



# THE VOTER

The Newsletter of the League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

Founded in 1977

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September 2011

## "The Shinnecock Nation: Its Past and Future"

by Judy Samuelson

At our next members meeting, our guests and featured speakers will be trustees of the Shinnecock Nation. Judi Roth credits past LWVH president Carol Mellor with the idea of inviting our Southampton neighbors from the Shinnecock Nation to speak at our September members meeting on September 12 at 7 p.m. at the Hampton Bays Senior Center.

"We all know the reservation area and many of us are personally acquainted with at least one Shinnecock citizen. But we've never had a formal presentation from their representatives," Ms. Roth said. Now that the federal government has formally recognized the tribe, they have gained status and rights that include building a gaming facility (currently being considered in Elmont and Floral Park, NY). This increases local interest in the future as well as the past of this nation. Join us in Hampton Bays on Monday September 12 for an interesting meeting.

## Accessory Apartment Issue Topic of July LWVH Members Meeting

by Judy Samuelson

Town Councilman Chris Nuzzi (Southampton) and Councilwoman Theresa Quigley (East Hampton) joined LWV Suffolk County Housing Committee Chair Nancy Marr at an informative meeting moderated by Barbara Jordan at the Hamptons Library in Bridgehampton on July 11.

The laws governing accessory apartments vary but have in common that the apartment is restricted regarding number of inhabitants and is smaller than the main dwelling area. Despite efforts to monitor such dwellings, the great majority of them are not registered and fly under the radar. This allows landlords to rent to more than the legal number of tenants and to avoid keeping living space in compliance with health and safety codes. Such abuses foster neighborhood hostility toward the renters.

## "Our Law Doesn't Work"

Ms. Quigley's opening statement brought smiles as she presented facts and figures supporting the need for a better means of creating more affordable housing units. Of more than 22,000 housing units in the Town of East Hampton, 15 are legal accessory apartments; six of those are being challenged in court. A task force of ten volunteers from the

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## SAVE THE DATE!

LWVH

General Membership Meeting

## Shinnecock Nation: Its Past and Future

**Monday, Sept. 12  
7:00 PM**

*Please join us for our first meeting  
of the 2011 fall season.  
Hear Trustee Gerrod T. Smith and other  
tribal leaders speak about the past and  
future of the Shinnecock Indians.*

**The Hampton Bays  
Senior Center  
25 Ponquogue Avenue,  
Hampton Bays**

**(call 728-1235 for directions)**

The League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

#### Mission Statement

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

#### Diversity Policy

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

#### Membership

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

#### *The Voter* Newsletter

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

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

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## President's Message



LWVH Co-president

Judi Roth

*Photo by Arlene  
Hinkemeyer.*

### What's Your Passion?

by Judi Roth

In her President's Message, my co-president, Glorian Berk, asked you to think about what you are passionate about and to bring that energy to join a League committee. I joined LWVH almost 11 years ago (yikes!). I was elected secretary the next year and served in that capacity for several years. I don't think I had the passion for that job the way Judy Samuelson does as Communications Secretary—a job that has grown to include Constant Contact mailings, editing *The Voter* and creating our own website ([www.lwvhamptons.org](http://www.lwvhamptons.org)). I certainly didn't have the passion for public relations and publicity the way Arlene Hinkemeyer does. Nor for Natural Resources the way so many of our members have over the years—most recently, Sue Wilson, who has so many passions it's hard to keep track! I'm so grateful that Anne Marshall believes wholeheartedly in Voter Services and continues to master and re-master that ever-changing area.

The Education Committee is where I found my passion, particularly in communicating to high school students that they are the future of our nation. From bringing elected officials to the classroom to Vote 18 to Running and Winning and the Betty Desch award, I loved every minute of chairing that committee. Now I am delighted to turn it over to the very capable hands of Mary Blake and Terri Davgin (who I think know it's hard for me to "turn over" a project).

Now we need someone who is passionate about Membership to help us find new members. The "back of the house" is in the capable hands of Vicki Umans and we have great workers in Julia Kayser, Pat Arceri and many others. Arlene Makl, who has decided to move to NYC, has been a wonderful chair. Her ideas for promoting the League at fairs and wherever we appear, has made us all aware of finding new members in our daily routines. New members come from us—the people we run into at the gym, in the supermarket, in our book clubs. As much as we would like it, they are unlikely to be young women who are pursuing careers and/or raising their families.

