



THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

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April 2015

Gail Sheehy to Speak at LWVH Spring Luncheon, April 24

By Arlene Hinkemeyer

After a long hard winter, celebrate Spring at a beautiful restaurant overlooking Shinnecock Bay. The occasion: Hamptons LWV presents renowned author and journalist Gail Sheehy as guest speaker for our spring fundraising luncheon on Friday, April 24, from 12-3 p.m. Ms. Sheehy will discuss her new memoir titled "Daring: My Passages." The book recounts the major passages she dared to take during her professional career and private life.



Gail Sheehy will be the speaker at our luncheon on April 24th.

The "passages" theme has been prominent in her work since her landmark book "Passages," about the stages of adult life, was published in 1976 and saw translation into 28 languages. The author of 17 books, Ms. Sheehy has also written extensively for New York magazine and Vanity Fair, and has created in-depth character portraits of world leaders such as both Presidents George Bush, Bill and Hillary Clinton, Margaret Thatcher, Saddam Hussein and Mikhail Gorbachev.

All are invited to hear this dynamic speaker, who will also engage in a Q&A and sign copies of her book, for sale by Bookhampton at a 15 percent discount at the luncheon. Autographed books make wonderful gifts!

Our lovely venue for the three-course luncheon is Cowfish Restaurant in Hampton Bays. The restaurant enjoys a highly-rated reputation for new American fare, plus great ambiance.

To RSVP, please send a check for \$60, made out to LWV Hamptons and

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SAVE THE DATES

School Mergers: What You Need To Know

Monday, April 13, at 7 pm.

Public Information Meeting

Listen, ask questions, be aware of the issues involved in school consolidations.

Rogers Memorial Library, Southampton

LWVH Spring Fundraiser-Luncheon,

Friday, April 24, from 12 to 3 p.m.

Author/journalist Gail Sheehy

Cowfish Restaurant, Hampton Bays

LWVH Annual Meeting

Sunday May 17 from 1 to 3 pm

Join us to hear keynote speaker Congressman Lee Zeldin. Our once-yearly meeting sets the priorities for the coming year, sees Board members (re-)elected, a budget approved, the past year's activities reviewed, details of by-laws etc. brought up to date. We also provide refreshments. Get reacquainted with members old and new. The snow will be gone and the forsythia will be blooming, so you have no good excuse for missing this important meeting! See you at Levitas Hall, Southampton Cultural Center, Southampton

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, in both its values and practices, is committed to diversity and pluralism. This means that there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of economic position, gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs. The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of the East End.

Membership

Any person who supports the mission of the League may become a member.

The Voter Newsletter

The newsletter of the Hamptons League, *The Voter*, is dedicated to bringing useful information, background, perspective and commentary on public policy issues confronting League members and other community citizens in Southampton and East Hampton, Suffolk County and the State of New York. It explores the work of the League to promote positive solutions, and it empowers people to make a difference in their communities.

The Voter is published seven times a year (January/February/March, April, May/June, July/August, September, October, and November/December) by the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons, P. O. Box 2253, East Hampton, NY 11937.

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President's Message

By Judy Samuelson

President's Message

Our 2015 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 17 at 1 pm, and we're getting ready for it. At our March 4 board meeting (adjourned just hours before the 495th snowstorm of the season) we heard from the Nominating Committee and reviewed the proposed 2015-16 budget. LWVH's fiscal year begins on June 1(2015) and ends on May 31 (2016). Hence, the budget is presented at our May Annual Meeting, so members can approve it for the coming year.

We're excited that Lee Zeldin, our newly elected US Representative, has agreed to be our keynote speaker. We'll also announce this year's Desch Scholarship winner and present one of our many worthy volunteers the Carrie Chapman Catt award for outstanding service to the League.

