



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

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March 2013



LWVH To Host School Supervisor Event

By Terri Levin-Davgin

Our March 18 Members Meeting will feature superintendents from various local school districts. The event is timed to enable voters to make informed decisions with regard to this year's NYS school board and budget elections, which are scheduled for May 20, 2013. This is in keeping with our goal of providing the community information needed to make knowledge-based decisions.

The superintendents will share information about their districts, answer some questions posed by our moderator and take questions from the public. With so many issues and concerns regarding our schools to be discussed and considered, this forum should offer information and insight important to everyone in the community. Among the officials expected are Dr. Richard Boyes, Superintendent, Southampton; Stuart Rachlin, Superintendent, Wainscott School and Dominic Mucci, Superintendent, Springs School District.

We hope you will join us on Monday, March 18 at 7 pm at the Rogers Memorial Library in Southampton. Refreshments will be served before the meeting. Everyone is welcome!

ABOVE Happy to attend the League's post-snowstorm "Beat the Winter Blahs" luncheon at Bobby Van's in Bridgehampton on February 12 were: standing left, luncheon co-chair Pat Arceri, and seated, members Ann Sandford, Andrea Schiavoni, Mary O'Brien, guests Joan Hughes and Marjorie Goldberg and member Joy Flynn. Not in photo is co-chair Julia Kayser. More coverage on page 5. Photo by Arlene Hinkemeyer.

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Learn More About Your Local School Districts at the LWVH

School Supervisor Event

March 18, 2013

*Rogers Memorial Library
Southampton*

ALL ARE WELCOME

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

Judi Roth, Co-President

It's in your League's committees that ideas are hatched and hashed over, projects begin and work is planned to execute them. If you want to have fun, learn things, meet and influence people, gain their respect, use your creative and administrative skills, and generally feel good, join a League committee. They include:

The Education committee presented *Running and Winning* for four years, recruited students for *Students Inside Albany* and the *Betty Desch Scholarship*, organized several member meetings and got to know almost every high school principal and social studies teacher from Westhampton Beach to Montauk. On March 18, the committee sponsors a forum with school superintendents speaking about the financial and educational challenges facing our schools.

The Voter Services committee is the heart of the League and where we are most visible to the public. From registration to debates and all that goes on in between, this committee is our most active and draws the most support from members. It conducts frequent visits to the Islip Federal Courthouse to register newly sworn-in citizens. This inspiring event draws volunteers among new and existing members.

The Natural Resources committee focuses on protecting the environment, with local issues such as the quality of water, recycling, avoiding pesticides and the dangers of plastic bags. They keep on top of green initiatives of the Towns and have explored sources of alternative energy by visiting a wind farm, with a visit to Brookhaven National Lab planned for April. On April 8th, they will sponsor a Member Meeting entitled "Beyond Earth Day: What You Can Do Now."

The Government and Health committee led the League to develop a position on the Council/Manager form of local government and continues to advocate for this, particularly in East Hampton. Campaign finance reform in New York State is another mission. Committee members active in the health aspect met with Southampton Hospital president Robert Chaloner, and will host the June 18 member meeting, featuring speakers on the impact of the Affordable Health Care Act.

Where would we be without **Special Events** to help us have fun and raise money? This committee has run many ambitious projects, including participating in community events and hosting trivia contests and house tours. We are nominating last June's spectacular Rose Garden Event for a State award. New ideas for ways to entice

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Voting Rights And Accessibility Become Major Issue

By Anne Marshall

Voting issues continue to command attention, despite the fact that we are three months past the presidential election. The issues the media is focusing on seem to fall into two main categories: Voting Rights and Voting Accessibility.

VOTING RIGHTS

There is concern that 2013 could be a year in which voting rights receive some major setbacks in a number of states. An article on the LWVUS website cites the following statistics:

- According to the National Conference of State Legislatures since 2001, nearly 1,000 voter ID bills have been introduced in a total of 46 states. Twenty-four states have passed major legislation during the period 2003-2012.

- 2013 has already seen photo ID legislation introduced or soon to be introduced in Alaska, Montana, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri and Wisconsin. The make-up of each state government will ultimately determine the outcome of these bills. In some states, like New York and Montana, it may be possible to stop or lessen the impact of some of these bills. In others, like Alaska, North Carolina, Wisconsin and Missouri, which have fended off photo ID bills for multiple years, proposed legislation is more likely to be passed due to changes in the make-up of their state government following the 2012 elections.

