September 2017

September 18 Forum Focuses On Ballot Issue: Pros and Cons of a Constitutional Convention

By Cathy Peacock, Government Committee Co-Chair

In the November 7, 2017 election, New York State voters will be asked to vote on whether or not we should have a Constitutional Convention.

The call for a Constitutional Convention comes only every 20 years, so it is not a topic many people are familiar with or understand the implications and opportunities.

In preparation for the vote, the League would like to educate its members and the public about the issue. The Government Committee held a public information meeting at the Bridgehampton library on March 13, to provide input to the State League as it requested. A second meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 7 p.m. at the Hampton Bays Senior Center, 25 Ponquogue Ave., taped by Southampton Town’s SEA-TV.

Topics that will be covered include: what is in the New York State constitution; how is it amended; if a Constitutional Convention is approved in November, how will the delegates be selected; how will the convention work; what are the possible convention topics; and what are the pros and cons of a convention.

The State League supports calling a Constitutional Convention because it will provide New Yorkers with the opportunity to consider critical reforms that Albany has refused to undertake. There is much lobbying by special interest groups opposing a convention. Join us on September 18 to make up your own mind.

SAVE THE DATES

Monday, September 18, 7 p.m.
Hampton Bays Sr. Center, 25 Ponquogue Ave.

Government Committee Presents
Pros & Cons of the November Ballot Issue
“Should We Have a Constitutional Convention?”

Tuesday, September 26
National Voter Registration Day
LWVH at sites throughout the East End.
To help, contact Voter Services Co-Chairs.

Monday, October 16, 7 p.m.
East Hampton Town Candidates Debate
Emergency Services Bldg., Cedar St.

Thursday, October 19, 6 p.m.
East Hampton Library Tom Twomey Lecture Series
Program on Suffrage; Petrash/Hinkemeyer speak.
Co-sponsored by LWV, Town & Village of E.H.

Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m.
Southampton Town Candidates Debate
Rogers Memorial Library
Co-Presidents’ Message

By Susan Wilson

Summer 2017 has certainly been memorable on many levels—unpredictable weather, meteor showers, a Solar Eclipse and a surprise Best Patriotic Entry trophy to LWVH for our participation in the Southampton Town Fourth of July Parade (photos in this issue).

League members, both men and women, marched to celebrate the accomplishments of local and national Suffragist leaders Lizbeth Halsey White of Southampton, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucretia Mott.

Dressed in white and wearing “Votes for Women” sashes, marchers said they felt like rock stars because they received a standing ovation along the entire parade route. Thanks to Sue Bieger whose bright red convertible got the crowd’s attention. Well done, Suffragists!

The League’s year-long celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Women getting the Right to Vote in New York State is well underway with activities all across the state. Be sure to check for upcoming local events co-sponsored by LWVH. Plan now to attend the October 19 Tom Twomey Lecture Series suffrage program at the East Hampton Library and the November 19 Suffrage Musical Revue at the Southampton Arts Center. Unfortunately the re-creation of the East Hampton Suffragist Rally on August 24th was held after this September Voter’s mid-August deadline, so photos will not appear until the October issue of the Voter.

Once again a record number of tourists, day trippers and seasonal renters flocked to the Hamptons to enjoy our beautiful beaches, waterways and parks. They brought with them gridlock traffic at every intersection. The “back roads” that once offered a quick “secret” route around it all are now clogged beyond belief. All the more reason for LWVH to continue to protect our environment by monitoring all local activities related to land use, the quality of our air and drinking water, renewable energy and our natural resources. Be sure to read any Natural Resources Committee articles for more information and join the committee if these issues are important to you.

As summer draws to an end and cooler temperatures become the norm, LWVH moves into high gear. The Voter Services Committee is organizing Candidate Debates including a Democratic Primary Debate this year for East Hampton Town Board, co-sponsored with the East Hampton Group for Good Government and the East Hampton Library. The Government Committee will also be busy educating voters on the pros & cons of the proposed New York State Constitutional Convention Referendum which will appear on the ballot on November 7 and is preparing a voters’ Proposition Guide.