The Bylaws Committee reviews current bylaws and recommends changes the board can accept or reject. The Nominating Committee polls current board members' willingness to continue in their current positions and identifies potential new board members. New this year is a standing Budget Committee and a new, more inclusive method of putting a budget in place: committee chairs spoke to their members to get a picture of expenses and possible fundraising sources. The Budget Committee, comprised of Glorian Berk, Eموke Boldvay, Estelle Gellman and off-Board volunteer Sue Bieger, rolled up the reports into a budget we think is realistic and achievable.

Once the committee work is done, the board accepts the proposed budget, bylaws updates, and the slate of officers and board members. The board also reviews the issues proposed at our January planning meeting and prioritizes programs for the current year. This material is then sent to all members via e-mail and a few snail mails.

Once the board's work is completed, it's your turn to prepare. First, please review the packet of information that you'll receive one month prior to May 17. Next, plan to attend the annual meeting so that your voice can be heard. You will also have the opportunity to offer directions to the board about other programs or initiatives you think should be addressed. I hope to see you on May 17 at 1 pm at the Southampton Cultural Center (25 Pond Ln, Southampton, NY (Phone: 631 287-4377) for this important meeting.

Program Planning Meeting Generates Good Concepts

By Judy Samuelson

The miserable weather on January 12 didn't daunt more than 20 LWVH members determined to have a say in the League's priorities for 2015. During a late afternoon program planning session, some eight ideas were proposed and discussed. Then the group voted to prioritize. Each individual had three votes, which could be cast for one, two or three items, hence votes exceeded the number of attendees. The following are the suggestions, ranked from highest to lowest.

1. Make LWVH voice heard at local government meetings. (a) monitor agendas for town board meetings (b) rotate volunteer attendees. Fourteen votes.
2. Support efforts for alternative sources of energy. Ten votes.
3. Recruit new LWVH members from affinity groups such as CACs or PTAs. Speak to potential members one-to-one. Eight votes.
4. Immigration reform. Six votes.
5. Raise League's visibility by, e.g., joining parades, other popular community events. Adopt-a-road program. Committees to create fact sheets. Four votes.
6. Form "junior LWVH" within high schools. Three votes.
7. Encourage EH to hire town manager. Two votes
8. Human trafficking. No votes.

Why is this meeting important?

Program planning meetings enable members to discuss program interests and make suggestions for the year's program, based on preexisting positions (state, national or local) or to suggest studies for adoption of new positions. It is also an opportunity for members to propose their issues and make suggestions for programs.

The results of the program planning meeting are presented to the Board, which adopts a proposed program. Next, the proposed program is voted up or down at the annual meeting. According to the results, the Board sets priorities based on the program adopted. It's usually the committees that plan tactics to carry out the strategy..

Beat the WinterBlahs Luncheon



More than 35 people attended the Beat the Winter Blahs Luncheon on January 21 at Bobby Van's Restaurant. It was once again organized by Pat Arceri, left, and Julia Kayser, right.

Voter Services Committee Report

LWVH Sponsors Meeting Of East Hampton And Southampton Trustees

By Anne K. Marshall

Each year the League sponsors a meeting at which elected officials representing our area are invited to discuss their roles and issues in an open forum. Last year we learned from our two Supervisors of common as well as different issues that faced them. This year we invited the Trustees from each of the two towns to respond similarly.

The origin of the Town Trustees goes back to the 17th century. Both sets of trustees were established through what is called the Dongan Patent.

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Trustees from both Towns discussed issues and accomplishments.

Good News for the Future of Southampton Hospital

By Valerie King

On Feb. 25 2015 LWVH Health Committee members Judy Samuelson; Valerie King, Ph.D.; Beverly Dixon Ph.D.; and Kaye W. Umana M.D.; met with Robert S. Chaloner, Southampton Hospital's President and CEO. Several topics were covered.

Alliance between Southampton Hospital and Stony Brook University Hospital

It is moving forward, awaiting various state approvals. The two facilities will share one operating certificate. Stony Brook will lease facilities and employees from Southampton Hospital.