- On February 27, 2013 The Supreme Court heard the case, *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, to determine if certain sections of the Voting Rights Act are unconstitutional. The LWVUS, along with many of its national partners, urged people to attend a rally at the US Supreme Court to protect the existing Act.

VOTING ACCESSIBILITY

Each election reveals multiple sets of problems related to the act of voting, e.g. long lines at polling places; long and involved ballots; lack of clear directions and poor polling place management; confusing and evolving voter registration and ID requirements in a number of states.

Voices from the President on down are focused on solving some of these problems. In New York State,

the LWV and other groups have long lamented the restrictive rules governing registration and a one-day-only voting event. (State absentee voting applications, although now simplified, still have stricter eligibility requirements than other states).

A recent (1/4/13) joint statement by four groups (The Brennan Center for Justice, Citizens Union of the City of New York, The League of Women Voters of New York State and the New York Public Interest Research Group) praise two bills introduced in the Assembly and the Senate. These bills, A.689 and S.1461, make early voting in the state a priority. The news release points out that 32 other states already have some form of early voting. Specifically, passage of the bills would allow citizens to vote one week in advance of a primary or special election and two weeks in advance of a general election. It will be interesting to follow its progress.

A 2/6/13 publication by the LWVNY: *2012 Election Survey Report*, (www.lwvny.org/advocacy/elections/2013/reports/ElectionSurv_0213.pdf) deals with other issues related to voter accessibility in New York State, among them, polling site management and training of polling site workers. It's an interesting read and supports some of the problems that anecdotal data in the Hamptons have reported over the years.

Voting, a basic right and responsibility, seems to need continual monitoring and adjusting. Needless to say, the League is front and center on doing just that.

President's Message

Continued from page 2

people to such events are always welcome. Last, but not least, is Membership. Glorian and I are so pleased to announce that Estelle Gellman and Joanne McEvoy Samborn have agreed to be Co-Chairs of this vital committee (see page 17 for an introduction). At our recent Program Planning meeting, it was apparent that membership activities are critical to our organization's vitality. So many good ideas were generated and Estelle and Joanne will begin working on them and others over the coming months. Along with back office operations, Membership plans functions that integrate new members into the organization and helps them find their own place in the League matrix.

Which leads me back to my message at the start of this column. Please contact our committee chairs (see sidebar page 5 for info), learn more about them and join one of our committees to see how being a larger part of this organization can enrich your life.

LWVH January Board Meeting Summary

by Judy Samuelson
Held on January 2, 2013

INFORMATION ITEMS

- * Judi, Estelle and Eموke to meet on January 7 to review and finalize documents for Vanguard fund. Note: instead of keeping some funds in a money market fund they will go into a treasury fund which was recommended as being potentially higher yield and more stable.
- * Donations received at holiday party distributed as follows: \$301 to the Springs Community Food Pantry and \$315 to the Human Resources of the Hamptons. Total donations down from last year's holiday event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * Anne Marshal reported that in January, four dates are confirmed for members to attend naturalization ceremonies at Islip court house. Jan 7: Ann Sandford & Mireille Lister; Jan 9: Glorian Berk & Carol Mellor; Jan 14: Julia Kayser & Gladys Remler; Jan 28: Anne Marshall & Judi Roth.
- * Member Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 10 in the Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. This is a departure from normal practice of having meetings on Mondays. It will be at 12:30 – lunch will be provided. Gladys will order from Hampton Coffee, Judy Samuelson will send a 'blast' reminder. It is hoped that many general members will attend.
- * The Winter Blahs luncheon is scheduled for February 12 at noon. It will be at Bobby Van's in Bridgehampton. The price has not yet been set but Judi and Pat will get that information.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- * Arlene reported that no additional donations were received in December. Total donations remain at \$145 from 5 donors. A total of 125 letters were sent at a cost of \$60. Sue notes that from a 'cold' list of prospects, the average response is ½ of 1% – which we beat. It was agreed that we will try again next year. Glorian presented the financial report. She noted that the PMP and Voter bills are still owed and that we are 'behind' in three categories of revenue: *Voter* advertising, member dues and donation. However, member dues received in May may not have been included, in error. Glorian will review and if necessary correct and redistribute.
- * Two names were suggested as potential speakers for the May Annual Meeting: US Senator Gillibrand and County Executive Schneiderman. Sen. Gillibrand is first