In conjunction with other Suffolk County Leagues, LWVH continues to register new citizens to vote at the Naturalization Ceremonies at the US Federal Courthouse in Islip, NY. You can volunteer to help with new citizen registration or with National Voter Registration Day, September 26, 2017, by contacting the Voter Services Committee.

The League continues to push for Election Law Reform to bring New York State voting systems into the 21st century. Early voting, same day registration and no-excuse absentee ballots are among the important areas of concentration and would all improve voter registration and increase voter turn-out.

Looking for a way to get involved? Follow your passion, choose a committee and join us now. You can make a difference.
LWVH Celebrates the 2017 Centennial of Women’s Vote in NYS
By Arlene Hinkemeyer, 100th Anniversary Committee Chair

In a May 12 program of readings titled “Freedom Sisters & Suffragists” at Southampton Arts Center, headed by Dr. Georgette Grier-Key of Sag Harbor’s Eastville Community Historical Society, Martha Potter represented suffragist Susan B. Anthony. Other Leaguers doing readings were Anne Marshall and Judi Roth. The event was co-sponsored by LWVH, S.H. Library and Historical Museum.

On July 13, Mary Cummings of the Southampton Historical Museum introduced suffrage speaker/Nassau County Historical Society president Dr. Natalie Naylor, right, in a program co-sponsored by LWVH. The League also co-sponsored L.I. Woman Suffrage Ass’n president Antonia Petrash’s talk on L.I. suffrage leaders at Sag Harbor’s library on June 11.

Fifteen LWVH members marched in Southampton’s 4th of July Parade, wearing white, “Votes for Women” sashes, and carrying signs in tribute to women winning the vote in NYS in 1917 and in honor of Southampton suffrage leader Lizbeth Halsey White.

After the 4th of July parade, the League was surprised to receive a huge 36” tall trophy for “Best Patriotic Entry” from the Southampton Village Commission on Patriotic Events.

On the pitcher’s mound at the 69th annual East Hampton Artists v. Writers charity softball game on August 19 at Herrick Park, opening ceremonies celebrated the 100th anniversary. Introduced were, left to right, E.H. Village Mayor Paul F. Rickenbach Jr., Rabbi/Cantor Debra Stein, Suffolk County Legislator Bridget Fleming, NYS Lt. Gov. Governor Kathy Hochul, first Long Island female town supervisor Judith Hope of East Hampton, LWVH co-presidents Susan Wilson and Estelle Gellman, and Southampton Town Justice Andrea Schiavoni.
Five Attend LWVNYS Convention in June; Bring Back Awards

By Arlene Hinkemeyer

Five of us from the Hamptons LWV—Carol Mellor representing the State League, and Glorian Berk, Barbara McClancy, Susan Wilson and I as voting delegates of the Hamptons LWV—attended the June 9-11 LWVNYS 57th Biennial Convention at the Syracuse/Liverpool Holiday Inn.

Pre-Convention Trip to Seneca Falls

Titled “Failure Is Impossible”—the oft-quoted words of suffragist Susan B. Anthony—the convention included a June 9 trip to the site of the 1848 Women’s Rights Convention in nearby Seneca Falls, which was a highlight of the convention experience.

There at Seneca Falls, we toured the grounds of the home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton (co-head of the 1848 convention with Lucretia Mott); stopped by the statue of Amelia Jenks Bloomer introducing Stanton to Susan B. Anthony a few years later; toured the small National Women’s Hall of Fame and viewed the site of the new larger museum across the river; and toured the Women’s Rights National Historical Park which includes the Wesleyan Chapel where the 1848 convention took place. At Wesleyan Chapel we were greatly moved by the presentation of the Elizabeth Cady Stanton impersonator.

