



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

Volume XXXVII, No. 17

April 2016

We're active all year-round, in varied arenas

By Judy Samuelson

On January 21, LWVH sponsored and moderated a debate for candidates vying for a seat on the Southampton Town Council. A special election was held on January 26 for a seat vacated after the general election in November.

Also in January, the League held a consensus meeting on Money in Politics (MIP). After thoughtful discussion of each question posed by national League MIP committee the attendees were able to reach consensus on most questions.

On February 11 (actually, not such a horrible month this year) we brightened the winter with a very well-attended Blahs Luncheon. A entire knitting circle joined us, as well as friends in our community who have not yet joined the League. It was great to see them, and we do hope some take the next step: join the League and join a committee!!

The Education Committee made visits to two high schools to teach students about voting and to register those who will be eligible to vote by November 2016. This program is highly popular in our area.

The Health Committee actively explored community resources such as the Retreat (at their offices) and East End Hospice's new facility.



Richard Yastrzemski and Julie Lofstad debating for the open seat in the Southampton Town Board special election.

Continued on page 3

What's Inside

President's Message	2
Recent Events.....	3
Special Events Committee Report	4
Voter Services Committee Report	5
Board Meeting Summary	6
Suffolk County Voter	15
Health Committee Report	16
Education Committee Report.....	17
Green Tips	18

SAVE THE DATE

PIM Monday April 11, 7 pm

Pros & Cons of a Carbon Tax Program

Don Mathieson, representing the Climate Action Committee, discusses the group's lobbying efforts for legislation regarding a carbon tax proposal. At Southampton Town Senior Center, 25 Ponquogue Ave, Hampton Bays. Presented by Natural Resources Committee

Sunday May 15, 1 to 3 pm

LWVH Annual Meeting

Guest speaker:

County Legislator Bridget Fleming

Make your voice heard during our only "business meeting" of the year. Slate of Board Members, 2016-17 Budget, review of any changes to Bylaws or Non-Partisan Policy, year in review, more.

Southampton Cultural Center, Levitas Hall, 25 Pond Lane, Southampton

PIM June 11

The scoop on the planned merger between Southampton and Stony Brook Hospitals

Presented by the Health Committee. Details to follow soon.

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 seven 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.

Judy Samuelson, Editor
Cathy Peacock, Advertising Manager
Bruce McGowin, Design & Production
Arlene Hinkemeyer, Photographer and some captions
Madison Lohrius Inc., Printing and Mailing

Printed on recycled paper.

President's Message

By Judy Samuelson

Sunday May 15 is our 2016 Annual Meeting. We're pleased to announce that our keynote speaker will be Suffolk County Legislator Bridget Fleming. Here's how we prepared for this Annual Meeting.

At our March 2 board meeting, the Nominating Committee (spectacularly managed by Afton DiSunno alone, due to unforeseen circumstances) presented a slate of officers, board members and the 2017 Nominating Committee. At the April meeting, the board reviewed the proposed 2016-17 budget, which the Budget Committee (Glorian Berk, Emoke Boldvay, Estelle Gellman and Cathy Peacock) created with input from the committee chairs. The budget will run from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. The Bylaws Committee presented current bylaws and recommended changes. The board approved the proposed budget, nominating report, bylaws and non-partisan policy updates. We discussed the issues proposed at our January planning meeting and prioritized programs for the current year.

Friends, the board's work is complete. Now, it's your turn. First, please review the packet of information you'll receive one month prior to the May 15 annual meeting. Next, plan to attend the annual meeting so that your voice can be heard. You will also have the opportunity to offer directions to the board about other programs or initiatives you think should be addressed. I hope to see you on May 15 at 1 pm at the Southampton Cultural Center (25 Pond Ln, Southampton, NY, 631 287-4377) for this important meeting.

On a related matter, our plans to execute our programs circle right back to you, the members. Your board can't increase membership, improve voter turnout or work on other League issues without your participation. Please, join a committee if you can spare the time. Most meet once a month and present one PIM a year. If you can't commit to attend daytime committee meetings, we definitely understand. You can still participate. For example, you can help register voters during our drives, or accompany a League member to the Federal Courthouse in Islip once in a while to distribute registration forms to new citizens (this, by the way, is an awesome experience) or help out at a debate. Join the membership committee to work on new ways to increase active participation. I really think you'll find, as so many others have, that the more you get involved, the more you'll enjoy being a member of this thriving organization.