choice as she has spoken in East Hampton on Civility in Government which ties in with the last Running & Winning. It was suggested that we encourage past R&W participants to attend. Judi will send an invitation to the Senator.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- * Education – Terri. There will be a meeting on Jan. 3. Topics will include "Students in Albany" and the Betty Desch award. The committee's member meeting will be March 18.
- * Public Relations – Arlene. As there were no events, there was no PR to report. Arlene has been invited to speak on March 15, 7 pm at the East Hampton Historical Society. Topic: The Suffragist Movement.
- * Natural Resources – Sue. There will be a meeting on Jan. 8 to work on the April General Membership Meeting
- * Membership – Glorian. Glorian brought a list 34 past members who have not renewed. Some will be called by Board members; others were deleted.
- * *The Voter* – Sally and Joy. Deadline for next issue (March) is February 15. Joy is sending another set of invoices to advertisers.
- * Voter Services – Anne. As reported, there will be four registration events in Islip in January. Also, she received a letter inviting members to a 'Lobby Day' in Albany on January 18. Although no one indicated they would attend, it was suggested we send our list of priorities to the organizers.
- * Government and Health – Naomi. In Naomi's absence, Barbara reported. Speakers for the June Health Care Meeting will be contacted this month. With regard to referendum on Town Manager, indications are that this is not allowed per NY State law. If so, the committee will work on collecting signatures on a petition. Also regarding this issue, we may be collaborating with GGG on a forum to occur in three to four months. In addition to town manager, 4-year term limits for supervisors may be discussed. This may dilute focus on manager issue, so it needs to be discussed.
- * Special Events – Gladys. There will probably be a meeting at the end of February to brainstorm spring events.

The next meeting of the board will be on Feb. 6 at 5:30 at the Bridgehampton Bank. Public welcome.

Events & Announcements

Upcoming Events

Hinkemeyer to Present Suffragists' Story at East Hampton Historical Society

The East Hampton Historical Society (EHHS) has invited LWVH Vice President and Publicist Arlene Hinkemeyer to speak on Friday, March 15, at 7 p.m. She will discuss "The Suffragist Movement: Women Work for the Right to Vote" as part of the EHHS four-part winter lecture series titled "CHANGING TIMES: Epics & Events That Shaped East Hampton." The large postcard advertising the series has a photo of the Women's Political Union Suffrage Tent from the Suffolk County Fair, c. 1915.

The free program takes place at the Clinton Academy Museum at 151 Main Street in East Hampton. Arlene's talk is based on her research on the East Hampton, Sag Harbor and Southampton Suffragist leaders, compiled for the League's 90th anniversary celebration in 2010.

Arlene plans to wear her Suffragist costume from the East Hampton 350th Anniversary parade in 1998 and encourages other League members with costumes to wear them as well. "It would certainly be fun to see a sprinkling of the 'Votes for Women' sashes in the audience," she said, inviting all League members to attend.

Blahs Luncheon Proves Welcome Escape from Winter Weather

This year's annual event was held at the popular Bobby Van's restaurant in Bridgehampton. Great food and good fun were had by all.

BELOW Winner of the free lunch at Bobby Van's was guest Cynthia ("who says there's no free lunch?") Polhemus. **RIGHT** Winner of the LWV scarf, headband and gloves was Joy Flynn. Photos by Arlene Hinkemeyer.



Join A LWVH Committee!

For more, please contact the Committee Chair.

