WIND, A CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTION

By Susan Wilson, Natural Resources Committee Chair

On April 17, 2017 The Natural Resources Committee of LWVH presented a program entitled: WIND, A CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTION. Given the environmental importance of the topic and LIPA’s recent contract with Deepwater Wind to construct a wind farm 30 miles off the coast of Montauk, it isn’t surprising that the program drew a standing room only crowd to the Rogers Memorial Library.

Yesterday’s portable wooden windmills have become today’s sleek modern wind turbines. As a renewable energy source, wind power also comes with many environmental benefits, from cleaner air and water to reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Wind power produces no harmful emissions or hazardous wastes and requires no mining or drilling of fuel for its operation and doesn't use water. These benefits sustain people, wildlife, and the planet on which we live.

The program featured 2 speakers.* Michael Voltz, Director of Energy Efficiency & Renewables, PSEG of Long Island, discussed the electricity needs of Eastern Long Island and how wind power will contribute to meeting these future needs.

Clint Plummer, Vice President of Development with Deepwater Wind, spoke about the company’s wind farm site selection process, permit processes and turbine installation. Both panelists acknowledged the forward thinking & leadership of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and his goal to reach 50% renewable power by 2030.

All of the PowerPoint Presentation slides from this program are available on the LWVH website: lwvhamptons.org

* Doreen Harris, Program Manager Large Scale Renewables, NYSERDA was unable to attend due to a last minute scheduling conflict.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, May 7th
LWVH Annual Meeting
Hampton Bays Community Center
25 Ponquogue Avenue; Hampton Bays
2:00 pm

Friday, May 12th
Freedom Sisters and Suffragists
Southampton Arts Center
25 Jobs Lane; Southampton
6 pm

Sunday, June 11th
Antonia Petras speaking on Long Island Suffragists
John Jermain Library, Sag Harbor
2:00 pm

Tuesday, July 4th
July 4th Parade
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.

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President’s Message
By Judy Samuelson
This is my last President’s Message. On May 7, 2017, you will vote in a new slate of Board members, including this year, two new Co-Presidents. I am so grateful to have served for four years as Co-President along with Glorian Berk. We’ve worked hard, as has the rest of the Board and the members of our committees. But our efforts have been richly satisfying on so many levels. We’ve made new friendships, strengthened older ones and have a good sense of goals accomplished. My sincere thanks to everyone involved.

This year, Gladys Remler and Joanne McEvoy-Samborn really made the Special Events committee special. Our Special Events outings, in addition to raising much-needed funds, attract non-members who often join the League. In addition to tours of our villages, the committee held a luncheon with Kathleen King speaking about starting a business from nothing...twice! Events such as these make the Hamptons League award winners.

The Membership committee, led by Estelle Gellman and Joanne McEvoy-Samborn, followed up with frequent contacts to draw new members into more active participation. This year, we gained 11 new members. Some joined after attending a “special event.” More, including new friends from the North Fork, were inspired by the desire to register voters.

The Voter Services Committee outdid itself, sponsoring seven candidate debates that burnished our reputation as non-partisan, polished professionals. They registered new citizens as voters at the Islip Courthouse and at 14 locations on National Registration Day. Co-Chairs Carol Mellor and Anne Marshall appeared on local TV to explain political party convention and electoral vote processes and met with an East Hampton Latino support organization to provide information and materials regarding League voter registration processes. A committee member developed a Proposition Guide for the 2016 ballot question about CPF renewal and funding distribution. Other members developed and broadcast PSA’s about reminders to vote and worked with local high school students to assist at debates. And that’s a partial list!

Valerie King reenergized the Health Committee and along with various members including Beverly Dixon, organized site visits to Planned Parenthood, East End Hospice, The Association for Habitation and Residential Care, Phoenix House and more. They interview the CEO of Southampton Hospital annually and provide needed updates on our only area hospital. The Health committee can be relied on for solidly informative articles to each issue of The Voter.