Two New Programs

At the plenary sessions of the convention, the credentials committee reported 83 voting delegates. In the business portion of the meeting, we passed two State-recommended programs. One was to update our state position on Charter Schools, adopted in 2006, by deleting the 100 charter school cap, since it has already been exceeded over the years. The State League will send information to local Leagues, along with a response form.

The second is a concurrence study on LWV Utah’s Death With Dignity position. This topic is not covered under current Health Care positions. See Health Committee Chair Valerie King’s article, where she notes that an LWVH concurrence meeting on this topic has already been scheduled for Monday, November 13.

Budget

The delegates also voted to pass the 2017-18 LWVNYS Budget of $294,000. In this political climate, state membership has increased to 3,729 members. The PMP (per member payment) to State League by local Leagues remains the same, at $20 pp for single memberships, $10 pp for household members. Honorary memberships and student memberships are free.

Elections

Dare Thompson of the Mid-Hudson LWV was re-elected president. 1st Vice President/Voter Services is Judie Gorenstein of the Huntington LWV; 2nd Vice President/Issues & Advocacy is Sally Robinson of NYC. Our own Carol Mellor was re-elected Grassroots Director.

Outgoing State Board members were thanked for their service, and our own Susan Wilson, who had served over the years on the Nominating Committee and for the past four years as 2nd

Vice President/Development, received a beautiful red Susan B. Anthony shawl.

Workshops

Our League delegates split up to attend the various info sessions and caucuses offered over the three days. They included workshops on:

• The League’s Future (which covered some streamlining options);
• C3 or C4 (Should our 501c3 LWVNYS Education Foundation and 501c4 LWVNYS consider merging?);
• An Explanation of the LWVNYS support for the NYS Constitutional Convention ballot proposal;
• Turning New Members Into Leaders;
• Getting Candidates to Forums and Debates;
• Events, Parties, Direct Mail—What’s the Best Way to Raise Money?;
• Celebrating Women’s Suffrage: Education, Events & Visibility;
• Social Media and Apps for Engaging New Members;
• Environmental Issues;
• Become a Player in Your Community—Hot Topics, Observer Corps, Collaboration.

Awards

At the Awards Dinner on Saturday night, our Hamptons LWV received two awards!—the Inez Milholland Women’s History Award for its 100th Anniversary Committee events, submitted by Arlene Hinkemeyer, Chair; and the Eleanor Roosevelt Youth Program Award, shared with the Huntington LWV, for our Education Committee events, submitted by Judi Roth, Chair.

We also received three Honorable Mentions: the Victoria Woodhull Get Out the Vote Award, submitted by Voter Services Committee Chair Anne Marshall; the Carrie Chapman Catt Visibility and Leadership Award, submitted by Glorian Berk; and the Harriet Tubman Off the Beaten Path Award,

Continued on page 19
The 2017 Election Season Revs Up

By Carol Mellor, Voter Services Committee Co-Chair

The Voter Services committee began planning for the 2017 election season during the summer and, as fall approaches, its plans are in place.

National Voter Registration Day, September 26

We will, once again, participate in National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 26. This national program involves many organizations, including the League, whose members fan out throughout the country to encourage citizens to register to vote. The Hamptons League has traditionally been very active on this day, staffing up to twelve locations on the East End. Participation in this program is important for several reasons. It reminds our neighbors about the upcoming election and the importance of registering to vote, it makes the League visible in the community, and it is fun to join with other League members in this project. We urge all members to consider joining us on that day. For more information, contact Carol Mellor (camellor@aol.com; 646-701-3101) or Anne Marshall (apghnyc@aol.com; 631-766-3687).