Our target membership, I think, are the newly retired who move to this wonderful place, have had an interesting career and now

*Continued on page 18*



Panelists at the July 11 LWVH meeting on "Accessory Apartments: What's Happening?" were, left to right, LWVH moderator and housing expert Barbara Jordan, Southampton Town Board member Christopher Nuzzi, East Hampton Town Deputy Supervisor Theresa Quigley, and LWV Suffolk County housing committee chair Nancy Marr. The program was taped and aired by Southampton Town's SEA-TV. Photo/caption by Arlene Hinkemeyer.

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

*Continued from page 1*

hamlets has been researching a range of solutions to the issues.

Mr. Nuzzi mentioned building new housing that includes a rentable unit to help pay the owner's mortgage and rehabbing houses to include an apartment as two alternatives. Bridgehampton Mews is a successful example. He advocates the Town's Housing Authority collaborating with county and Long Island agencies.

Both councilors agreed with Nancy Marr's comments that the price of real estate both west and east of the Shinnecock Canal now far exceeds average local incomes. Moreover, the number of year-round residents has steadily declined while available housing rises farther out of reach.

Barbara Jordan concluding by urging support for a continuum of housing that meets the needs of citizens. For example, a community might allow single room rentals in private homes, condominiums, senior housing and multifamily dwellings as well as accessory apartments. The League of Women Voters believes there should be a diversity of affordable housing opportunities and types to meet current and future needs of all citizens, regardless of economic circumstances.

### **Calling All Health Care Professionals**

*by Judy Samuelson*

You haven't heard much about the health committee for a while now. There's a reason for the silence: the committee is inactive and leaderless. Judy Samuelson resigned as chair in May when she took on the duties of Communications Secretary.

LWVH is committed to providing information to the public about local, state and national developments regarding accessibility, cost and limits on health services. And good committee members stand ready to help.

So, if you want to actively support the League's position that every citizen should have access to affordable health care, join the committee. Become the chair, or co-chair if you don't want to do it all yourself. The League of Women Voters and your fellow citizens need your talent and ability. Contact Judy Samuelson, Judi Roth or Glorian Berk to discuss how we can help you reactivate the Health Committee.

## Education, Special Events & Voter Committee Reports

### Priorities Set for 2011-2012

by Mary Blake

At our August 1 Planning Meeting, the Education Committee chose priorities for the next 12 months. In keeping with the LWVH initiative, Getting Out the Vote, we decided to make that our topic of choice for Running and Winning (R&W). March 14, 2012 is proposed for the event. Thanks to a generous grant from the Long Island Fund for Women and Girls, R&W will be funded externally. We also decided to select two awardees and two runners-up from those students participating in Running and Winning to attend Students Inside Albany.

We plan to work closely with the Voter Services Committee to increase voter registration within the schools. After lengthy discussion, the Committee decided to recommend to the board that LWVH not participate in the LWVUS Education Consensus Study. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 19 at 11 a.m. in the Bridgehampton Library.

### New Advertisers in *The Voter*

by Judi Roth

You've hit a pothole on the drive out to the Hamptons and now you need a new tire. Not to worry! Just get over to **Southampton Tire Center** on North Sea Road for complete tire service. Good thing too, so you won't miss your reservation at the very elegant bed-and-breakfast at Southampton's **A Butler's Manor**. Your plan while you're here is to look for a home to buy and you're meeting with League member **Jenice Delano** of **Saunders and Associates** to do that. But first you're going to check out Reverse Mortgages with **Met Life**. In order to do that, you're going to drive to East Hampton to get new reading glasses from **Roeloff East Hampton Optical**.

You've also heard about League member **Jane Scudi Dell**, an interior designer from Westhampton Beach, and perhaps you'll stop at **Reilly Windows and Doors** to check out the custom-made products they have available. But wait—your son is complaining that his baby tooth is loose—quick look on your iPhone and you'll find that there's a pediatric dentist, **Dr. Nancy Cosenza**, in Southampton. Your iPhone reminds you that when you're in Sag Harbor, you planned to stop at **Twin Peaks Geeks**, which specialized in all things Apple.