Estelle Gellman, chair of the Government Committee, led studies for the State including Legislative Procedures and the issue of a Constitutional Convention; organized lobbying visits and presented a forum supporting passage of a ballot referendum on extending the CPF for another 20 years.

The Education Committee, helmed by Judi Roth, continued “Students Day at the Suffolk Legislature” as well as Students Inside Albany, presented several Vote 18’s, went to Youth Court and selected a Desch Scholarship winner. Judi also serves as an off-board specialist in Youth Voter Education for the New York State League.

The Natural Resources Committee presented a timely public information meeting about the wind turbines soon to provide renewable energy to the East End. Chairperson Sue Wilson had her hands full organizing this April event, confronting first a change of location, then loss of one speaker and finally, the closure of Main Street on the evening of our event.

Still, no one would have known about our work if not for skilled media placement by our PR agent supreme, Arlene Hinkemeyer. I support her with Constant Contact e-blasts, Facebook and our website. The Voter would cease to exist without Cathy Peacock, who took on the role of Advertising Manager in addition to serving as Treasurer. There would be no Voter content without Estelle Gellman, Judi Roth, Arlene Hinkemeyer (and me!), who rotate as editors of our award-winning publication.

I wish our new co-presidents the best of luck. I have no doubt they will find the position as satisfying as I have!
Voting Reforms for New York State

By Carol Mellor and Anne Marshall, Voter Services Committee Co-chairs

It is apparent that major reforms are needed to our voting laws. New York’s voting systems are antiquated, cumbersome and serve to discourage, rather than encourage, voting. Are these rules the reason for our abysmal voter turnout rate (we perennially rank in the lowest percentages)? Well, they certainly are not helping. Innovations, which other states have adopted years ago, such as early voting, streamlined registration processes, modern voter registration recordkeeping, are among the changes for which the League has been working for years, but which do not seem to be among the priorities of our state legislators.

In the last Voter, we discussed the joint statement which the LWVHNYS and our good government partners - The Brennan Center, NYPIRG, Common Cause and Citizens Union - issued detailing some of the reforms deemed to be necessary. We reported on the visit made to the Suffolk County Board of Elections, and the likelihood (or lack thereof) that voting procedure reforms are in the offing.

Now, we take a closer look at some of the reforms being promoted by the League, as well as our good government partners:

“Opt-Out” Voter Registration:
This reform changes the basic premise of voter registration to the idea that the default should be that everyone eligible to be registered is indeed registered, rather than requiring people to take steps to affirmatively register. Under an opt-out registration system, county boards of elections automatically and electronically receive the information necessary to add citizens to the voter rolls when they interact with other New York State government agencies. It is not mandatory registration: citizens are always provided the opportunity to “opt out,” and no information enters the registration rolls without approval. Opt-out voter registration has three primary benefits: (1) it increases the accuracy of the rolls, because paperless systems leave less room for human error and because more up-to-date and frequent registration information from voters means outdated or duplicate records can be eliminated; (2) it saves states money because less is spent on staff time, paper processing, and mailing, among other expenses; and (3) it boosts registration rates and turnout.

Implementation of Electronic Poll Books Statewide:
Almost everything in our lives is computerized. Yet, when we show up to vote, the record of our registration is kept in a record book, reminiscent of the loose-leaf books in which we kept our school records generations ago. These books require countless hours to produce and update. Pilot projects in two upstate counties achieved positive results with electronic poll books; a poll conducted by the Presidential Commission on Election Administration of elections clerks and administrators put electronic poll books at the top of their election reform priority lists.

Implementation of Early Voting:
As previously reported, the Suffolk County Board of Elections seems to think that this reform is in the offing. The good government groups, however, have specific recommendations for the implementation of early voting to ensure an effective program. These recommendations include:

- Early voting should occur for two weeks inclusive of two weekends, with at least some weekday voting hours scheduled before and after typical business hours
- Effective public notice of the days, hours and locations for early voting in that county
- Coordinate early voting with other voting reforms such as the use of electronic poll books to limit the costs of early voting
- State funding for early voting
- Consideration of variables such as the type of election, the size of the voting population and its density with the count, the number of assembly districts covered, in determining the number and location of the early voting sites

Make Ballots More Voter-Friendly:
New York voters should be able to vote on ballots that are easy to read and understand. New York’s rules, which were designed with the old lever voting machines are unduly complicated. Design standards will assist counties in designing ballots that deliver clear instructions, demarcate races and candidates effectively, eliminate “split contests” where candidates for a single office spill over onto more than one row, and on which important policy referendum are relegated to the back of the ballot where they can be easily overlooked.