Candidate Debates: August 28, October 16 and 26

- We held, with co-sponsors East Hampton Library and the East Hampton GGG (Group for Good Government), a debate on August 28 among Democratic Town Board candidates, before the Democratic primary election on September 12.
- The debate among the candidates for East Hampton Town Supervisor and Town Board will be held on Monday, October 16, 7 p.m. at the Emergency Services Building on Cedar Street in East Hampton.
- The Southampton debate for Town Supervisor and Town Board will be on Thursday, October 26, 7 p.m. at Rogers Memorial Library.
- As of this writing, plans are uncertain for a debate for the office of Suffolk County Legislator.

Three Propositions on NYS Ballot in November

On a statewide level, we have learned that there will be three propositions on the ballot in November.

1. The first, of which you should already be aware, is the question of whether we should hold a NYS Constitutional Convention. Our government committee has been working extremely hard to educate the public and our members on this topic.

2. The other two are also both proposed Constitutional amendments. One would allow a court to reduce or revoke the pension of a public officer who is convicted of a felony that has a direct and actual relationship to the performance of the public officer’s duties. As of now, the state constitution prohibits the diminution of a public officer’s pension, even if that person has been convicted of official misconduct. This amendment would permit, but not require, a court to reduce or revoke that pension.

3. The other concerns the use of forest preserve land. New York State’s Constitution protects the State’s forest preserve as wild forest land and generally prohibits the lease, sale, exchange, or taking of any forest preserve land. The proposed amendment will create two exceptions to this broad protection of the forest. It would create a land account of up to 250 acres of forest preserve land. A town, village, or county can apply to the land account if it has no viable alternative to using forest preserve land for certain limited health and safety purposes. The State will acquire 250 acres, subject to approval by the Legislature, to incorporate into the forest preserve to replace the land placed in the health and safety land account. In addition, the proposed amendment would allow bicycle paths and certain public utility lines to be located within the widths of some highways that traverse forest preserve land. The proposed amendment expressly will not permit the construction of a new intrastate gas or oil pipeline that did not receive necessary state and local permits and approvals by June 1, 2016.
Opening Business:
• At the start of the meeting, Susan Wilson and others reported the great turnout for the Southampton 4th of July parade. The LWVH was represented by 15 members wearing white and “Votes for Women” sashes in celebration of the 100th anniversary of women winning the vote in NYS in 1917. Sue Bieger provided a red convertible, and marchers carried banners proclaiming “NY Women Won the Vote in 1917” and “LWV Honors Southampton Suffragist Lizbeth Halsey White.” Parade goers were enthusiastic and applauded the League for its good work. Southampton Village Mayor Mark Epley recognized the League contingent when it passed the reviewing stand, and the League was later awarded “Best Patriotic Entry” in the parade.
• Treasurer and Voter Advertising Manager Cathy Peacock is in the process of soliciting advertisers for the 2017-18 Voter, so far sending out 125 requests.

Upcoming Events:
• Thursday, July 13, 11 a.m. Dr. Natalie Naylor will be speaking at the Southampton Historical Museum about Long Island suffrage leaders, co-sponsored by LWVH and Rogers Memorial Library.
• Thursday, August 24, 2-4 p.m., LWVH will re-create the 1913 East Hampton suffrage rally, starting at the May Groot Manson historic suffrage marker at 117 Main St. and walking down to the E.H. Library for speakers and refreshments.
• Monday, September 18, 7 p.m., at Hampton Bays Senior Center is the LWVH program on pros and cons of NYS Constitutional Convention issue, which is on November 7 ballot.

Web Developments:
• Judy Samuelson attended the Board meeting to explain the upcoming change to the new California LWV-sponsored platform for local League websites. The old platform is still available at $250 annually, with the new one at $400 a year. There were questions regarding combining our league and other Suffolk County local Leagues on a single website. Judy will further research the questions and report back to the Board.
• Judy spoke about Constant Contact and said the service includes up to 500 recipients at our membership level. There would be no problem adding the other county local Leagues with no increase in price. Carol volunteered to help with announcements on Facebook.
• Judy further reported that the Suffolk County LWV plans to form a committee to find funding for the Directory of Public Officials for next year since the loss of sponsorship by Cablevision News 12.
• The Communications report shows at the public website we average 221 requests per day and 184 pages per day. The report is attached.