The hospital will continue to have its own Board of Directors. Due to our geographic location and lack of similar facilities nearby, core services will remain at Southampton Hospital. The Meeting House Lane Medical Practice will remain autonomous and the Kraus Family Hudson River Community Health Care Center will remain at the present Southampton facility for the time being.

Benefits to both parties

Southampton Hospital will have some financial advantage, as charitable and Medicaid cases will be billed to Stony Brook. The South Fork community will benefit from the joint staff and referral stream and network of facilities. In addition, training in a community hospital will be attractive to medical students, particularly those interested in family practice. Southampton Hospital and Stony Brook will both gain from eventual construction of a new facility on the prime location of the Stony Brook Southampton Campus.



Robert S. Chaloner

Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments

Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments (DSRIP) is a waiver program that reinvests federal Medicaid funds to hospitals that achieve a 25% reduction in avoidable hospital use over five years to ensure quality care access for all. Stony Brook is the DSRIP lead for Suffolk County and has submitted proposals for several projects for provider systems that demonstrate effective primary care: behavioral health integration; prevention and management of chronic disease; and use of technology to deliver and document services. With the Alliance plus collaborations with local community clinics, Southampton Hospital expects to achieve the goals necessary to qualify for funds from the DSRIP program.

Supporting Local Efforts to Address Gaps in Behavioral Health

Southampton hospital has supported the South Fork Behavioral Health Initiative (SFBHI), a collaboration of local community stakeholders, to address the gaps in the delivery of behavioral health services on the South Fork. The initial phase of the SFBHI is to enhance behavioral health services to school age residents. Subsequent phases of the SFBHI will be to improve behavioral health services to broader populations with unmet needs. It has also been very supportive of East End Clinical Connections, multidisciplinary behavioral health professionals who advocate for quality behavioral health in our community.

New Members, New Involvement on Committees

By Estelle Gellman and Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

The Membership Committee is pleased to report that as of the end of 2014, we have 88 individual members and 16 household memberships. We are delighted to welcome the following new members: Olivia August, Susan and Steven Bloom, Beverly Dixon, Joan Hughes, Susan Schultz, Dottie Simons and Kaye Umana. Several of them are already involved in the work of our committees and we encourage all of them - as well as all of our members - to join us at meetings and become involved. In particular, consider joining the Membership Committee -- we need you!

We also remind everyone that as our new fiscal year starts in June, you will soon be receiving your early-bird renewal request. Please look for it and be sure to renew your membership. It is your dues, as well as your involvement, that enable us to accomplish what we do.

“Drinking Water: Faucet? Filtered? Bottled? Informed Choices”

The LWVH Health & Natural Resources Committees present a public information meeting on local drinking water. A panel of experts will provide fact-based information on June 8 at 6:30 pm at Parrish Memorial Hall/Southampton Hospital.

Education Committee Report

The Education Committee Learns While Teaching

By Judi Roth

On two equally cold January days, Education Committee members presented two programs to East End young people: the Southampton Youth Court and local Girl Scout troops.

Youth Court Experience

Addressing about 40 Southampton Town Youth Court trainees, Vote 18 expert and former history teacher Martha Potter talked about how, when and why social groups gained the right to vote, starting when the American Revolution gave enfranchised white male property owners. It took much longer for women, people of color and young landless individuals to be able to vote, coming to fairly recent times when the voting age was lowered to 18 in response to protests from the Viet Nam era (“If you’re old enough to die for your country, you’re old enough to vote”).

Nancy Walters-Yvertes and I discussed how change is achieved, covering student protests, letters to newspapers and elected officials, lobbying, working with interest groups, social media efforts, campaigning for candidates, even running for office and of course voting.

The trainees, 9-12 graders from all Southampton Town high schools, were prompted to tell us about their experiences and share ideas. At the end of the evening, one student expressed interest in joining the League. Thanks to Glorian Berk, Ursula Lynch, Jane Dell and Beth Barth for joining in with great comments from the jury box!