The suggestions outlined above, highlight some, but not all, of the reforms which are deemed essential to our voting systems. Governor Cuomo proposed two reforms that would have made voting more accessible, automatic voter registration and early voting would have reduced lines on Election Day and empowered voters to cast their ballot when it is most convenient. These proposed reforms were once again left behind while the legislature adopted the budget. We have another opportunity during this legislative session to enact these basic fixes to our unwieldy voting procedures. As the NYS League has argued: In this 100th anniversary year of women getting the right to vote in New York, it is time to bring our state into the twenty first century.
LWVH Hosts or Co-Sponsors Eight Events For 100th Anniversary of Women’s Vote in NYS

By Arlene Hinkemeyer, 100th Anniversary Committee Chair

Do save these dates, and do attend, to learn all about the amazing suffrage leaders on Long Island and to celebrate the 100th anniversary of women winning the vote in NYS on November 6, 1917.

• **Sunday, April 23**, 1:30 p.m. LWVH co-sponsored at Amagansett Library, talk by Syracuse University professor Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner, on Belva Lockwood, woman presidential candidate in 1884.)

• **Friday, May 12**, 6 p.m. LWVH co-sponsoring “Freedom Sisters & Suffragists,” a program, by Sag Harbor’s Eastville Community Historical Society of readings from African-American and Suffragist leaders, at Southampton Arts Center, 25 Jobs Lane, refreshments, $5.

• **Sunday, June 11**, 2 p.m. LWVH co-sponsoring Antonia Petrash’s excellent talk on L.I. Suffragists at Sag Harbor’s John Jermain Library. Antonia, a member of Port Washington/Mahasset LWV, is president of the Long Island Woman’s Suffrage Association and author of “Long Island and the Woman Suffrage Movement.”

• **July 4 Parade** in Southampton. LWVH will march, wearing white, and “Votes for Women” sashes. Do sign up at the LWVH Annual Meeting on May 7; buy your sash there for $8 or email Judi Roth at rothhandj@yahoo.com or Arlene at ahinkemeyer@optonline.net

• **Thursday, July 13**, 11 a.m. LWVH co-sponsoring Natalie Naylor’s excellent talk on “Winning Votes for Women,” which is about L.I. suffrage leaders, at Southampton Historical Museum, 17 Meeting House Lane. Dr. Naylor is a retired Hofstra professor, president of the Nassau County Historical Society, and has published and spoken extensively on women’s history.

• **Thursday, August 24**, 2-4 p.m. LWVH hosting re-creation of August 1913 suffrage rally in East Hampton, starting in front of suffrage leader May Groot Manson’s house (with historic suffrage marker) on Main Street, across from Presbyterian Church. We’ll wear white or period dress, “Votes for Women” sashes, and can choose to be one of the prominent women/men who marched in 1913 (names recorded in E.H. Star article). Rally ends with program/refreshments at E.H. Library. Buy your sash for $8, sign up at LWVH Annual Meeting or email ahinkemeyer@optonline.net. Committee members are inviting many other local groups to participate.

• **Thursday, October 19**, 6 p.m. LWVH co-sponsoring East Hampton Library’s Tom Twomey Lecture Series talk by Antonia Petrash and Arlene Hinkemeyer on Long Island and South Fork suffrage leaders. Moderated by Judith Hope, hosted by Brooke Kroeger. Includes student presentation and reception. Co-sponsored by E.H. Town and Village.