Education • Chair: Terri Levin-Davgin (ehampcook@yahoo.com)
Members: Anne Marshall, Judi Roth, Arlene Hinkemeyer, Beth Barth, Jane Dell, Nada Barry

Voter Services • Chair: Anne Marshall (apghnyc@aol.com)
Members: Joanne Samborn, Estelle Gellman, Ursula Lynch, Judi Roth, Glorian Berk, Marilyn Montgomery, Ann Sandford, Julia Kayser, Julie Burmeister, Carol Mellor, Mireille Lister, Barbara McClancy, Arlene Hinkemeyer, Susan Wilson

Special Events • Chair: Gladys Remler (GRemlerdesign@aol.com)
Members: Sue Wilson, Joy Cordery, Joanne Samborn, Armineh Ohanian, Judi Roth, Glorian Berk, Arlene Hinkemeyer

Natural Resources • Chair: Sue Wilson (SSWilson@hamptons.com)
Members: Joy Cordery, Glorian Berk, Joanne Samborn, Barbara McClancy, Mireille Lister, Julie Burmeister

Government and Health • Chair: Naomi Epstein (naepxyz@aol.com)
Members: Judy Samuelson, Judi Roth, Barbara McClancy, Valerie King, Mireille Lister, Julia Kayser, N. Donald Peifer, Carol Mellor, Dorothy Artenberg, Arlene Hinkemeyer, Joy Cordery, Estelle Gellman

Membership • Co-Chairs: Estelle Gellman (estelle.s.gellman@hofstra.edu) and Joanne Samborn (jsamborn@optonline.net)
Members: Glorian Berk, Vicki Umans, Pat Arceri, Mireille Lister, Julia Kayser



LWVH February Board Meeting Summary

by Judy Samuelson
Held on February 6, 2013

INFORMATION ITEMS

- * Carol Mellor has made a presentation on campaign finance reform to many area civic groups in her role with the State League advocating such reform. She asked approval from the Board before approaching local political parties to listen to this presentation. We agreed this would not violate our strict non-partisanship position and thanked her for her work on this important initiative. We agreed to issue a press release and/or write to the newspapers noting Carol's availability. Arlene and Carol will work on this.
- * Update on Vanguard. Not all forms completed as of 2/6 but when that is done, \$15,000 will be invested in Admiral Shares of Vanguard Inter-Term Bond Index and \$31,000 held in Short-Term Treasury Investment Fund (similar to a money market).
- * Speaker for Annual Meeting May 5 2013. Expect response this month to the invitation sent to Kirsten Gillibrand. We agreed that Jay Schneiderman, originally our second choice, will not be asked to speak as he may declare candidacy for local office. Judy will contact Governor Cuomo's office regarding a speakers bureau. Other possible speakers: Barbara Thomas, LWVNY, Sally Robinson (LWVNY President) or Judge Andrea Schiavoni.
- * Estelle Gellman and Joanne Samborn volunteered to be co-chairs of the Membership Committee, perhaps inspired by the Member Program Planning meeting in January. The ideas generated will need strong leadership to execute.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * Winter Blahs luncheon February 12. About 20 responses so far.
- * Superintendents of Schools meeting March 18 at Rogers Memorial Library. Terri and Judi have commitments from superintendents of Southampton, Springs and Wainscott; waiting to hear from Hampton Bays and Amagansett.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- * Review and vote on planning meeting ideas for local programs. Discussion tabled until March Board meeting.
- * Request from County League for help recruiting a student from Riverhead or Southold for SIA (Students Inside Albany). We regret we are not able to help this year.
- * State awards. Judi reported that she and Glorian will submit entries in Voter Services, Visibility and

Fundraising categories. Entries in past years have garnered many awards.

- * Request from State for updating current position or suggesting new studies. Board voted not to suggest any studies. Judi will submit added wording to environmental position to address local issues of coastal flooding and rebuilding.
- * State convention in Albany June 1 to 2. We can send two delegates. Carol Mellor, Arlene and Sue will attend, but as they are members of the LWVNY board, our League would not be expected to pay for their expenses.
- * We voted unanimously in favor of support of the Governor's Women's Equality Agenda, in concurrence with LWVNY's position (see online: http://www.lwvny.org/advocacy/payEquity/2013/Press-WomensEqualityAgenda_0113.pdf)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- * Education – Terri. Planning March 18 meeting (see Upcoming Events). She mentioned "Girls Rising," a documentary to be shown locally that we could perhaps promote.
- * Public Relations – Arlene. As head of statewide PR, Arlene produced an admirable annual report for the LWVNY Education Foundation. Judy asked that it be made available online at the state's website.
- * Natural Resources – Sue confirmed that space and speakers are confirmed for the April 8 member meeting at Rogers Memorial Library. Topic: Beyond Earth Day. Also has details on April 16's outing at Brookhaven Lab. Topics: Nano-scale Facility and Light Sources. Lunch included in the 10:30 to 2:30 event.
- * Membership. Estelle Gellman and Joanne Samborn are now co-chairs.
- * *The Voter*. Joy noted 2/15 deadline for March *Voter*.
- * Voter Services. Anne reported that four groups of two covered voter registration at four citizenship ceremonies at the Islip Courthouse.
- * Government and Health – Naomi. Following discussion of correspondence with East Hampton's Good Government Group, it was agreed we need more information about the forums planned before agreeing to co-sponsor. What was originally one forum on the topic of the council/manager form of government is now being proposed as a series about various ways to foster "good government." Committee is working on a second speaker for its member meeting about the Affordable Health Care Act in June.

