meeting at the Rogers Library in Southampton missed an interesting evening. The village mayors, Conrad Teller, Westhampton Beach; Mark Epley, Southampton; Brian Gilbride, Sag Harbor and Paul Rickenbach, East Hampton, answered questions posed by moderator Judi Roth, Co-President, and later responded to queries from the audience. They detailed common issues (sewerage) and the loss of "mom and pop" businesses as the villages real estate owners gain higher rents from national name brands. Mayor Gilbride noted that they meet twice monthly with their counterparts from other villages as well as with the town supervisors to discuss these and other issues.

COMMON PROBLEMS: SEWAGE, WASTE & DRINKING WATER

Sad but true, in this part of the South Fork, septic systems and the lack of sewers affect development, both residential and commercial. Plans for affordable housing run smack into how the villages will handle the added need for septic systems. Zoning issues are limited by septic issues. The mayors all face variations of the same concern.



On September 10, the "Ask the Mayors" panel included, left to right, Village Mayors Conrad Teller of Westhampton Beach, Mark Epley of Southampton, Brian Gilbride of Sag Harbor, and Paul F. Rickenbach, Jr., of East Hampton. Judi Roth emceed.

Photo by Arlene Hinkemeyer.

From Overseas

A Mother (and Daughter) Of Whom To Be Proud

Contributed by Tricia Restivo Saur

The following is adapted from an article by Tricia Saur... a daughter of Ursula Lynch, that appeared in a recent *Bulletin of the American International Women's Club of Cologne* (AIWCC—(www.aiwccologne.org)) a member club of FAWCO (Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas—(www.fawco.org)). Tricia is the liaison between the AIWCC and FAWCO. Editor's note: We're delighted to see one impressive women's group spotlight another! Here, we reciprocate.

"I am so proud of my mother, Ursula M. Lynch, who has been involved with the League of Women Voters for nearly 10 years. The League promotes voter registration, encourages people to go to the polls on election day and so much more. Born in Germany, Ursula took a teaching job in the US in 1966 and is now a naturalized American citizen," Tricia begins.

In 2003, she joined LWV after attending a panel hosted by the Hamptons chapter of the League. Two years later she became an Elected Director and in 2012 was elected a Vice President. Having served on several committees, she has been inspired by the League's commitment to promote voter participation and fairness in politics. For example, she has been involved with the Education Committee, helping select the winners of an annual Leadership Award (Betty Desch Award) for high-school seniors, as well as Students Inside Albany, and "Running and Winning." Active involvement in these programs left Ursula impressed with the caliber of the young people involved.

"Working with the Voter Service Committee, she has attended naturalization ceremonies at the local Federal Court House. The League is there to provide between 150 - 170 new American citizens the opportunity to exercise their new right, by offering voter registration services. And with her fellow committee members she set up voter registration tables at local supermarkets, libraries, farmers' markets and post offices – to encourage citizens to register and go to the polls to vote for the upcoming Presidential election."

FAWCO promotes voter participation in U.S. elections on its website and includes a link with tools and information registration and absentee ballots for U.S. citizens living abroad. LWVH salutes this organization and its local partners (such as Tricia's group) for helping to "get out the vote," even from far away!



Vice President Ursula Lynch at the LWVH 2012 Garden Party



October 2012

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.

October 2 - 10 AM Tuesday	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton Contact Sue Wilson at 283-6549
October 3 - 7 PM Wednesday	LWVH Board Meeting	Bridgehampton National Bank, Bridgehampton
October 10 - 12:30 PM Wednesday	Voter Services Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton Contact Anne Marshall 537-3257
October 15 - 7:00 PM	State Senate Candidate Debate	Hampton Bays Senior Center, Ponquogue Ave., Hampton Bays
October 16 - 8 PM	Presidential Debate	Live Community Airing, Bay St. Theatre, Long Wharf, Sag Harbor
October 22 - 7:00 PM	State Senate Candidate Debate	Emergency Services Bldg, Cedar St. off N. Main St., East Hampton
October 25 - 7:00 PM	Congressional Representative Candidate Debate	Westhampton High School, 49 Lilac Rd. Westhampton Beach
October 29 - 12:30 PM Monday	Annual Fundraising Luncheon	Muse Restaurant, Main St., Sag Harbor Contact Gladys Reimler 288-9021
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS		
October 4 - 7:00 PM	East Hampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton
October 9 - 1:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
October 18 - 7:00 PM	East Hampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton
October 23 - 6:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton

Editors Note (as reported by Anne Marshall, Chair of the Voter Services Committee): The October 15 State Senate Debate will be co-hosted by the Hampton Bays Civic Association. Another featured event of the evening will be a meeting with representatives of the Hampton Bays School Board.