• **Sunday, November 19**, 3 p.m. LWVH co-sponsoring Suffrage Musical Revue! at Southampton Arts Center, $10. More news later.

Special Events Committee Report

By Gladys Reimler and Joanne Samborn, Special Events Committee Co-Chairs

Our committee is presently exploring future events to be enjoyed by all. Always wanting to try something new, we may have a "Women’s Health Day". Experts from the health and fitness fields will be part of this event as well as teachers of relaxation techniques. We all lead busy lives and this program might make the time spent in pursuing our goals a bit easier. This event will take place in a venue with a convivial atmosphere in which we renew friendships and learn some interesting facts along the way.

Also in the planning stage is a visit to the community of Greenport. This event will look at the community’s interesting past as well as the new vibrancy it is experiencing at the moment.

We have more in store and always welcome suggestions. Stay informed with LWVH and we look forward to seeing all of you at our "special events".
Government Committee Report

By Estelle Gellman, Government Committee Chair

Shortly after our presentation on the upcoming New York State Constitutional Convention, we learned that the NYS League will be advocating in favor of a Constitutional Convention. It was believed that a Constitutional Convention will provide a much needed opportunity to fix problems that the legislature has been reluctant to tackle, e.g., voting reforms, bringing New York’s elections into the 21st century; rooting out corruption, including reducing the influence of money in our political system and instituting an effective ethics enforcement agency; fair legislative redistricting, completely removed from sitting legislators; streamlining and modernizing our court system, making it more effective; reinforcing and strengthening our bill of rights, guaranteeing our personal freedoms and meeting our basic human needs. The LWV Hamptons Government Committee will be continuing to provide education on the Constitutional Convention and will be contacting community groups who might want us to make a short presentation on the issues involved to their members. Although our position is in favor of a Constitutional Convention and we will be advocating for that position, we will take care to differentiate between our education and advocacy roles.

We are also planning to advocate for the issues put forth in the NYS League’s Legislative Packet: election reform (see the Voter Services Committee Report in this issues of the Voter); reform of the delegate selection procedure for a Constitutional Convention; and an amendment to Article I of the NYS Constitution to make clean air and water a citizen right.

We welcome all members to join the committee and participate in our activities. Please contact Estelle Gellman at cpreg@hofstra.edu if you are interested.

Safely Storing Your Food

By Susan Wilson

Storing Produce
Leave refrigerated produce unwashed in its original packaging or wrapped loosely in a plastic bag. (Exceptions, such as mushrooms and herbs, are noted below.)

If your greens seem sandy or dirty—think lettuce from the farmers’ market—rinse and dry them well, then wrap them in a paper towel before placing in a plastic bag.

Fruits and vegetables stored at room temperature should be removed from any packaging and left loose.

Fruits that should not be stored in the Refrigerator: Avocados, Apricots, Bananas, Oranges, Kiwi Fruit, Melons, Nectarines, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Pineapples, Tomatoes

Storing Seafood, Meat and Poultry
Seafood should be stored in the refrigerator and used within 2 days of purchase. Keep meat & poultry in the original packaging in the refrigerator. For short time freezing, slip the entire package into a re-sealable freezer bag. To freeze for several months, wrap pieces individually before bagging. This helps eliminate freezer burn.

Sources: well.blogs.nytimes.com, GreenLivingtips.com, RealSimple.com, Seafood-Healthfacts.org
Highlights of Board of Directors Meeting, April 5, 2017

After the meeting was called to order, Naomi Epstein thanked the Board for the cards and letters she received during her recent health crisis and indicated that although she was leaving the Board, she would be glad to continue serving on her committees of interest.