Karen Matz, of Southampton Town Youth Services and Director of the Youth Court program did a wonderful job of telling students about the importance of voting and informing us how the Youth Court program works.

Girl Scout Experience

Through Anne Marshall’s contact with Scout Leader Jen Glass, we helped 23 Girl Scouts achieve their In Government Badge and we (Anne, Beth Barth, Martha Potter, Glorian Berk, Arlene Hinkemeyer and I) had a wonderful time doing so. We divided the girls into four groups and using the Scout guidelines, got their thoughts on “what it means to be a good citizen,” and what laws affect them (at home, in school, in the larger world). We challenged the girls to come up with a law they would like to see enacted or better enforced, and to interview a government official.

Being a good citizen covered topics such as raising money for charity, not littering, and going to school. One young lady said “integrity.” When asked what she meant, she said “Integrity means doing the right thing even when you’re



Working in smaller groups

alone.” Wow! The girls learned that having an idea for new laws is not so easy. Ideas ranged from cutting down fewer trees, to making professional athletes have a probation period where they show their sportsmanship on and off the field. The idea with the most votes (using our trusty “put a dot on the one you want” system) was to enforce laws against cruelty to animals.

Judge Andrea Schiavoni talked to the girls about her job and answered questions. Each girl left with a certificate of participation and, we hope, lasting memories of their day with the League.

Among other things, we learned that 8-10 year olds are more forthcoming than 14-16 year olds and that working in small groups is much more conducive to participation than lecturing kids as a captive audience.



Scouts get their In Government certificates.

Highlights of January 7, 2015 LWVH Board Meeting

Information Items

- Hamptons to cover March, August and October Naturalizations.
- Judy sent Consensus report to State 1/11/14. Members asked for a copy of document.
- Membership roster due to National 1/31/15 for PMP invoicing. Vicki Umans will send.
- State convention June 5-7. Barbara, Judi, Judy and (possibly) Glorian expressed interest in attending. Might Judi R. expect funding from County League? Otherwise, Hamptons will pay, as she will present a program with Judie Gorenstein.
- LWVNYS: "The League Matters" campaign: a matching fund drive through 2/14/15. Arlene explained this is a 3-year state campaign to raise \$400,000 by Y/E 2015. Money will support ongoing work of state league.

Upcoming Events

- January 12 Program Planning meeting.
- Blahs Luncheon Jan. 21
- March 9 PIM "Ask the Trustees"

Discussion Items

- Budget committee report
 - Sue Bieger urged board to utilize Desch funds more freely
 - Committee set deadline of Feb. 15 for committee heads to submit budgets so LWVH budget can accurately predict needs and income sources.
- Annual meeting May 17 at SH CC at 1 pm. Judy contacted office of Kathleen Rice to invite her as keynote speaker.
 - Budget Committee: Eموke, Estelle, Glorian, Susan

Beiger. Budget must be approved by Board by March 31 to be mailed to membership in April.

- Bylaws review. Judi and Estelle volunteered to review and suggest any amendments. This review to include Non-Partisan statement.
- Nominating committee working

Committee Reports

- Special Events. Gladys reported fundraiser lunch is April 24 with Gail Sheehy speaker. Next event is a proposed tour of Amagansett.
- Natural Resources. Glorian: members of Hamptons and other leagues to tour state-of-the-art recycling center in Brookhaven.
- Voter Services. Anne and Judi: Members of both committees to help Girl Scouts achieve Government Badge on January 10.
- Health. Valerie announced Health Committee and Natural Resources Committee will co-sponsor a program on healthy drinking water at the June 8 PIM meeting.
- Arlene sent notice to all papers re money raised for food pantries at Dec. party. Sag Harbor Press printed picture and article.
- Membership. Joanne reported seven new members, total paid membership of 121.
- Education. In addition to scout project (see page 5) Judi recounted productive presentation to Southampton Youth Court on January 5.
- The Voter. Judy noted that March 15 is deadline for April Voter, which she will edit.