Suffolk County Voter

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

October 2012

Wednesday Oct.24 LWVSC Board Meeting Riverhead Library, 10:00am - 12:00noon

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Bowing to Budgetary Pressure from County Executive, SC Legislature Votes to Privatize John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility LWVSC to continue to monitor this issue

The Legislative meeting on September 13 decided by a vote of 10 to 7 to privatize the John J. Foley Skilled Nursing Facility by selling it to the Shermans, owners of thirteen similar facilities, for 23 million dollars. A major factor in legislators' minds was the need for budgetary savings for the county and the statement by the county executive that he would close the facility if it was not sold. On the other hand, the many patients, patient families, staff and friends of the facility made it clear that selling it would result in the loss of a necessary county service. Two daughters of John Foley, the legislator after whom the facility is named, spoke of its importance to their father, and requested that his name not be used in the future, a stipulation that the legislators had already passed.

Unresolved were some of the issues that had been discussed by the legislators: whether there had ever been a proper RFP to find a buyer, why the county executive had not pursued the Easter Seal proposal or a proposal by Brookhaven Hospital, whether the new owners will be able to continue to care for long term chronic care patients, what changes will take place for the staff, why the county was offering a \$30,000 tax rebate, whether the sale price adequately reflected the value of fourteen acres, a state of the art building erected in 1994 and two licenses.

The AME Union, which provided strong support to the staff throughout the legislative hearings, promises to do what it can to reverse the decision to sell, and to work toward more protection for the staff if the new owners take over. Although the County Executive believes that the new owners will keep the staff and the existing patients, the League will monitor the new administration to be sure that it continues to carry out the mission of caring for the citizens of Suffolk County who need care.

2012 Post Election Breakfast

Sunday November 11, 2012

Bellport Country Club

10:30am—1:30pm

- Enjoy a dynamic, insightful discussion of New York State government and League priorities in 2013 from LWVNY's legislative director **Barbara Bartoletti** and an overview of LWVNY campaign finance initiatives from Carol Mellor
- Expect a lively discussion of the results of the 2012 Presidential, Congressional, and local elections and issues to expect in 2013

League Members (paid in advance) \$32
Non-members or Pay at the Door \$37
Price includes raffle ticket- additional / 3 for \$5

Please make checks payable to LWVNYSEF
 and mail BEFORE Nov. 5 to Marilyn McKeown,
 320 Patchogue Holbrook Rd., Holbrook, NY 11741

For information contact Sue Wilson
sswilson@hamptons.com 283-6549

Nancy Marr



Losing The Battle Against Neighborhood Raccoons?

By Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

Before going to nuclear warheads to keep these persistent rodents out of your trash cans, try some simple, inexpensive and green deterrents. A strong sense of smell makes raccoons susceptible to strong odors that will deter them from coming after your trash.

- * Ammonia has a pungent odor and is an effective repellent by irritating the nose and eye of raccoons. Place old towels or rags soaked with ammonia in the bottom of trash cans. The odor is trapped in the trash cans because they are enclosed and air flow is very still.
- * Vinegar is used as a deterrent more for its strong taste than smell. Put one tablespoon of liquid soap and some vinegar in a spray bottle. The liquid soap acts like a glue and allows the solution to adhere to sprayed surfaces. After rain or watering from sprinklers, reapply the solution to the outside of the trash cans every couple of days.
- * By keeping these animals at bay with some simple household products, you are lessening the impact on the environment from commercial products. And if these solutions fail, use bungee cords to keep trash can lids on tight.

Adapted from an article in the *Long Island Gardeners* newsletter of Spring 2012

Is Organic Food Better For You?

By Susan Wilson

Maybe. Maybe not. Stanford University scientists conducted an extensive examination of four decades of research comparing organic and conventional food. The study is getting a lot of media attention for concluding that the published literature "lacks strong evidence" that organic food is significantly more nutritious than conventionally grown food.

THREE MAIN VARIABLES

The researchers looked at health outcomes, nutrient levels and levels of contaminants, including pesticide residues. They concluded that fruits and vegetables labeled organic were, on average, no more nutritious than their conventional counterparts, which tend to be far less expensive. Nor were they any less likely to be contaminated by dangerous bacteria like E.coli.

The study also found no obvious health advantages to organic meats. Conventional fruits and vegetables did have more pesticide residue, but the levels were almost always under the allowed safety limits. The production of organic food is governed by regulations that prohibit the use of synthetic pesticides, hormones and additives. "Safe" pesticide residue levels are set by the Environmental Protection Agency. The study did not address the current safety limits which the EPA says are not harmful to humans.