Information Items:
- After studying the local league discussions and input, the LWVNY’s decided to support holding a Constitutional Convention in NYS in November.
- Arlene Hinkemeyer wrote to the seven villages in that last spring I and the Voter Services co-chairs, North Haven, Sagaponack, Sag Harbor, Southampton, Westhampton Beach and Westhampton Dunes, it’s timely to mention the new pink absentee ballot applications, which are now available in the village halls. This was a program goal set at the May 2016 LWVH Annual Meeting, and we are happy to report that it was accomplished.
- Anne Marshall and Carol Mellor, wrote to the seven villages in East Hampton and Southampton Towns to ask them to update their absentee ballot applications.
- This action originated from a phone call that Arlene Hinkemeyer had received on the League phone, from a voter inquiring why the village absentee ballot applications were still so intrusive. Un-

Committee Reports:
- Special Events – Finalizing the fund raiser brunch / pancake demo on April 26th at the Inn Spot in Hampton Bays. Cheffe Collette will give the history of pancakes from around the world, followed by a cooking demonstration and tasting.
- VSC - Anne has the Suffolk County DPO’s with her and asks that we distribute them to the appropriate libraries and town halls.
- Government – At a planning meeting on April 4th Cathy Peacock and Ann Sanford agreed to cochair the committee when Estelle becomes co-president. Since the LWVNYS came out in favor of the Constitutional Convention the committee will make speakers available to community groups and is preparing scripts for them to explain and advocate for this issue. They will visit local, county and state representatives soon. They hope to re-institute the Observer Corp and attract new members to the committee.
- Education – The chair, Judi Roth, is looking for a co-chair as she would like to get involved with other committees. Two Westhampton Beach students will be going to the Students Inside Albany.
- Members – The committee reports 95 members plus 15 joint memberships, totaling 125 members. An early bird dues request will be mailed at the end of the month.
- Public Relations / 100th Anniversary – Arlene reported a new monthly broadsheet “The East End Beacon” starting this month. The Pomeroy Foundation awarded a grant for the historic marker in front of the May Great Manson home on Main Street in East Hampton.
- Natural Resources – Susan noted that the venue for the windfarm PIM was changed to the Rogers Memorial Library.
- Health – The committee has been monitoring the NY Health Act in the State Legislature. The bill was supported in the Assembly but still has to pass the Senate. It is currently in the Senate Health Committee. Valerie attended a lunch by the LWV-NYC with Barbara Bartoletti as speaker. Barbara spoke of woman’s reproductive rights and the fact that NY has never codified the Roe v Wade decision; a top league priority for this legislative session. On 4/25 state representatives soon. They hope to reinstitute the Observer Corp and attract new members to the committee.

Upcoming Events:
- May 7, Annual meeting.
- We are also co-sponsoring library lectures.
  April 23, at Amagansett Library: Before Hillary, there was Belva.
  June 11 at 2 PM: Antonia Petrasch at Sag Harbor.
  July 13 at 11 AM, Dr. Natalie Naylor at the Southampton History Museum.

Voter Services Successful in Updating Villages’ Absentee Ballot Applications

By Arlene Hinkemeyer

With village elections coming up this June in East Hampton, North Haven, Sagaponack, Sag Harbor, Southampton, Westhampton Beach and Westhampton Dunes, it’s timely to mention that last spring I and the Voter Services committee co-chairs, Anne Marshall and Carol Mellor, wrote to the seven villages in East Hampton and Southampton Towns to ask them to update their absentee ballot applications.

This action originated from a phone call that Arlene Hinkemeyer had received on the League phone, from a voter inquiring why the village absentee ballot applications were still so intrusive. Un-

like the NYS Board of Elections applications (used for federal, state, county and town elections), which had been updated in 2010, the village applications still asked personal questions, such as where you expected to be on vacation and the name/address of your employer, or the name of the doctor and the hospital where you would be confined on election day.

The villages notified me that they all worked together to acquire the new pink absentee ballot applications, which are now available in the village halls. This was a program goal set at the May 2016 LWVH Annual Meeting, and we are happy to report that it was accomplished.
LWVSC and the Suffolk County Legislature collaborated on two successful Student Day at the SC Legislature conferences in Hauppauge on March 29 and in Riverhead on April 7, exposing over 100 high school students to a “behind the scenes view” culminating in their own mock Legislative session.