Recent Events

Continued from page 1



Posing questions from the newspaper, League and audience were publisher/editor emeritus Bryan Boyhan of Sag Harbor Express and Susan Wilson of the Hamptons League.



Estelle Gellman moderated the League's January 21 debate at Westhampton Free Library for the Southampton Town Board special election. It was a standing-room-only crowd of 125.



League and community members attended the "Conversation with the Two Town Supervisors," a PIM on March 15. Seated left to right, Larry Cantwell of East Hampton and Jay Schneiderman of Southampton. Welcoming them were, standing left to right, LWWH co-presidents Glorian Berk and Judy Samuelson, and Voter Services co-chairs Anne Marshall and Carol Mellor.



An entire knitting group joined us.



The group reached consensus on most MIP questions



Blahs Luncheon participants filled much of Bobby Van's table space. Valerie King joined neighbor Janice Fiero and her friend at one table.



Left to right: Judy Samuelson, Carol Mellor and Estelle Gellman at MIP Consensus

New Events Planned, New Members Welcomed

By Gladys Remler and Joanne McEvoy-Sanborn

As we shake off winter lethargy and welcome spring, we are planning our first 2016 event, "Blooming Bridgehampton" for June 9. That's when we'll explore and learn about Bridgehampton, which celebrates its 360th birthday this year. Do you think you know this charming village? You'll be surprised at what we have in store for you. It will be a full day of new experiences and views/tours. As ever, Arlene Hinkemeyer and Judi Roth have done terrific research, which we very much appreciate. We will share a catered lunch to socialize, meet new friends and chat about what we have seen and will see that day. The cost for the event is \$45, which includes the lunch. Mark your calendars now. We usually sell out, so get your reserva-

tion in early: Send a check payable to LWVH to Gladys Remler, 180 Melody Court, Eastport, NY 11941. Questions? Call Gladys at 631-288-9021 or Joanne at 631-283-9648.

Our Fall event will be a luncheon, the restaurant and date to be determined. The speaker will be Kathleen Marshall, award-winning choreographer and director. Ms. Marshall is a daughter of our Past President Anne Marshall. Anne is considering acting as the interviewer!

The Special Events Committee welcomes Anne Cassels as a great addition to our group. We, along with committee members Bev Dixon, Arlene Hinkemeyer, Glorian Berk, Judy Samuelson, Judi Roth and Naomi Epstein are delighted to have Anne.

Natural Resources Report

Climate Change

By Susan Wilson

Global Warming is the term used to describe a gradual increase in the average temperature of the Earth's atmosphere and its oceans, a change that is believed to be permanently changing the Earth's climate. It is also more popularly now called Climate Change. Global climate change will affect people and the environment in many ways. Expect changes in the areas of health, energy and agriculture such as:

- Increased severity of tick-borne illnesses
- Increased pollen counts affecting allergy sufferers
- Change in precipitation patterns, heavy downpours, flooding, more droughts
- Sea level rise, coastal erosion, compromised infrastructure, travel delays

- Insect outbreaks, loss of iconic forests
- Heat waves and more wildfires
- Declining water supply
- Increased ocean acidity
- Stronger more intense hurricanes

Join LWVH on April 11, 2016 to learn more about Climate Change and the Carbon Tax

Representatives from the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) will join members of LWVH Natural Resources Committee on Monday, April 11, 2016 to discuss Climate Change and the Carbon Tax. CCL is a non-partisan international grassroots environmental group that trains and supports volunteers to build relationships with their elected representatives in order to influence climate policy.

Road Map to a New York State Constitutional Convention

By Carol Mellor and Anne Marshall, Co-Chairs

In November 2017 the voters in NYS will be asked a seemingly simple question : “*Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend the same?*”

Under New York’s constitution, every 20 years voters must be asked whether they wish to overhaul – or tinker with – their state constitution. Although the question appears simple, it raises many issues. The state league is already working on informational and educational material to help League members and the public understand some of these issues, and the process involved in convening such a convention. The state League, in conjunction with NYPIRG (New York Public Interest Research Group), have produced an overview of the process so that New Yorkers can begin to contemplate this important decision. Parts of that publication, *Convention-Land, New Yorkers’ Road Map To The Constitutional Convention*, are excerpted here. The entire publication can be accessed at file:///C:/Users/carol/Downloads/Press-con-con-NYPIRG%20-LWV_0316.pdf

A good place to start is with an understanding of the steps involved in holding a convention and revising or even totally rewriting the state’s constitution. These are the steps in the process.