Highlights of March 4, 2015 LWVH Board Meeting

Information Items

- We are applying for state awards in two categories this year: Youth Services and "Thinking Outside the Box."
- LWVNYS convention is June 5-7. The theme is: A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change. There was discussion about how many delegates were eligible and who those would be. Since our unofficial membership is 114, LWVH is entitled to send four voting representatives. They will be: Barbara McClancy, Carol Mellor, Judi Roth and Judy Samuelson.

Upcoming Events

- March 9 Public Information Meeting (PIM) panel discussion by the EH and SH Trustees.
- April 13, School Mergers PIM

- April 24, Fund Raising Lunch with Gail Sheehy
- May 17, Annual Meeting. The speaker is Congressman Lee Zeldin.
- June 8 PIM, on drinking water, jointly presented by Health and Natural Resources Committees.

Discussion Items

- Budget committee report
 - The Budget Committee consists of Eموke, Estelle, Glorian and Sue Beiger.
 - Glorian presented the budget with some minor terminology changes. There was also some discussion on money budgeted and most committees have clarified their requests. To be reviewed again at April 1 board meeting.

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Suffolk County Voter

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April 2015

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Updates from LWVSC

- The new LWVSC board committee chaired by Judi Roth (LWV Hamptons) is working with Lora Gellerstein, Chief of Staff to the SC Legislature's Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory, in planning a new youth program- **Students Inside the Suffolk County Legislature**. We have high hopes for this program, potentially launching in fall 2015 in both Riverhead and Hauppauge.
- Lisa Scott continued her involvement (on behalf of LWV Suffolk County) with the Stony Brook University **School of Social Welfare's annual Advocacy Day**, which was held on March 13. Over 200 students participated in a conference (2015 theme was Gender Equity) with speakers, a panel, and nine workshops. LWV of Huntington's Judie Gorenstein, Brenda Reiss, and JoAnn Alario-Paulsen presented a very successful workshop on Advocating for Gender Equity- which included short discussions of Human Trafficking and of the ten proposals in the Women's Equality Agenda. Then they role-played good and bad lobbying, which resulted in a high level of engagement from the attendees. We distributed copies of LWVNY's Citizen Lobbyist, a handout on 10 Lobbying Tips, and the LWVNY Legislative Agenda.
- The DPO's have been printed! The **2015 LWVSC Directory of Public Officials** copies are being distributed to our Local Leagues at the March board meeting in Riverhead, and a pdf of the DPO is on the LWVSC website (www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org). Having the DPO on the website will allow us to update/make corrections as the year continues.
- LWVSC's Leg Committee (Mary McLaughlin, Nancy Marr, Lisa Scott) met with SC Leg PO Gregory, his Chief of Staff Lora Gellerstein and SC Leg Counsel George Nolan to discuss details of a proposed change to the County Charter regarding **filling vacancies in the SC Legislature** (IR1154).
- LWVSC is following developments since SC voters approved the 2014 ballot proposition on **consolidating financial management functions**. A resolution (IR1124) moving forward the date of the consolidation two years (from Jan. 1, 2018 to Jan. 1, 2016) was introduced following Angie Carpenter's resignation from the SC Treasurer position recently. Also IR1188 appoints Barry Paul as new SC Treasurer until Dec. 31, 2015; there would be a special election for Treasurer in Nov. 2015 (for a two year term, until the current consolidation rules take effect).
- LWVSC is also reviewing IR1030, which would strengthen SC **lobbyist registration requirements**.

Healthcare Update

New York State Health Act
Assembly bill A. 5062 (Gottfried)
and Senate bill S. 3525 (Perkins)

On March 10 I attended a forum on the NYS Health Act presented in NYC. The speaker, Prof. Gerald Friedman, Chairman of the University of Massachusetts Economics Department, reported on his analysis of the economic impact of the act, which would establish a comprehensive, universal health insurance program for all New Yorkers. His graphs showed that currently the share of state income spent on health care and administration is rising faster than personal incomes.