LWVSC Annual Convention
Thursday, May 18, 2017 10am-2pm

300 West Main St., Riverhead NY
http://www.suffolkcountyhistoricalsociety.org/

Speaker: Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone

Cost includes coffee/tea on arrival, lunch buffet with dessert, complimentary raffle ticket and admission to museum
$30 LWV members in advance
$35 at door for LWV members and all non-members

Send check (made out to LWV of Suffolk County) before May 11 to:
Glorian Berk, PO Box 766, Water Mill, NY 11976

Agenda (subject to change):
10:00- museum doors open, check in, coffee/tea
10:30- meeting begins, CE Bellone speaks 10:45-11:30
12:00- business meeting and buffet lunch
2:00- meeting adjourns, tour museum as you wish
A Day at the Suffolk County Legislature for East End Students

By Judi Roth, Education Committee Chair

Our Students Inside Suffolk County Legislature event was held on April 7th at the Riverhead offices of the Legislature. The Riverhead space, while smaller than the Hauppauge offices where we met in 2015, is much cozier and enabled better communication and movement throughout the day. From the moment the students began to arrive, there was a feeling of positive anticipation in the auditorium that carried on throughout the day. Students from all the schools attending (Southampton, Bridgehampton, Pierson and Westhampton from the Hamptons and Bellport, Shoreham-Wading River and Central Moriches from Brookhaven) were clearly interested in the topic to be addressed in the mock legislative session: “Should Suffolk County Become a Sanctuary County?”

Each of the speakers wove the topic into their presentations. After a bagel breakfast and brief welcome by myself and Lora Gellerstein, Deputy to the Presiding Officer, Legislators Kevin McCaffrey and Bridget Fleming spoke about how the Legislature functions and how a bill/resolution becomes a law. Legislator Fleming (who is our representative for the First District which covers 88,000 people) pointed out that one way bills get put forth is that the legislators bring their own focus and interests with them, i.e., the things they ran on, and they have certain things that they want to accomplish. Another is when a constituent or a group brings something to their attention that needs to be taken care of in the district. Legislative Counsel, George Nolan and his staff assist in drafting local laws and resolutions. Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory spoke movingly about how he found his way into government and how fulfilling he finds it to be a “steward of your hard-earned tax dollars”.

Under Sheriff Joe Caracappa was the next speaker and he presented what he called “a dose of reality” about what it is like to deal with “vicious illegal immigrants”. He told stories about the MS-13 gang which has been terrorizing people in Western Suffolk and how they are responsible for much of the crime and drug trafficking in our area. This was contrary to the views of many students in the audience who questioned him and asked how much of the crime in the County was actually committed by illegal immigrants. His response was about 25% but he said that no one has the right to break a law and that illegal immigrants who come here have already done that.

Clerk of the Legislature, Jason Richards then divided the students into their groups. Students played legislators, lobbyists, members of non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), a correction officer, a police officer, a business person, a member of the White House staff, and people with their own stories about the proposed law. Each group then met with either a legislator or legislative staff member to discuss their roles and to write their own 3-minute statements which would be spoken by the students at the session.

There were two mock legislative sessions to accommodate the 52 students who were present. The kids were great and we were all impressed with the statements they made both supporting and opposing the proposed law.

On behalf of the Education Committee and the LWVH, I’d like to thank Lora Gellerstein and her staff for welcoming us and our students and we look forward to a return visit next year.
By Beverly A. Dixon

Nestled between Gabreski Airport and the Air National Guard Base in Westhampton Beach is the East End site of AHRC Suffolk (Association for Habilitation and Residential Care). AHRC Suffolk is a not-for-profit organization which provides programs and services for adults with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. In the East End, AHRC serves individuals residing in communities from William Floyd Parkway to Bridgehampton and Greenport. AHRC offers adults with disabilities a variety of services and opportunities with varying degrees of structure and support. Adults, ranging in age from young adult to senior citizen, are offered opportunities in all areas of life including day options, work opportunities, residential services and weekend and residential respite options.