Step #1: Every 20 years, the New York State Constitution requires that the public decide if it wants to update its constitution. The next vote is November 2017.

Step #2: Will the process for selecting delegates stay the same? Reformers want there to be a legislative debate over the rules for electing delegates and the openness requirements for the convention’s proceedings in advance of the public vote. Knowing the ground rules for delegate selection will be a factor for many New Yorkers in how they decide to cast their votes on the convention question.

Step #3: The public votes on whether to hold a convention. If the majority of votes cast are “yes,” then the process continues. If the majority votes down a convention, no convention happens and the “road” to a convention ends.

Step #4: Voters choose whom they want to be delegates at

the convention. At the next general election following the voters’ approval to convene a convention (November 2018), voters choose three delegates from each of the State’s 63 Senate Districts and 15 are elected statewide. Thus, the convention would consist of a total of 204 delegates. Anyone who is eligible to vote can run for delegate. The processes for getting on the ballot and running a campaign are the same as those running for any other state office. Split-ticket voting for the 15 statewide delegates has historically been extremely difficult.

Step #5: The convention, consisting of its 204 delegates, begins its deliberations the first Tuesday of April 2019 and continues until work is completed.

Step #6: As the convention begins, the delegates will likely organize themselves to consider changes to the Constitution, such as creating committees to examine specific areas of the constitution (e.g., environmental policies).

Step #7: The convention begins to discuss changes. Anything can be on the agenda since it is not possible to limit the scope of a convention.

Step #8: The delegates decide on which changes they agree should be part of a new constitution. A key decision will be whether the proposed changes are voted on as one package or as separate individual amendments.

Step #9: Whatever changes emerge from the convention are then sent to the voters for final approval. New Yorkers go to the polls the following November (2019 at the earliest) to approve or reject the changes.

Step #10: Any changes that are approved in a statewide referendum go into effect January 1st in the year after the vote is held. If rejected, the constitution does not change.

As you see, the process is multi-faceted and complex. Over the next several months, the Voter Services committee will continue to provide information on this very important issue so that, when the time comes to vote, we will have the information upon which to base our decision. Our point? The more you participate in League activities, the more you learn about your community.

Highlights of January 6, 2016 Board Meeting

Information Items

- We received thank you notes from food pantries in Springs and Sag Harbor for our holiday donations.
- LWVSC working on the Directory of Public Officials (DOP). Glorian and Judy are checking information for East Hampton, Southampton and Southold, Arlene for other entities.

Discussion Items:

- Annual Meeting speaker discussion. Barbara reported that the Suffolk County Sheriff's office speakers bureau mainly address youth and family issues.
- Ursula mentioned that other Leagues send letters to the editors and suggested our Board do likewise. It would generate publicity and perhaps attract new members. Topics might include public apathy in regard to voting or publicizing elections.
- The Nominating Committee needs two Board members to join the off-board members; Sue Wilson and Estelle Gellman volunteered.
- Anne M. and Ursula L. volunteered to review the Non-Partisan Policy. We need someone to review the By-Laws. Judy S. will canvas the absent members of the BoD.
- The March PIM features Supervisors Jay Schneiderman and Larry Cantwell.

Committee Reports:

- Natural Resources Committee heard a presentation by Tip Brolin, of "The Citizens Climate Action Lobby." They seek support from like-minded groups for a legislative action creating a "carbon fee" paid by consumers at the point of purchase and returned by the government.
- Voter Services will hold a debate for a special election for Southampton Town Council to fill an empty seat on Jan.21.
- Education Committee will present "Vote 18" in Sag Harbor and Westhampton Beach.
- The Health Committee made two site visits in December: meeting the administrative staff of The Retreat and touring the new Westhampton Beach Hospice Residence.
- Public Relations created a flyer for the upcoming SH debate.
- Arlene and Julia Kayser did the Adopt-a-Road clean-up for December.
- Membership stands at 107. New members have been paired with mentors to help ease their way into participating in our committees and programs.
- All Board members urged to post comments and pictures on our Facebook website.