The next meeting will be held on March 6, 5:30 PM at the Bridgehampton Bank.

March 2013

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.

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| March 3 (week of) - Time TBD | Education Committee Meeting | Hampton Library, Bridgehampton Contact Terri Davgin at 329-3217 |
| March 4 - 10 AM Tuesday | Natural Resources Committee Meeting | Hampton Library, Bridgehampton Contact Sue Wilson at 283-6549 |
| March 6 - 5:30 PM Wednesday | LWVH Board Meeting | Bridgehampton National Bank, Bridgehampton |
| March 18 - 7:00 PM Thursday | General Membership Meeting | Hampton Library, Bridgehampton Topic: School Superintendants |
| TOWN BOARD MEETINGS | | |
| March 7 - 7:00 PM | East Hampton Town Board Meeting | Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton |
| March 12 - 1:00 PM | Southampton Town Board Meeting | Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton |
| March 21 - 7:00 PM | East Hampton Town Board Meeting | Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton |
| March 26 - 6:00 PM | Southampton Town Board Meeting | Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton |



Photo by Gene Samuelson



Suffolk County Voter

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

March 2013

Wednesday March 20 LWVSC Board Meeting SCCC Riverhead, 10:00am - 12:00noon

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LWVSC thanks Bob DeLuca, President, Group for the East End for his generous sharing of his insights and expertise on January 16 in Riverhead. Bob has also shared the accompanying article, with us. Read it to learn more about the impact of Hurricane Sandy on our water resources in Suffolk County..

Hurricane Sandy's "footprint" on Long Island's Clean Water Planning - Bob DeLuca, President, Group for the East End

In the days that followed Hurricane Sandy, experts from the U.S. Geologic Survey, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and many other environmental research and regulatory agencies immediately began to collect important environmental data about the storm's immediate and lingering after effects on a wide range of environmental resources. According to the USGS; "Significant high water events are important to document, because a storm events can flush large quantities of nutrients, pesticides, and sediment into river"

Beyond the obvious importance of assessing structural damage and physical restoration efforts, chief among the areas of agency inquiry was water quality. Experts have long observed that major storm events with their attendant flooding, runoff, and groundwater mounding (particularly in near-shore areas) can have dramatic and lasting impacts on both ground water and surface water quality.

The most significant environmental impacts occur from the catastrophic failure of major wastewater infrastructure (sewage treatment plants or public supply wells) or industrial facilities, the accelerated contamination of surface waters from stormwater runoff (laced with hydrocarbons, VOC's, pesticides, fertilizers, animal waste, sediments and septic waste), and elevated groundwater levels associated with the combined effects of sea level rise, storm surge and overland rainfall.

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Deer Park High School Student Selected to Represent LWVSC at Students Inside Albany Conference

The League of Women Voters of Suffolk County has selected Alicia Legland, a senior at Deer Park High School, to attend the thirteenth annual *Students Inside Albany* conference to be held April 14-17, 2013.

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation sponsored this unique experience which brings together approximately 60 students from across the state to engage in an interactive program about state government. The program seeks to increase high school students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government, providing the necessary information and tools to meet that responsibility.

President of the Student Council at Deer Park High School, Alicia's career goal is to become an environmental attorney, with a focus on environmental policy and natural resource conservation. In her application, Alicia indicated her desire "to utilize the knowledge I gain from this conference, and apply it to my school as well as my community."