Sounds as if you're going to be doing a lot of driving. That won't make the wise members of **Women's**

**Initiative for a Sustainable Earth (WISE)** very happy, but at least you'll have good tires so you're saving gas mileage that way.

And remember if you need community services anywhere on Long Island you can find a 10,000 program database by going to **www.211longisland.org**.

League members please keep your *Voter* next to your phone, so when you're looking for a service you know where to look first. All of our advertisers appear on our website, [www.lwvhamptons.org](http://www.lwvhamptons.org)

### No Flies on Flea Market's LWVH Booth in Westhampton Beach

by Ursula Lynch and Gladys Remler

We appreciate the contributions of so many League members to make our participation in the Westhampton Rotary's 2011 Flea Market successful and fun. We begin with thanks to donors for the great things left at three drop off points, and especially Sally James and Joy Cordery for offering their garages to receive them. Saturday August 13 dawned sunny and hot. Our tent was set up with the able help of George Lynch and Walter Lapple. Jane Dell and Jane Lapple unpacked and displayed our wares (see photos!). The booth looked attractive and appealing. The quality of the donations surpassed previous years, and our big League Of Women Voters Of The Hamptons banner was displayed prominently. One table held our League literature.

Sue Wilson, receiver of funds, Joy Cordery and Mary Blake rounded out our morning shift. Carol Lee Nespole and Judi Roth, also old hands at the flea market, arrived to help. Last shifters Eموke Forman, Ann Sandford and Gerry Korman helped to tuck the goods under the lowered tent. We hoped the wind and rain would not play havoc with it all during the night.

### Many Hands Made Light Work

On Sunday August 14, we were rained out. Our lovely tent had held up and stood lonely and forlorn in the rain. The water had collected in pools in the folds, but all underneath turned out dry. Our first responders were again George Lynch, Norman Remler, Jane and Walter Lapple. Before all else, we had to bail out the water from the tent roof. Garbage was disposed off, goods repacked, tables folded, the banner rolled, cars packed. Items were segregated for various charities. In the downpour we worked fast and efficiently. In no time all that was left to



### WESTHAMPTON ROTARY 2011 FLEA MARKET

*Linens, lamps, china, kitchen appliances, baskets of every shape and size—all offered a great prices by LWVH volunteers at the Westhampton Rotary Flea Market on Saturday, August 13. Given free were warmth, friendliness, information on voting and on the League. Volunteers included organizers Gladys Remler and Ursula Lynch as well as Jane Dell, Jane Lapple, Mary Blake, Joy Cordery, Eموke Forman, Ann Sandford and Gerry Korman. Unfortunately, Sunday's event was rained out. Photos by Mary Blake.*



do was to fold up the tent. We all grabbed a pole, pulled and pushed. It was done! We laughed and hugged in the rain. This was an experience of collaboration and camaraderie for all of us. And, as we earned much needed funds, we consider the one-day flea market a success!



# LWVH Board Meeting Summary

*Held on August 3, 2011*

## INFORMATION ITEMS

- \* Ellen's Run. Participants should sign in at Parrish Hall from 8 to 8:30 a.m. then meet at entrance to Southampton Hospital's Emergency Room between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. to join up with supporters at the starting point. All should wear League shirts and visors. Carpool to avoid parking issues. CC blast sent with this info.
- \* September Members meeting. Judi gained approval from Shinnecock Nation's Tribal Council to hold meeting on Sept. 12 at 7, at Hampton Bays Senior Center. Gladys to bring refreshments with a member. Meeting title: "The Shinnecock Nation, Past and Future."
- \* LWVNYS news. Would like every League in state to hold a forum in 2012 on "increase voter participation project." Board agreed this is very consistent with our own goals of getting out the vote. New staff member: Casey Haggas to work in Albany office 30 hrs. per week.
- \* LWVSC to host debate for County Supervisor candidates in either Hauppauge or Islip. Our role not determined yet.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- \* Holiday party. Will be Monday December 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. at home of Anne & Bob Marshall in Bridgehampton. The Retreat will be this year's beneficiary.
- \* East End Community Picnic. September 17 in Hampton Bays. LWVH gave \$100 donation, members urged to attend for visibility. It's also fun.
- \* Back up plan for answering LWVH phone in Mireille's absence. Tabled until Sept. board meeting as Terri, who volunteered to report on cost/benefit of changing to a cell phone, was absent.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- \* Membership. In dire need of new chair. Good committee members await. One possibility: Rotate chairmanship monthly. Vicki Umans doing interim "back office" duty to keep funds moving. Glorian to meet with Arlene Makl next week to get operational info, as Arlene leaves East Hampton in September. Arlene Hinkemeyer reported findings by state league that LWV membership is declining statewide.
- \* Voter Services. Anne Marshall will promote our participation in VOTE411.com in September *Voter*.
  - Will add candidates' replies to questions including position on Town Manager/Council form of government to LWVNYS website.