Recently, Health Committee Chair Valerie King and I visited AHRC Suffolk. On our arrival, we were greeted by our hosts for the day Alisha Coupe and Jean Kelly who serve as Program Administrators. To support the needs of the attending adults, AHRC staffs a clinical team comprised of four nurses, physical, occupational, and speech therapists, and four Behavioral Intervention Specialists. Direct Support Professionals are prepared to assist the individuals with the “hands on” activities of daily life.

The first stop on our visit was the Senior Room where the group had just returned from a Zumba class. The senior program also includes a variety of other fun activities including art and yoga classes, Spanish, cooking, and travel clubs. Next stop was the Cooking Training Room where individuals are trained in both cooking skills and kitchen sanitation procedures. In addition to providing kitchen training, the AHRC staff provides other individualized services one of which is training in cleaning techniques. In fact, AHRC Suffolk has a trained “clean team” that provides outside cleaning services not only to their own AHRC residential homes, but also occasional service in private homes.

Continuing on, we visited the Repositioning Room equipped with special lounging chairs. For adults confined to wheel chairs, this room provides an opportunity to stretch out in comfort or to relax and enjoy the sensory light show projected onto the walls, an important part of the day for individuals with physical disabilities. For individuals that are not as physically handicapped, there is the sewing room where inspiration and imagination take over to create “red hats”, purses, fashions, and costumes for special events such as Alice in Wonderland play or backdrops for Museum Night.

Perhaps the highlight of the visit was a stroll through the workshop area. AHRC eWORKS is an approved collection site for environmentally safe (zero landfill) electronic disposal. Used electronic items are recycled into meaningful work for people with developmental disabilities throughout Nassau/Suffolk Counties. AHRC provides a sheltered workshop in which individuals are trained in such skills as disassembling cable boxes and recycling make-up compacts. In fact, AHRC has contracts with several local companies to recycle their used products. On the day of our visit the workshop was busy with the recycling of cable boxes on a contract with Cablevision. Many of the individuals working on the boxes were all too happy to meet us and with great pride explain their contribution to the work in progress, for which they earn a nominal stipend. Unfortunately, the sheltered workshop program is scheduled to be discontinued by 2020, and the individuals trained for transitioning into the community.

AHRC is funded primarily through Medicaid and there is no fee for appropriate individuals to participate in the services provided. But due to significant past and possible future cuts in Medicaid funding, AHRC also relies on support generated by grants, donations, and fund raising. Donations can be made through the AHRC website at www.ahrcsuffolk.org and designated for the Westhampton Beach facility.
Time to Renew Your Dues

By Estelle Gellman and Joanne McEvoy-Samborn, Membership Committee Co-chairs

It is that time of year again and you should have received your early bird dues request. We urge you not to let that dues envelope get lost under the piles of papers on your desk and, if you haven’t yet done so, to send in your dues as soon as possible. We need your dues to provide all the services we do: candidate debates, public information meetings (PIMs) on topics of community concern, voter registration drives, election and candidate information, advocacy, and more.

We appreciate your continuing support and welcome not only your dues but also your active participation in our activities. It is not only a way of contributing to our community but a way to develop new friendships with like-minded individuals.

### Membership Application

**Not a member of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons?**

Please join us by mailing this application form and a check payable to LWVH to: League of Women Voters of the Hamptons; P.O. Box 2253; East Hampton, NY 11937

![LWV Logo](LWV.png)

Individual Member’s Name ____________________________________________________________

Other Household Member’s Name _______________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________________

Email(s) ___________________________ Home phone ____________ Cell phone ____________

**Membership Dues:** □ Full-time Student $15   □ Household $90   □ Individual $60

Donations to our local league may be made payable to LWVHamptons and may be included in your dues check. Tax-deductible donations may be made by separate check payable to: LWVNYS - Education Foundation

I am interested in:

___ Education Committee   ___ Membership Committee   ___ Voter Services Committee
___ Government Committee   ___ Natural Resources Committee   ___ Communications
___ Health Committee   ___ Special Events Committee

*Questions? Call us at 631-324-4637 or email: membership@lwvhamptons.org*
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The League of Women Voters

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