LWV NYS Convention:
• Arlene reported on the League’s state convention, held in Liverpool, NY, June 9-11. LWVH members attending were Glorian Berk, Arlene Hinkemeyer, Barbara McClancy and Susan Wilson, with Carol Mellor attending as a State Board member. Our delegates also attended a pre-convention day trip to nearby Seneca Falls for a tour of significant sites of the early suffrage movement. It was an inspiring day that included the home of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the National Women’s Hall of Fame, the Women’s Rights National Historical Park/Wesleyan Chapel, and dinner in an historic Seneca Falls hotel.
• Two state-recommended programs were presented and passed—one, an update on the State position on charter schools, and the second, a concurrence study with the Utah LWV’s Death with Dignity position.
• Dare Thompson was re-elected President of the State LWV. Judie Gorenstein of Huntington LWV was elected 1st Vice President/Voter Services, and LWVH’s Carol Mellor was re-elected Grassroots Director. Susan Wilson (LWVH) retired from the State Board.
• At the awards dinner on Saturday night, Arlene Hinkemeyer and the LWVH 100th Anniversary Committee won the Inez Milholland Woman’s History award for their work celebrating the 100th anniversary of suffrage in NYS, and the LWVH Education Committee, shared with the Huntington LWV, won the Eleanor Roosevelt Youth Program award for their work with local youth including the Student Day at the Suffolk County Legislature program and the Betty Desch Scholarship. We were also awarded honorable mentions in three categories—the Victoria Woodhull Get out the Vote award, the Carrie Chapman Catt Visibility and Leadership award, and the Harriet Tubman Off the Beaten Path award.

Discussion Items:
• A motion was approved to cancel the August LWV Board meeting.
• Board members were reminded not to sign candidate petitions, as that could be interpreted as an endorsement of a candidate or party in violation of our non-partisan position.
• We continue to mentor the North Fork membership, which also has the option of forming their own League, remaining LWVH members, or becoming MALs (Members at Large). They are small in numbers but large in enthusiasm.
• Storage and possible digitization of League materials continues to be discussed. Ann Sandford will be contacted for her inventory. Aside from documents, there are materials purchased over the years that may still be in various members’ basements.
• Monthly activities planned are a program in September on “Con-Con” and candidates debates in October. Other future activities might include how to get on the ballot, and a program on the Death with Dignity concurrence which will be suggested to the Health Committee. Materials might be available in August. We might consider holding our activities at different times and days of the week, such as Saturday morning and afternoon.

Committee Reports:
• Government is finalizing their program in September on “Con-Con,” the Constitutional Convention issue on the November ballot. LWVNY supports the NYS Constitutional Convention, but education about the issue is to be emphasized above advocacy. The subject of affordable housing will be deferred until after the election.
• Education: The committee is reaching out to the Girl Scouts to assist them in earning their 100th anniversary badge. They do not meet in the summer.
• Membership: The committee reports 70 paid up members which include 11 household and eight new members. Hardship or scholarship members can be awarded on an individual basis, but the PMP’s still have to be paid in full. A discussion as to when to drop expired members was tabled to allow the Membership Committee
Suffolk County Voter

September 2017

Local Leagues in Suffolk continue to celebrate NYS Woman Suffrage Centennial

BROOKHAVEN DAILY EAGLE

HEAR YE!! HEAR YE!!
BROOKHAVEN TOWN CLERK DONNA LENT
SUMMONS ALL CIVIC MINDED COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

SUFFRAGISTS PARADE AND RALLY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

SPONSORS & PARTICIPANTS:
- Lake Ronkonkoma Heritage Assoc.
- Brookhaven Town Clerk Donna Lent
- Long Island Women Suffrage Assoc., Inc.
- AAWV of Islip, Suffragist Committee
- League of Women Voters of Brookhaven
- Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum
- Lake Ronkonkoma Cemetery
- American Legion Post #105

Funding generously provided by Humanities New York; Brookhaven Town Clerk Donna Lent; Long Island Women Suffrage Assoc., Inc.; AAWV; Islip Area Branch Long Island Suffrage Committee; Lake Ronkonkoma Heritage Assoc.; and Suffolk County Legislator Leslie Kennedy.