Highlights of LWVH February 3 Board Meeting

Discussion Items:

- Nominating Committee: Two members resigned from the committee due to personal reasons, leaving only off-board member Afton DiSunno and board member Susan Wilson. Suggestions were made to fill the open positions as we lost Joy Cordery and Eموke Boldvay and Ursula Lynch indicated they will not accept another term.
- Barbara suggested amending the Bylaws to allow the BoD to suspend the relevant rules in such situations. Susan, our parliamentarian, said that this could not be applicable until revised Bylaws were approved at our Annual Meeting in May.
- The Planning Meeting on Jan 11, 2016 lead to a discussion of many issues. They were categorized into three topics; Women's Health, Voter Services and Membership Participation. All agreed that member participation is critical to our effectiveness as an organization, and all committees are encouraged to keep this in mind when planning events.
- Anne Marshall presented an amendment to the debate guidelines prohibiting anyone except LWVH from recording one of our debates. Others may link to debates posted on the internet or otherwise but may not direct others to par-

ticular places or portions of the debate. The amendment passed and will become part of our debate guidelines.

Committee Reports:

- Special Events plans a fund raiser in June to coincide with the 360th anniversary of the founding of Bridgehampton. Some suggestions for the tour include SOFO, CMEE, the BH Historical Museum, the Mark Humphries Gallery and the Dan Flavin Museum, even a tour of the cemetery. They are also exploring an autumn tour and lunch with a speaker.
- The Health Committee is concentrating on the June 13 PIM about the partnership between SH Hospital and Stony Brook Medical Center.
- The Education Committee presents "Vote 18" program twice in February. They hope to engage students to then conduct future registration drives.
- The Membership Committee currently has 101 primary members with an additional 10 partners and one student. There are also four honorary members.
- Voters Services reported a standing-room-only debate for the Southampton special election. Bonnie Grice of WPPB radio made several announcements about it.

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here

Ads Go Here



Suffolk County Voter

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

April 2016

**LWVSC Board Meeting: 9:30 am Wednesday April 13 at SCCC, Main St., Riverhead
Look for information soon on the LWVSC Annual Convention and Lunch in early May**

OFFICERS

President/DPO/County Voter
Lisa Scott 265-2198
lisawscott@gmail.com

1st Vice President/Health
Nancy Marr 730-6556
enpymarr@optonline.net

2nd Vice President/Housing
Barbara Jordan 324-6144
bjordlwh@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Naomi Epstein 324-9371
naepxyz@aol.com

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Roberta Fishman 286-0614
robbiefishman@optonline.net

Naturalization
Sondra Irvine 862-4042
fsr Irvine@hotmail.com

Legislative Issues
Mary McLaughlin 427-1925
marmymclaughlin54@gmail.com

Brenda Reiss 261-7093
habrendaj@gmail.com

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Marilyn Beard 803-0223
mjinzzy@gmail.com

Barbara McClancy 324-5743
bmcc343@aol.com

Judi Roth 283-0759
rothhandj@yahoo.com

Judy Samuelson 267-3055
jwsamuelson@optonline.net

Mary Zopf 499-0107
mtzopf@verizon.net

LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

Brookhaven
Nancy Marr 730-6556
enpymarr@optonline.net

Hamptons (Co-Presidents)
Glorian Berk 283-2638
glorianberk@aol.com

Judy Samuelson 267-3055
jwsamuelson@optonline.net

Huntington
Judie Gorenstein 491-3177
judiel728@aol.com

Contact for Shelter Island
Cathy Kenny 749-1848
cathy_kenny@hotmail.com

Smithtown (Co-Presidents)
Mary Zopf 499-0107
mtzopf@verizon.net

Pat LaWare 269-1537
lawarepatricia@yahoo.com

OFF-BOARD SPECIALISTS

Budget
Jacqui Lofaro 537-3361
jacqlo@hamptons.com

League of Women Voters Seeks to Increase Voter Turnout for the Presidential Primary League Volunteers Calling Suffolk County Voters

Every election year Leagues across the country work hard to educate and serve voters, typically through voter registration activities, candidate and issue debates and forums and online and printed voters' guides. This year, the League of Women Voters of Brookhaven, with the assistance of other Suffolk County Leagues, will be doing even more by spearheading a voter engagement campaign to reach registered voters directly about the April 19 presidential primary election and to encourage their participation.

