

## **EAST HAMPTON GROUP FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – April 22, 2013 -- Arlene Hinkemeyer, 631-324-6713, [ahinkemeyer@optonline.net](mailto:ahinkemeyer@optonline.net)

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East Hampton Business Alliance, Margaret Turner, Executive Director, [Margaret@ehbusinessalliance.com](mailto:Margaret@ehbusinessalliance.com), 516-840-4312

### **EHGGG, LWV and EHBA Co-Sponsor Public Forum on “Town Manager Options for EH” Saturday, May 4, 3 p.m., E.H. Emergency Services Bldg.**

The East Hampton Group for Good Government (GGG) will sponsor a free public forum on “Town Manager Options for East Hampton” on Saturday, May 4, at 3 p.m. at the E.H. Emergency Services Building, corner of North Main and Cedar Streets. It will be taped and aired by LTV for later viewing on Channel 20.

Co-sponsoring organizations will include the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons and the East Hampton Business Alliance, which have advocated that the Town of East Hampton move to a model similar to that of the Village of East Hampton, which has a professional manager reporting to the Village Board, which sets policy.

“At the forum, we will explore this model and various alternatives,” said Arthur Malman, co-chair of the GGG.

Moderated by Lynn Sherr, award-winning broadcaster, author, and former longtime correspondent with ABC/TV, the program will feature panelists Steven Altieri, Administrator of the Town of Mamaroneck; Larry Cantwell, East Hampton Village Administrator; Zachary Cohen, 2011 candidate for East Hampton Town Supervisor; Howard Arden, Supervisor of the Town of North Castle, which added a Town Administrator six months ago; Carole Campolo, a retired New York City Government executive; and Barbara Jordan, a former president of the League of Women Voters.

In explaining why the GGG was organizing this forum, Mr. Malman said: “Many people erroneously believe that the Town Supervisor is the Town’s chief executive officer. Under Town law, the five-member Town Board, as a group, is the Town’s chief executive officer. The Supervisor is the Town’s chief financial officer and is the presiding officer at Town Board meetings.”

“Having five people act as both the legislative body and the administrative body may lead to difficulties, and the actual functioning of the Town Board will depend on the personalities of its ever-changing members. Hearing directions from five people can cause problems for town employees, and

East Hampton's Town Board has set up liaison responsibilities for its Board members with varying success."

"There are many possibilities between the current East Hampton Town governance model and a pure Town Manager form of government, and this range will be explored at the Forum," concluded Mr. Malman.

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