While at the conference, Alicia will join with peers in a hands-on learning experience about how state government works. She will participate in a series of interactive lectures on such topics as the state budget process, the role of lobbyists in the legislative process, citizen rights to access government information, and the current move to reform state government. Highlighting the experience for most students is the opportunity to "shadow" their senators and assembly members for an afternoon session on the Chamber floor.

Upon Alicia's return from this unique 'inside government' experience, LWVSC will look forward to hearing what she has learned, and how she may possibly apply these lessons in government and citizenship in her near and greater future.

Natural Resources Committee Report



Water...the Planet's Most Precious Resource

By Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

We know this, but somehow we also think the supply is endless and eternal. It's not. Here are a few facts about how much water use we take for granted.

- * The average American uses about 50 gallons (190 liters) of water daily
- * Flushing a toilet uses 2-7 gallons (7.5-26.5 liters) of water
- * A five-minute shower uses 25-50 gallons (95-190 liters) of water
- * Leaving the water on while brushing your teeth wastes two gallons (7.5 liters) of water each time
- * At least 400 million people live in regions with severe water shortages
- * Water is the original health drink. It contains no fat, no calories and no cholesterol

Source of material, with kind permission from HM Digital.com

INTERESTING WATER FACTS


- * In just 16 hours, the US Water Utilities produce as much potable water as the oil industry produces in a year
- * When we use water, we generally add contaminants such as soap, food products and chemicals, which must be removed before the water is used again
- * Close to three-quarters of the earth's surface is covered by water. But less than one percent is suitable and available for drinking using conventional water treatments

- * Ice cubes float because ice is less dense than water. Water freezes in a lattice like formation, which creates buoyancy and allows ice to float
- * Hardness in drinking water is caused by calcium and magnesium -- two naturally occurring, non-toxic, minerals. Excessive hardness makes it difficult for soap to lather, leaves spots on dishware and reduces water flow
- * Because 60 percent of an adult's body is water, it is essential to replenish the water lost through breathing, perspiration and excretion. For most people that equates to approximately 8 cups (2 liters) a day. We can consume water not only by drinking water, but also through food and other beverages.
- * Through the process of evaporation, condensation, precipitation and infiltration (the hydrological cycle) the total amount of water on the earth remains constant. The availability of fresh drinking water, however, continues to diminish, as demand continues to increase.

Source: American Water Work Association (AWWA) 2010

**The Rogers Memorial Library
& League of Women Voters**
present

**BEYOND EARTH DAY:
WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW** RMP844
with

 Brian Halweil, editor, Edible East End
Barbara Shinn, Shinn Vineyards
Kim Tetrault, Cornell Cooperative Extension
Scott Chaskey, Peconic Land Trust and Quail Hill Farm

**Monday, April 8, 2013
5:30 p.m., Morris Meeting Room**

East End environmental innovators will discuss their plans for 2013 and talk about what you can do throughout the year to implement the ideals of Earth Day.

Reservations are appreciated. Register at www.myrml.org or call 283-0774 x 523.

Continued from page 16

Although the impacts associated with infrastructure failure and runoff are often observable, the upward surge in storm driven groundwater can have numerous impacts that are not as readily apparent.

Surging ground waters (especially in coastal lowlands) can penetrate well casings and contaminate fresh water supplies with salt water, sediments and a wide array of contaminants. Although public water infrastructure is generally more resilient than private wells to such impacts, Public water systems can also be impacted if storm conditions break water mains, or result in backflows that bring contaminated water into contact with public supply mains.

Surging ground waters can also “float” residential septic systems (disrupting pipes, hydraulic conductivity, and operational functionality), and drive existing subsurface contamination from septic systems, leaking subsurface fuel storage tanks, and other toxic plumes upward into wells, basements, all the way to the ground surface.

In the days immediately after the impact of hurricane Sandy, the NYSDEC, registered nearly 2,500 oil spills on Long Island (4,600 statewide). These figures, while concerning, likely represent only a small fraction of oil/hydrocarbon and toxic contamination that was unleashed by surging flood and ground waters during and after the storm. It’s also clear that many ground water “spills” will never be reported or remediated.