PARADE in assemble at Carlisle Street and Hawkins Avenue.


The parade will begin promptly at 11:00 AM.

Lake Ronkonkoma to Host Parade & Rally on Sunday, September 10, 2017.

LAKE RONKONKOMA TO HOST PARADE & RALLY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017.

PARADE in assemble at Carlisle Street and Hawkins Avenue.

The parade will begin promptly at 11:00 AM.

The route passes the LAKE RONKONKOMA FREE LIBRARY, founded by Lake Ronkonkoma’s own Suffragist Lillian Dawes.

SUFFRAGIST OFFICERS ABOUND: Please wear your “Suffrage Costumes” to get into the spirit of the event.

SUFFRAGISTS will march as it may have been in 1917. RALLY starts with Ceremony, History, Song, Speeches, Displays and Historical information from all over Long Island.

PARADE PARTICIPANTS WELCOME!
For information & to register for the PARADE call (631) 611-1870 or email theraldsieber@bull.com.

On August 10, LWV Huntington held their annual Garden Tea Party and were delighted by a costumed reading of an adaptation of Mary Q. Chapin’s play, Women’s Suffrage: A Dream of Full Citizenship.

On August 24, LWV Hamptons continued their celebration of 100 years of woman suffrage in NYS with a re-creation of East Hampton’s 1913 suffrage rally. Speakers included NYS Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and a great granddaughter of 1513 speaker (and Shoreham resident) Harriet Stanton Blatch. Period dress and suffrage sashes were worn.

Also, in August we celebrated the 97th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, giving American women the right to vote.

LWV fights for a voice for every voter!

Goodbye Summer Hello LWV Action!

LWVSC Board Meetings: 10:00am Wednesday Sept. 20 at Riverhead Library
10:00am Wednesday Oct. 18 at Riverhead Library

http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org

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LWVSC has had its first monthly newspaper column printed! TimesBeaconRecord newspapers group of 6 Suffolk north shore community papers. We have a commitment for a column every month in the Leisure section. The August 10th column “Observing your government in action: How to get started” reviewed NYS Sunshine/Open Meeting laws, encouraged every citizen to use the LWVSC’s Directory of Public Officials (DPO) to become familiar with their elected officials, observe government meetings, and speak when and how permitted on issues of importance to them. It closed “Be an informed, engaged citizen and participate. Democracy is not a spectator sport!” To read the full article go to http://tbnewsmedia.com/observing your government in action how to get started/
Town Justices Explain Court System at June 19 Forum

By Judi Roth

A very lively and informative evening ensued when the Government Committee of the League invited four town justices to talk to us about the functions of their office. The four speakers were Justice Gary Weber, Deborah Kooperstein (League member) and Andrea Schiavoni of Southampton, and Steven Tekulsky of East Hampton.

Judge Weber explained the structure of the court system in New York State—its highest court, the NYS Court of Appeals, plus the NY Supreme Court, County Courts, Surrogates Court, Family Court, Court of Claims, and the Town Justice Courts—and shared some interesting, insider stories with the audience.

Judge Kooperstein reminded us that the Town courts are the closest to citizens—they deal with landlord/tenant issues and traffic matters as well as domestic violence, drug issues and criminal cases. Judge Kooperstein was responsible for bringing Spanish interpreters into Southampton’s courts, for having advocates present during domestic violence hearings and for the Southampton drug treatment court.

Judge Schiavoni developed a section of the Court specializing in veterans’ problems. She stated that people with special military training can have unique problems with the transition to home life and can find themselves with addiction issues as well as PTSD.