Working with volunteers, including those from partner organizations, college groups, and other Leagues, the Brookhaven League is reaching out to thousands of infrequent voters! Voter contact calls routinely prove to be successful in turning out occasional voters who need the reminders and encouragement to make it to the polls on Election Day.

Showing new voters the ropes and providing them with the information they need is a key way to engage them and ensure their future participation in our political process. Getting an individual to the polls once is a critical first step – turning a person into a habitual voter and civic participator is the ultimate goal. The good news is that once a new voter has turned out, s/he is more likely to vote in the future!

Primary elections are a key part of the process to select the next President. They provide a crucial opportunity for voters to take control and influence the process by selecting their top candidate to represent a political party in the general election. The League is excited to help engage voters across our community to turn out on Election Day and strengthen democracy through increased civic participation

Get Out The Vote (GOTV) is the prime focus for many Leagues in 2016. We continue our voter registration efforts as we welcome new citizens at the Naturalization Ceremonies at the Federal Courthouse in Central Islip every Tuesday. We'll be holding public information meetings, on election year issues and candidate forums for the public before primaries and the general election. But in Suffolk County we have a significant challenge in getting registered voters to the polls.

The LWV of the US has selected three Leagues from the entire US to work on a pilot project to test driving voter engagement through targeted calls. We congratulate the Brookhaven League on their selection and passion, and hope that all Suffolk Leagues will help them with volunteers and time. We'll hear more about this pilot project at our LWVSC annual convention in early May.

LWVSC Engages with other Groups in Civic Activism and GOTV

The Suffolk County League is working with like-minded organizations in a variety of ways in 2016.

- Family Residences and Essential Enterprises- benefits and proudly supports more than 4,000 individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. It is the mission of FREE to help individuals of all abilities realize their full potential. LWVSC is presenting on the importance of voting and helping with voter registration at their annual Advocacy conference in late March.
- LWVSC was a co-sponsor, planner, and participant in Stony Brook University's School of Social Welfare's annual Advocacy Day conference on March 11. Almost 300 undergrad and graduate students were told that the LWV's 2016 Directory of Public Officials was the most important tool in their conference folders! And we are strengthening student awareness of League and will work on further projects with the School of Social Welfare.
- LWVSC has been partnering with LICET (Long Island Civic Engagement Table) which seeks solutions for ways to increase civic engagement through education and grassroots organizing, since there are ethnic and racial gaps in the proportion of frequent voters compared to percent of population /percent of eligible registered voters. We are learning from their efforts in communities of color over the past few years, and attend their convenings with other civically engaged organizations.

Visit to East End Hospice Inpatient Facility

By Dr. Beverly Dixon

Health Committee member Edna Steck, Committee Chair Valerie King and I visited the newly constructed Hospice Inpatient Facility (EEH) in Quiogue (not Quogue!). The new facility stands on a donated six-acre waterfront property adjacent to the Aspatuck River. The facility is nearly completed and is scheduled to receive patients soon.

Priscilla Ruffin, President and CEO of EEH, gave us a tour.

According to President Ruffin, the facility is designed to accommodate eight patients, the maximum allowed by New York State regulations. Designed in the European style, with attention to detail and personal comfort, each patient will have a private suite equipped with medical equipment, adjustable bed with speaker pillow, flat screen TV, a small refrigerator and a private bath with shower. All suites have a private terrace with sliding doors large enough to allow the bed to be wheeled onto a deck looking onto a wooded green space and meandering paths. Each suite also includes a sitting or transitional area for the family to spend private quiet time. All suites can be viewed from a full service nurses' station provided with a private nurses' lounge and small kitchen.

The building itself is open and airy with skylights along the main hallway. The hallways and rooms are dressed with selected art works to complement the design. Patient comfort areas include a spa space with a jetted soaking tub and salon-style sink for hair care and grooming. Common areas include a library for quiet time and spiritual counseling. A large sunroom with a vaulted ceiling, fireplace, TV, children's play area, and family kitchen has a garden view. A Donor Wall honors hospice contributors. The facility also is equipped with a large European-style kitchen, and steam washer/dryer for small laundry needs. Private areas include a consultation room for family meetings with physicians and counselors. In keeping with the serene waterfront setting, the landscaping retains its natural beauty and is has a

central garden featuring a fountain surrounded by bulb gardens. Additionally, over 55% of the site has been placed in conservation easement, ensuring a peaceful environment and protected wetlands for the future.