Although it will take many months to collect and evaluate all the ground water and surface water contamination data in the aftermath of Sandy, it is undeniably clear that intense coastal storms, in combination with rising sea levels, and an unprecedented expansion coastal development, have converged as to act as a dangerous accelerant for water contamination island-wide, and for which there is virtually no long-term planning or management strategy.

It is also clear that there is a substantial gap between our individual and governmental understanding of storm-damage and the associated risks to human and environmental health arising from water contamination. We may currently be capable of closing shellfish beds when storms occur, but very little is being do to evaluate and manage the root causes of contamination before an event happens.

In the efforts to address Long Island’s long-term water quality problems, in an age of increasing storm frequency and intensity, state and local governments must begin to address the impacts of storm related water quality impacts as part of their overall community design, development, and construction, guidelines.

As much of our shoreline is already developed, there is also a vital need to incorporate post-storm recovery and hurricane impact mitigation planning in all local and regional land use and emergency management planning.

More From LWWH

Gellman and Samborn New Co-Chairs of Membership Committee

By Judi Roth

It’s frequently said that if you want something done, ask a busy person. Joanne Samborn is one of those people. Since moving to Southampton in 2004 with her husband, Howard, she’s become a founding member of GAIN (Green and Involved Now), works at the Rogers Library book sales, is secretary of the Southampton Dark Skies Advocacy Committee, and grows award-winning roses. To those who know Joanne, it comes as no surprise that she was selected NYU’s Nurse of the Year in 1988.

Joanne became active in the League through the Natural Resources Committee and during the 2012 election was co-captain of our registration drive in Southampton. She received our Voter Services Award for her efforts. It was through this work that Joanne became

convinced of the importance of increasing League membership and agreed to become co-chair of the Membership committee.

Estelle Gellman also agreed to be co-chair. The League is lucky that her term as second vice-president of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) ended this past June. That freed her to become more active in the League. Estelle became a board member in 2012. She is a Professor Emeritus at Hofstra University, where she taught Educational Psychology and Research; served as Chair of the Department of Counseling, Psychology and Research in Education; and Director of one of the doctoral programs. She was also Chair of the national AAUP Collective Bargaining Congress.

A League member in Great Neck, Estelle now lives in East Hampton, travels and “is trying to renovate my house and organize my life, a seemingly never-ending task.”

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Marsha Kranes

The Britt Family: Stacey, Tiger and Brooke

In what is believed to be a first, a family has joined the LWVH. It was a joint decision that mom Stacey; son Tiger, 16; and daughter Brooke, 14, made after listening to Education Committee members Terri Davgin and Anne Marshall discuss opportunities available to students during a PTSA program at Pierson HS in Sag Harbor.

The Britts settled in Sag Harbor three years ago after 15 years in Hong Kong. Stacey said, "I felt out of the loop" when it came to the U.S. political process and "I wanted my children to experience American life before going to college." She said the family had spent summers in Sag Harbor and "I decided it was where I would like us to live."

Stacey grew up in New Jersey and Maryland and earned a BA at the University of Maryland, where she majored in radio and TV. She worked for the World Wildlife Fund and Chanel before she and her husband moved to Hong Kong, where she had her children and focused "on them and their schooling there."

She's still involved with their schooling – as president of the Pierson PTSA. Tiger, a junior, is interest-

ed in politics and is contemplating a career in archeology. Brooke, a ninth grader, is interested in photography.

Julie Burmeister

Julie was born in Pittsburgh and has lived in a number of places, but she's always considered Bridgehampton her "main home." It's where her great-grandfather began summering in the late 1800s, where her grandfather bought a house 99 years ago, and where she spent her childhood and teen summers.

She grew up in the Philadelphia area and went to Cornell, majoring in zoology. She married in her senior year and after graduation lived in Boston and Charlottesville, Virginia, raising three children and teaching science.

In 1999, with her children grown, she served with the Peace Corps in Russia, where she taught English and started a library. When her two-year stint was over, she moved to Manhattan and again taught science. She also put down stakes in Bridgehampton by buying her family home.

Although she retired in 2011, Julie is still teaching – as a math and science sub. She's also active in the Bridgehampton Historical Society as a volunteer archivist. As a new LWVH member she's joined the Natural Resources Committee. "I believe strongly in that," she said, adding, "I'm a doer."

The Voter

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