The bill would replace the current multi-payer system of employer-based insurance, individually acquired insurance, and federally sponsored programs with a single billing pipeline funded by payroll assessments (80% from the employer,

20% from the employee) collected by the state and based on income and ability to pay. By reducing billing expenses, administrative waste, monopolistic pricing of drugs and medical devices, and fraud, NYS Health could reduce health care spending by 25 percent or more than \$70 billion in 2019. It would expand coverage to all the uninsured, eliminate copays and deductibles, and correct the underpayment of Medicaid and Medicare services, producing net savings of 15 percent, \$44 billion per year, or \$2200 per New Yorker.

Madeline Zevon, NYS LWV Health Chairperson, has created a committee to study the bill and its impact. Our League has purchased the film, **The Healthcare Movie**, which examines the differences between the Canadian and United States health care system. It is available to any League that wishes to borrow it.

Nancy Marr, LWV Brookhaven

Highlights of March 4, 2015 LWVH Board Meeting

Continued from page 6

- National League raised annual PMP dues by \$1.00. Since our membership brochures need to be reprinted, Glorian will refer a possible dues increase to the Membership Committee for discussion, prior to any new printing.
- Nominating Committee
Joanne presented the pending results of the nominating committee. Most positions are filled. Barbara McClancy has tentatively accepted the Recording Secretary position. The committee will continue working on filling the nominating committee for next year.

Committee Reports

- Special Events. Gladys reported on the fundraising lunch on April 24 with Gail Sheehy. It will be held at Cowfish, in Hampton Bays and will cost \$60.
Next up, a day in Amagansett. The tentative date is June 24. It will include a lunch and cost \$45.00
- Natural Resources(NRC). Sue Wilson reports that the NRC and the Health committee will host the June 8 PIM at 6:30 at Parrish Hall at SH Hospital. The meeting title is Drinking Water: Faucet, Filtered, Bottled -- Informed Choices. The panel will consist of representatives from the state and county levels and will examine health and risk levels when making water choices. There may also be a water testing demo called "swirling, sipping and tasting".
- Voter Services. Anne reported that the speakers for the March 9 PIM would be representatives of each town's elected Trustees.
The mayor of SH Village is interested in coordinating local election dates. We will help with that, and might conduct a study.
She and Carol will meet with Joe Shaw of the EH/SH Press Group to discuss consolidating sponsorship of candidate debates to have fewer events.

Anne was commended by the NYC Board of Elections for the cover letter she uses to mail registration forms for new citizens.

- Health. Valerie, Kaye Umana, Beverly Dixon and Judy Samuelson met with Robert Chaloner, the SH Hospital president and CEO. (see page 4)
She noted that the lack of first responder and mental health professionals is a hot topic since there was a rash of teen suicides in our area a few years ago. She thanked the LWVH for helping to get this information out.
- Membership. Joanne reports three new members.
- Public Relations. Arlene reported that we have received good press for many of our events.
The Town Manager issue is growing again with the interest of the EH Supervisor.
She has signed LWVH up to adopt a road on Bluff Road in Amagansett. It gets a lot of traffic and will garner publicity. She has found some volunteers, including Barbara M. and Pat Arceri. This effort dovetails nicely with the "Day in Amagansett" proposed by the Special Events committee in June.
- Education. Judi Roth reported on the PIM on April 13th at the Rogers Library at 7:00 p.m. Title: School Mergers: What You Need To Know
Students Inside Suffolk County. Lisa Scott, Mary Zopf and Judi Roth met with Laura Gellerstein, Chief Clerk of the Suffolk County Legislature to discuss SISC. Up to 50 students will meet their legislators and hear from officials like Chief Medical Officer, County Attorney, etc. The County will provide breakfast and lunch, we will provide transportation. Hamptons and Brookhaven may have their SISC day at Riverhead, Smithtown and Huntington in Patchogue. Targeting dates in October.