The facility will be staffed with six nurses on 12-hour shifts, nurse's aides, LVN's, social workers and spiritual care providers. There are no residency requirements and hospice stays will be paid by Medicare. The facility will also offer temporary respite and extended stay arrangements by private pay.

The entire facility is designed to provide a peaceful solace during a family's most stressful time. Congratulations and thanks to East End Hospice for having the vision to provide this valuable asset for our East End communities. If you wish to contribute to EEH please call 631-288-7080, or contact Campaign Coordinator Maggie Goldfarb at mgoldfarb@eeh.org.



Edna Steck (far left); Valerie King; Priscilla Ruffin, President and CEO of EEH; and Beverly Dixon at East End Hospice facility

We Registered 67 Students -- Let's Hope They All Vote

By Judi Roth

On February 24 and 25 Education Committee members Martha Potter, Nancy Walter-Yvertes, Joanne Samborn and I presented our Vote 18 program to seniors at Westhampton Beach and Pierson/Sag Harbor High Schools.

Our opening segment, "LWVH is all about voting," told students where, how and why we register voters. In 2016 there will be three primaries (presidential primary, Democratic congressional primary and state and local primaries) and two elections (school board election and the presidential election). I explained primaries and pros and cons of registering with a political party. Then we asked students to think about and talk about these questions:

- Voter turnout is very small in our elections – why do you think people don't vote?
- Voter turnout in the primaries has been higher than usual. What is different about this year's primaries?
- How do you learn about political things? What are your sources of information?
- Do you think the election of one candidate or another will affect your life?

Martha Potter gave a brief history of voting by stressing how getting the right to vote has often been a struggle, with a lot of legal give and take. For example, the 13th Amendment gave black men the vote, but in 1890, literacy tests, poll taxes and grandfather clauses (the Jim Crow laws) were passed in southern states making it difficult to exercise that right. Back in 1798 the Alien and Sedition Act increased the waiting time to become a citizen from 5 to 14 years to lessen the impact of immigrant voting. Today many states continue to make it difficult for citizens to vote by mandating certain forms of identification.

Throughout the program, student participation was solicited – in some classes this was very successful; in others not as much. We found that an involved and active teacher such as Jim Kinder at Westhampton Beach can make a wonderful difference in student participation – maybe the fact that he said he was grading them on their participation made that happen but it sure worked for us.

The answers to our questions were varied and informative. We countered the falsehood that "my vote doesn't count" by

telling them about close local elections. One student mentioned the personality of a candidate makes people vote or not. That led to the question about this year's race, with

Continued on page 19



The Vote 18 sessions were very interactive



Martha Potter giving a snapshot of the history of suffrage.



Teachers and Martha Potter



“Pre-Cycling” Tips*

By Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

No, I don't mean “before getting on a bicycle.” Here are some green tips to consider before you go shopping.

- Shop with reusable bags, like EDF tote bags
- Buy the largest single containers you can store, then measure what you need into smaller reusable containers for everyday use
- Pass on using Styrofoam. Choose cardboard egg cartons made from recycled newsprint. For paper boxes (such as cereal boxes) the rule of thumb is: if the unprinted side is grey and not white, it's made from recycled materials
- Compare the package size to product size
- Buy fruit and vegetables loose

Reducing Water When Washing Dishes**

Each time you run your dishwasher, it produces approximately two pounds of CO₂. Washing dishes by hand can use up to 15 gallons of hot water or almost three pounds

of CO₂ per dish-washing. Washing dishes efficiently reduces your CO₂ footprint by 25% or more.

- Dishwasher: Run only when you have a full load. Scrape off food, but don't rinse dishes before loading. Use the energy-saving setting (air dry) to dry dishes.
- Hand-washing: Wash dishes in a tub of hot soapy water. Fill a second tub for rinsing dishes.
- Make sure your kitchen faucet has an aerator. Aerators reduce water flow by about 25% and produce a water stream that is every bit as good for washing dishes, hands or fruits and vegetables.
- When it's time to replace your dishwasher, buy Energy Star. Information about Energy Star dishwashers can be found at WWW.energystar.gov

* Source: the Environment Defense Fund (EDF)

** Source: Low Carbon Diet by David Gershon

Membership Committee Report

Be an Early Bird – renew your membership in April

By Estelle Gellman and Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

A new membership year is fast approaching and you will soon be receiving an early-bird request for your 2016/17 dues. Our dues year runs from June 1 through May 31 and a response to our early-bird dues request would be greatly appreciated. Not only would it save you - and our planet - from additional mailings but would also save the postage on those additional mailings, enabling us to use the funds to further our important agenda.