Judge Tekulsky goes to middle and high schools to talk about legal issues and also has a high school intern in East Hampton. He is hoping to get a magnetometer for the East Hampton courthouse. Judge Tekulsky told us that you do not have to be an attorney in New York State to become a judge, though most are.

League Meets with State Assemblyman Fred Thiele

By Cathy Peacock, Government Committee Co-Chair

On August 14, members of the LWVH Board met with New York State Assemblyman Fred W. Thiele Jr. who represents the 1st Assembly District. Mr. Thiele was generous with his time, giving us a full hour, and was open with his remarks. We all felt this meeting solidified an excellent working relationship between the League and his office.

Topics covered included:
• The Constitutional Convention issue on the November ballot
• Election reform
• Ways to get out the vote
• Land use and The Hills Planned Development Project in East Quogue
• The Wind farm offshore East Hampton Town
• Transportation
• Health care

League attendees—all present or former co-presidents—included current co-presidents Estelle Gellman and Susan Wilson; Glorian Berk, co-chair of Natural Resources; Carol Mellor, co-chair of Voters Services; and Cathy Peacock, co-chair of Government.
Stony Brook and Southampton Hospitals Officially Merge on August 1

By Valerie King, Ph.D., Health Committee Chair

On August 1, Stony Brook University welcomed Southampton Hospital, hereafter known as Stony Brook Southampton Hospital, as a member of the Stony Brook Medicine health system. The merger of Southampton Hospital and Stony Brook University Medical has been a venture of a decade! The announcement of the completion of the hospital’s merger was made by President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D., and Ken Kaushansky, M.D., Senior Vice President for Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine. As such, Stony Brook Southampton Hospital will now provide care under Stony Brook University Hospital’s New York State operating license. What this means for the community on the East End is that when you go to Southampton Hospital, you will be billed for your services from the Stony Brook Medicine health system!

Congratulations are in order for Mr. Robert Chaloner, President & CEO, and his administrative staff, and physicians of the prior Southampton Hospital. The collaboration of the two hospitals has expanded the scope of health care to our community.

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons Health Committee anticipates that we will continue to see positive changes in local health care, and that we can count on the continued support of our local hospital during and following this transition.

In fact, LWVH Co-Presidents Susan Wilson and Estelle Gellman, LWVH Past President and State League Board member Carol Mellor, and LWVH Health Committee Chair Valerie King, met with Mr. Chaloner and Medical Director Dr. Fred Weinbaum on Friday August 18. The discussion provided sufficient reassurance that the transition was moving smoothly with little disruption in the provision of essential hospital services.

Progress is being made to integrate systems of medical records, along with department and clinical communication between the two hospitals. In addition, internship and residency programs at Stony Brook Southampton are expanding, and hopefully will help to address the shortage of health providers on the East End. Projects that have begun are continuing on target—for example the beginning of construction after Labor Day of the new Cancer Center, and an enhanced cardiology program. The East Hampton Urgent Care project is progressing and is scheduled for site selection in 2021. A study has been commissioned to begin planning on a new hospital facility for Stony Brook Southampton.

Mr. Chaloner and Dr. Weinbaum also provided helpful information and support toward the upcoming LWVH Health Committee’s public information meeting and panel discussion on the topic of “Death With Dignity” scheduled for Monday, November 13, 6:30 p.m., in Parrish Hall, next to the hospital. More details to follow.