Gail Sheehy to Speak at LWVH Spring Luncheon, April 24

Continued from page 1

received no later than Friday, April 17, to Gladys Remler, 180 Melody Court, Eastport, N.Y. 11941. Questions? Call Gladys at 631-288-9021 or Joanne Samborn at 631-283-9648.

Directions to Cowfish (631-594-3868): 258 East Montauk Highway

From E. Montauk Hwy by the Shinnecock Canal, turn south at the Shell station onto Canoe Place Rd. Take an immediate left into the parking lot of the seafood market, and follow the winding driveway all the way around to the water and the Cowfish parking lot.

We Didn't Have That "Green Thing"

By Susan Wilson

This is excerpted from one of those articles that cycle around the Internet. Like many others, it has a kernel of truth to it.

Checking out, the grocery clerk suggested to the older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags, because plastic bags are bad for the environment. The woman said, "We didn't have this 'green thing' in my earlier days." The young clerk responded, "That's the problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

The older lady said she was right -- "our generation" didn't have the terminology way back when. But she went on to explain: "Back then, we returned milk, soda and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed, sterilized and refilled, so the same bottles were used over and over. Grocery stores used brown paper bags that we repurposed for many things. Most memorable besides household garbage bags was their use as school book covers that we could personalize. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks.

"Back then we washed baby diapers because we didn't have the disposable kind. We dried clothes on a line, using wind and solar power. We had one TV or radio in the house. Food

was blended and minced by hand because we didn't have electric appliances. When we mailed a fragile item, we used newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or bubble wrap. We used a push mower to cut the lawn. We exercised by working, so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills operated on electricity.

"We drank from a water fountain instead of a cup or plastic bottle. We refilled pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blade instead of throwing away the whole razor when the blade got dull. We took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service in the family's \$45,000 SUV or van."

The conclusion? Maybe we were "green" before the terminology was invented!



Good household advice

By Joanne McEvoy-Samborn

To Pick Up Broken Glass

Use a wet cotton ball or Q tip to pick up the small shards of glass you can't see easily.

To Keep Away Mosquitoes

Place a dryer sheet in your pocket. It will keep the mosquitoes away.

Go 'way Squirrels

To keep squirrels from eating your plants, sprinkle them

with cayenne pepper. The pepper does not hurt the plants and the squirrels will not come near the plants.

Make a Flexible Vacuum Cleaner Tube

To get out something out of a heat register or under the fridge, tape an empty paper towel roll or gift wrap roll to your vacuum. It can be bent or flattened to get in narrow openings.

Reduce Static Cling

Pin a small safety pin to the seam of your slip and you will not have a clingy skirt or dress, The same thing works with slacks that cling when wearing panty hose. Place a pin in the seam or slacks and behold the static is gone.

source unknown

Calendar

April 2015

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.lvwhamptons.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.lvwhamptons.org.