As you probably know, only a small portion of our dues remains with the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons. Your dues fund not only the activities of our local league but

also the important activities of the national, state and county leagues. With increasing costs, the dues that we have to pay out have increased and, consequently, it is necessary to increase the dues that we collect this year. The increase is modest - only \$5 on an individual membership as well as on a household membership - and is the first increase in many years. Although modest, this increase will facilitate our ability to continue our work on the local level. We look forward to your continued membership and support. We invite all interested members, old and new, to join the committee. If interested, contact membership@lwvhamptons.com.

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Glorian Berk
974-2635
copresident@lwwhamptons.org

Judy Samuelson
267-3055
copresident@lwwhamptons.org

Vice-Presidents

Estelle Gellman
324-9102
membership@lwwhamptons.org

Arlene Hinkemeyer
324-6713
ahinkemeyer@optonline.net

Ursula Lynch
288-4721
umlynch@gmail.com

Gladys Remler
288-9021
specialevents@lwwhamptons.org

Recording Secretary

Barbara McClancy
324-5743
bmcc343@aol.com

Treasurer

Emoke Boldvay
283-2175 (work)
treasurer@lwwhamptons.org

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Naomi Epstein
324-9371
naepxyz@aol.com

Anne K. Marshall
537-3257
apghnyc@aol.com

Valerie King
267-3024
ValerieKing78@aol.com

Susan Wilson
283-6549
naturalresources@lwwhamptons.org

APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Joanne McEvoy-Samborn
283-9648
jsamborn@optonline.net

Cathy Peacock
267-6685
cathpeac@optonline.net

Judi Roth
283-0759
rothhandj@yahoo.com

Kaye W. Umana, MD
745-3794
kwuwmmny4@optonline.net

PORTFOLIO CHAIRS

Education

Judi Roth
283-0759
educationt@lwwhamptons.org

Government

Estelle Gellman
324-9102
estelle.s.gellman@hofstra.edu

Health

Valerie King
646-217-1827
ValerieKing78@aol.com

Membership

Estelle Gellman
324-9102
and Joanne Samborn
283-9648
membership@lwwhamptons.org

Natural Resources

Susan Wilson
283-6549
naturalresources@lwwhamptons.org

Publicity

Arlene Hinkemeyer
324-6713
ahinkemeyer@optonline.net

Special Events

Gladys Remler
288-9021
and Joanne Samborn
283-9648
specialevents@lwwhamptons.org

Voter Services

Anne K. Marshall
537-3257
and Carol Mellor
646-701-3101
voterservices@lwwhamptons.org

Webmaster

Judy Samuelson
267-3055
webmaster@lwwhamptons.org

We Registered 67 Students -- Let's Hope They All Vote

Continued from page 17

students saying it is “entertaining”, “different”, “it’s so liberal and conservative”, etc. Many students knew about Bernie Sanders’ plan to make college free but when pressed as to whether a president could do this by him/herself, they all knew it takes more than a president to make something happen.

The most interesting thing to us was the answer to where students get their information (thank you Lisa Scott for suggesting this!). It turns out students do still watch television and even read newspapers and talk with their parents. On the Internet, students cited CNN as their source. Twitter and Facebook’s continual updates certainly play a part. But

students did make a distinction between fact and bias from these sources. We look forward to continuing this program in May at Southampton and Hampton Bays High Schools.

Hampton Coffee has a new store in Aquebogue

Long-time advertiser Hampton Coffee Company is growing again! Their new facility is in Aquebogue (Riverhead), east of Goodale Goat Farm, across from ENT Doctors. Stop in next time you’re in Riverhead.

The Voter

League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

P.O. Box 2253

East Hampton, NY 11937

Phone: 631-324-4637

www.lwvhamptons.org

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
RONKONKOMA, NY 11779
Permit Number 32



The League of Women Voters

Nonpartisan. Political. Grassroots. Volunteer.

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