DO NEWS REPORTS OVERSIMPLIFY?

Consumer Reports' in-house experts, on the other hand, say consumers shouldn't assume there's no benefit to paying more for organics, particularly for say, young children and pregnant women. Overall, the Stanford researchers concluded that:

- * 38 percent of conventional produce tested contained detectable residues, compared with 7 percent for the organic produce. (Even produce grown organically can be tainted by pesticides wafting from a neighboring field or during processing and transport.)
- * Organic chicken and pork were less likely to be contaminated by antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- * Organic milk contained more omega-3 fatty acids considered beneficial for the heart.

Continued on page 18

Events

New Venue, New Focus

2012 FALL FUNDRAISER/LUNCHEON

by Judi Roth

Muse in the Harbor is the setting for LWVH's annual fundraiser luncheon. We hope you'll join us in Sag Harbor on October 29 at a facility the restaurant reservation site, Open Table, described as "a real find," "loved it...the ambience, the food, the service," and "a neighborhood gem." You can come alone or with a friend—either way, you can be sure you'll be welcome and among congenial people. The League does important work...but as you probably know, we have fun and build friendships at the same time!

As a special addition to this year's event, you'll enjoy featured speakers and co-owners of Canio's book store, Kathryn Szoka and MaryAnn Callendrille. These entrepreneurs will discuss East End writers, past and present, with opportunities for discussion and questions.

Unlike any previous fundraising luncheons, one price delivers it all—including tea/coffee! That means no Chinese auction or other items for sale. There will be a 50/50 cash raffle, though, if you want to participate. We've also agreed that the event is our only major scheduled fundraising event this year. The three-course luncheon price is \$50 in advance, or \$55 at the door. Please mail your checks by October 22, made out to the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, and mailed to Gladys Remler at PO Box 881, Westhampton Beach, NY 11978. Questions? Call Gladys at 631-288-9021.



Canio's co-owners, Kathryn Szoka and MaryAnn Callendrille, will be guest speakers at our October 29 fundraiser/luncheon.



Mireille Lister registering voters at Ellen's Run on Sunday, August 19. Photo by her husband Peter Lister.

Natural Resources Committee Report

Continued from page 17

An analyst from a non-profit consumer protection agency, the Environmental Working Group, claims the argument that organic produce is more nutritious "has never been a major driver" in why people choose to pay more for it. Even if the research in the area remains murky, it's clear that organic diets provide less exposure to pesticides and antibiotics, two potential safety benefits, and that organic agriculture is better for the environment. A nationally representative poll conducted by Consumer Reports found that 86 percent want their local supermarkets to carry meat raised without antibiotics, and the majority said they'd be willing to pay extra.

If you want a healthier diet of fruits and vegetables yet aren't quite ready to go 100 percent "organic," check out annual "Dirty Dozen" and "Clean 15" lists on Environmental Working Group's site (ewg.org) for help choosing which conventionally grown produce is safest and which you should buy organically grown. Bon appetite!

Sources: Newsday.com, Nytimes.com, ConsumerReports.org, Ewg.org

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WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Jacqueline McGarvey

By Marsha Kranes

"I always wanted to live here," notes Jacqueline, who sold her house in Pennsylvania 2½ years ago and moved with her husband into the family home in Springs where she had spent her weekends while growing up in Elwood, in northwestern Suffolk.

She's now making use of her BA in art and elementary education from Muhlenberg College and her MA in art education from Hofstra University – doing early intervention in reading for Project Most, the Springs School's after-school program, and substitute teaching in several school districts. She's also taught art at Guild Hall. An avid runner, Jacqueline competes in four or five marathons a year and shares her expertise working at the Gubbins Running Ahead store in East Hampton.

It was Jacqueline's interest in art that led her to the League – she met Judy Samuelson, our communications secretary, when buying some of Gene Samuelson's paintings. Jacqueline recalled how useful she found the League's unbiased voter education literature when she lived in Pennsylvania.

SEA-TV Seeks Financial Help

The Town of Southampton's SEA-TV, Channel 22, currently operating from a one-room space, plans to break ground shortly for a TV studio. They face a funding shortage and seek community members and businesses to help underwrite this initiative. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons greatly appreciates all the League programs, forums and candidate debates that SEA-TV has taped and aired multiple times for the benefit of the community.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Businesses can advertise on SEA-TV with graphics and/or text. Individuals can write a check made out to Town of Southampton, SEA-TV, and mail it to Town Hall. More information is available on the Town's website at www.southamptontownny.gov.



The Voter

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