April – May 2015			
Wednesday April 1, 5:30 to 7:30 pm	LWVH Board Meeting	Bridgehampton National Bank Bridgehampton	All members invited to join the board at 6:30 pm for a discussion of the State League's position on the manner of selecting delegates to a NYS Constitutional Convention.
Monday, April 13, 7 pm	Public Information meeting on "School Mergers: what you should know."	Rogers Memorial Library, Cooper Farm Rd Southampton NY 11968	The panel includes NYS Assemblyman Fred Thiele; Heather McCallion, President of Southampton School Board; Chris Dyer, Superintendent of Tuckahoe Schools; and Dr. Julie Lutz, Chief Operating Officer of Eastern Suffolk BOCES. Also invited, NYS Senator Ken LaValle. LWVH Education Committee Chair Judi Roth will moderate.
Friday, April 24, 12 to 3 pm	LWVH Spring Fundraiser- Luncheon with Gail Sheehy	Cowfish Restaurant 258 E Montauk Hwy Hampton Bays NY 11946	Rescheduled for what we hope is a lovely spring day! Guest speaker and world-renowned author/journalist Gail Sheehy will discuss her newest memoir, "Daring: My Passages," engage in a Q&A and sign copies of her book. To RSVP, please send a check for \$60, made out to LWV Hamptons, no later than Friday, April 17, to Gladys Remler, 180 Melody Court, Eastport, N.Y. 11941. Questions? Call Special Events Committee co-chairs Gladys at 631-288-9021 or Joanne Samborn at 631-283-9648.
Sunday, May 17, 1 pm - 3 pm	LWVH Annual Meeting	Southampton Cultural Center, 5 Pond Lane Southampton	Guest speaker US Representative Lee Zeldin. Join us to hear our new Congressman and to take part in this important once-a-year business meeting. Refreshments will be served.

About the Constitutional Convention Position Update

The purpose of this update is to determine whether there is member agreement within the League on updating the Delegate Selection portion of the League 1993 Constitutional Convention position.

- To make it more flexible and adaptable for the future (bringing it more in line with most League positions)
- To clarify how the board should consider any reforms or lack thereof to the delegate selection process as part of the decision on whether or not to support the proposal for a constitutional convention when it comes up again for a vote in 2017.

The last time the proposal for a constitutional convention was on the statewide ballot was 1997 and it was voted down. The League was one of the main groups opposing the 1997 proposal under the 1993 Constitutional Convention position. Now the league seeks consensus on changing its (our) position.

Want to know more?

Go to: <http://www.lwvny.org/advocacy/impact/issues/government/ConstitutionalConvention.pdf>

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LWVH Sponsors Meeting Of East Hampton And Southampton Trustees

Continued from page 3

It established the Board of Trustees of the Freeholders and Commonalty of the Towns of East Hampton and Southampton in 1686. The Dongan Patent guarantees every town freeholder's right to access and use this land and its resources. (A freeholder now is defined as a town resident, not just as a white male who owned property.)

King James II of England, through his General Governor Thomas Dongan, granted acres of land to be cared for. The Trustees' continuing charge is the stewardship of lands consisting mostly of the towns' shores, waterways, marshes, and bottomlands.

Because the title "Trustee" now has at least two definitions locally in our towns and villages, there can be confusion about their respective roles. And added to that, within the Town structure, we have Town Council members and Town Trustees with different, yet sometimes seemingly overlapping roles. We asked the trustees, who are elected officials, to talk about the issues facing them in their roles in today's governmental structure. Four trustees from each of the towns participated in a lively educational discussion: From East Hampton: Diane McNally, Clerk; Deborah Klughers, Sean McCaffrey and Nat Miller. From Southampton: Edward J Warner, Jr, President; Scott Horowitz, Secretary/Treasurer; Raymond Overton and William Pell, IV. The audience members who

turned out in good numbers on one of the first mild evenings of a brutal winter, asked a variety of questions, covering a wide range of topics.

Balancing Public Rights Against Individual Property Owners

A common area of concern among the speakers is the continual effort to balance public vs. private rights, particularly as it relates to use and access to the beaches. The locus of authority and wisdom to approve construction of revetments and types of structures on the public beaches and in front of beachfront houses was a topic of much give and take. There also seemed to be some frustration at the lack of cooperative efforts among the overlapping jurisdictions of villages and towns. The trustees said that there needs to be more continual dialogue among all elected officials, not just when events like Hurricanes Irene & Sandy occur, but during times of calm when more in depth cooperative planning can take place. They noted that the press sometimes reports more on differences between and among town and village entities. They noted that even though that there is much agreement, there was the need for even more respectful cooperative efforts between board and trustee members as they work at solving problems in the best interest of the various communities.

The Voter

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