The LWVH Health Committee focuses on access to healthcare for residents of our community and conducts visits to health-related programs, healthcare providers and public officials to obtain information regarding local healthcare. We have a full ongoing agenda of site visits and continued updated information on health insurance. We occasionally “meet” electronically by email. If you would like to join the LWVH Health Committee, please contact Valerie King Ph.D. at 631-267-3282 or ValerieKingPhD@gmail.com

Fashion Show Fundraiser Planned for Fall

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

Our summer is probably a lovely memory now. LWVH and the Special Events Committee are always looking forward, and so in the planning stage—a first for us—is a fashion show in the early fall. We will be asking our members to act as our models who will be wearing clothes from the Fandango Boutique on Montauk Hwy. in Hampton Bays. All shapes and sizes are welcome. We will have ten to twelve models. This will be a fun-filled event. We will be sending details and are excited and can’t wait for our participants and our guests.

http://www.lwvhamptons.org
League Starts Third Year of Adopt-a-Road Program

By Arlene Hinkemeyer

Starting with the month of May, the LWVH began the third year of its Adopt-a-Road program by collecting litter on Pantigo Place and Pantigo Circle, which are located off Pantigo Road (Montauk Hwy.) between the East Hampton Healthcare Center and various Town offices. The program dovetails with LWV positions on solid waste disposal and recycling.

The East Hampton Town program requires adopters to clean the road eight times a year—once a month from May through October, and then twice over the winter. In turn, the Town erects a beautiful sign at the beginning and end of each adopted road, noting the organization providing the community service.

Each month one person who has signed the Town pledge accompanies Arlene Hinkemeyer on the clean-up. Thanks go to this year’s crew of Afton DiSunno, Estelle Gellman, Julia Kayser, Barbara McClancy, Joan McGivern, Eva Moore and Vicki Umans. The group mourns enthusiastic Adopt-a-Roader Pat Arceri, who passed away on July 14.

Lemons—The Versatile Fruit

By Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

Lemons—a fruit with a wonderful fragrance, great in food and beverages, but also very handy for multiple purposes around the home!

Lemons are high in vitamin C, have antibacterial effects and are thought to possess antioxidant and anti-carcinogenic properties. The juice consists of about 5% acid, which also makes them useful for a variety of household purposes. Lemons and/or lemon juice are a popular addition to environmentally cleaning applications.

Ant Deterrent

Pouring juice around areas that ants frequent is said to repel them.

Air Freshener

Adding an equal amount of lemon juice and water to an atomizer will create a wonderful synthetic chemical-free, green air freshener for your home.

All Purpose Cleaner

Again, an equal amount of lemon juice and water added to a spray bottle is an effective kitchen and bathroom cleaner and can be used on walls (spot check first).

A small amount of lemon juice can also be added to vinegar-based cleaning solutions to help neutralize the smell of the vinegar.

Source: One of two articles on uses of lemons from: Greenlivingtips.com/articles/24-handy-lemon-tips.html
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Five Attend LWVNYS Convention in June; Bring Back Awards

submitted by Special Events Committee co-chairs Joanne McEvoy-Samborn and Gladys Remler.

Our League and the State League reiterate our appreciation to outgoing Legislative Director/LWVNYS lobbyist extraordinaire Barbara Bartoletti, and to Government Issues Specialist Aimee Allaud for their decades of service to the League; and to LWVNYS Executive Director Laura Ladd Bierman and LWVNYS President Dare Thompson for an excellent convention.

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Highlights of July 5 Board Meeting

to review the issue.

• The Health committee continues to monitor health issues that affect our community. Valerie suggests “Changes in local health services and an update on access to health care” for a possible topic for a spring 2018 program.

• Public Relations / 100th Anniversary: Arlene reports she and Eva Moore cleaned the Adopt-a-Road site on June 29. Mayor Paul F. Rickenbach, Jr. of East Hampton Village sent a letter of thanks to LWVH for its assistance in acquiring the historic suffrage marker at the May Groot Manson house. The LWVH urges all to participate in the August 24th suffrage rally starting at the Manson house at 117 Main St. and marching to the E.H. Library for speakers and refreshments. Lieut. Gov. Kathy Hochul and Coline Jenkins, descendant of the 1913 speaker, have been invited to speak. So far, 50 “Votes for Women” sashes have been sold for a total of $500.
The Voter
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The League of Women Voters

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