- Southampton debate for County Legislator and Council (Supervisor running unopposed) is October 13, 7 p.m. at Rogers Memorial Library.
- Candidate debate for County Legislator, East Hampton Supervisor and Council scheduled October 17, 7 p.m. at LTV studios.
- Jane Dell answered County League phone in July, Anne will in August.
- Ursula, Judi Roth and Marsha Kranes to attend August 18 naturalization ceremony. August 29 will be Barbara Jordan and Mireille Lister.
- \* Special Events. Gladys and Ursula gave schedule for picking up donations, pricing them and staffing Booth 43 at the August 13 and 14 Westhampton Rotary Flea Market. Saturday hours are 10 to 6; Sunday 12 to 5. Donations accepted until August 10.
- \* Government. Naomi Epstein reported questions re: Town Manager will be included in the live debates and on website VOTE411.com.
- \* Education. Mary Blake announced results of recent committee planning meeting.
  - Committee voted against participating in NYWUS study on role of federal government in education standards. Judi will write to LWVUS explaining decision.
  - As that was topic for November meeting, discussion of new topic ensued. Considering someone from The Retreat and another speaker on women's health.
  - Analyzed what worked, what didn't at Running and Winning. Topic in 2012 will be "how to get out the vote" (to be refined at next meeting). This ties in perfectly with overall LWVH goals.
  - Will send two students from Running & Winning to attend Inside Albany Day. Desch fund to pay for one student, state pays for a second.
- \* Natural Resources. Sue Wilson noted committee intends to form closer synergy with other local environmental groups. Topics under discussion include Plum Island, alternative energy sources. Group to meet in outdoor locations such as a vineyard or park. Reconnecting with nature in this way would also serve as recruitment tool for committee and League of Women Voters itself.

Note: Time constraints prevented substantive reporting by Public Relations (Arlene Hinkemeyer) or *The Voter* (Sally James and Joy Cordery). Deadline for September *Voter* is August 15.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15. **Next meeting will be at Bridgehampton Bank at 7 p.m. on September 7.**  
*Respectfully submitted by Judy Samuelson*

## September 2011

*Note: Meeting dates and times are published several weeks in advance and are subject to change. Please contact the Chairs or visit our website at [www.lwvhamptons.org](http://www.lwvhamptons.org) for updates. If you don't see a meeting for a committee of interest, contact the Chair of that committee. Contact information is listed on last inside page of The Voter and on the website, [www.lwvhamptons.org](http://www.lwvhamptons.org).*

<b>Early September</b> - Date and Time TBD	Government Committee Meeting	Location TBD. Contact Naomi Epstein 324-9371.
<b>September 6</b> - 10:30 AM Tuesday	Natural Resources Committee Meeting	Location TBD. Contact Susan Wilson 283-6549.
<b>September 7</b> - 7:00 PM Wednesday	Board of Directors Meeting	Bridgehampton National Bank, Montauk Highway, Bridgehampton. Members and guests welcome.
<b>September 12</b> - 7:00 PM Wednesday	General Membership Meeting	<i>Shinnecock Nation: Its Past and Future</i> Hampton Bays Senior Center. Call 728-1235 for directions. Members and guests welcome.
<b>September 15</b> - 12:30 PM Thursday	Voter Services Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Anne K. Marshall 537-3257.
<b>September 15</b> - 2:00 PM Thursday	Special Events Committee Meeting	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Ursula Lynch at 288-4721 or Gladys Remler at 288-9021.
<b>September 17</b> - 1:00-6:30 PM Saturday	East End Community Picnic	Red Creek Park, Hampton Bays. For more information, call 728-5558.
<b>September 19</b> - 11:00 AM Monday	Education Committee	Hampton Library, Bridgehampton. Contact Terri Levin Davgin 329-3217 or Mary Blake 907-4499.
<b>TOWN BOARD MEETINGS</b>		
<b>September 1, 15</b> - 7:00 PM	East Hampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Courtroom, 159 Pantigo Rd., East Hampton
<b>September 13</b> - 1:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton
<b>September 27</b> - 6:00 PM	Southampton Town Board Meeting	Town Hall Board Room, Southampton Town Hall, 116 Hampton Rd., Southampton



# Suffolk County Voter

[www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org](http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org) Box 1440, Stony Brook, NY 11790-1440 631-862-6860

Wednesday September 21 LWVSC Board Meeting, SCCC, 20 E.Main St., Riverhead 10:00am - 12:00noon

September 2011

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## County Health Centers and other issues at the Suffolk County Legislature

by Eileen Coblens and Barbara Magaliff, Portfolio Chairs

We have been observing the Health and Human Services Committee meetings in July and August, as well as the General Session of the Suffolk County Legislature in Hauppauge on August 2. There were a number of important topics brought up at the committee meetings, such as the need for a county-wide registry for bone marrow donors and Cornell Cooperative Extension's healthy eating program, targeted at local income areas where good food choices are limited. Also there was a substantial discussion from the Suffolk County Health Department on the Suffolk County Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan. The plan is a

framework for monitoring the quality of water resources in Suffolk County, assessing the risks to the water supply, and determining the best way to protect water resources.

## Meeting to Redistrict Suffolk County

by Nancy Marr

On July 27, six of the eight committee members appointed to the Suffolk County Legislative Reapportionment Committee met with County Legislators Jon Cooper, Majority Leader, and John Kennedy, Minority Leader, and some of their aides. (Each legislator has appointed two retired judges, one representative appointed by an organization committed to the principles of voters' rights and/or the advancement of public policy, and one representative of a publicly recognized minority organization, though not all were present at this first meeting.)

Our first order of business was to seek the information we need from the United States Census, and some technical help to understand it. We learned that the request had to come from the committee itself, rather than one of the aides or legislators, who might be "partisan," so we agreed to forward the request to the County Department of Planning. We realized that we need a chairperson; Judge Gowan offered to serve, and there was no objection. He will be following up on our request for Census information, analysis and breakdowns that we need, and funding from the county for the operation of the committee (secretarial help, materials, etc.) We learned that County Legislator Andrew Crecca had used his own computer to develop redistricting plans after the 2000 Census. Judge Gowan will obtain his plans if he can. We scheduled our next meeting for a month later, August 24. After the

From the League's perspective, a priority is the future of the County Health Care Centers. At the July 28 Health & Human Services Committee, before the consideration of 1565-11, which would establish a County policy to ensure the full operation of all County Health Centers in 2011, Anne Kellett spoke with a plea to pass the legislation to insure those most needy and vulnerable would continue to receive health service. Mary Finnin then spoke. She repeated her plea to have the Suffolk County Legislature to declare a "public health emergency" and again, proposed that the "tobacco fund" and a \$5 per capita tax, be used fund all Suffolk County health care programs. That measure was tabled.

Also at the HHS Committee meeting on July 28, Resolution 1600-11, requiring legislative approval of any Request for Proposal for the sale of the County's Certified Home Health Agency license, was approved and will be on the agenda when the full legislature meets on August 2. This legislation is an attempt to make sure

*continued*

## Suffolk County Bans Toxic Coal Tar Sealant

On July 8, 2011, County Executive Steve Levy signed into law a critical resolution to ban coal tar sealant, an important step for protecting public health. Coal tar sealant is commonly used in parking lots to "beautify" asphalt every few years, despite the fact that it is worn away quickly and pollutes our rivers, bays, and estuaries with carcinogens.

*continued*



**Redistricting** *continued*

meeting, we received an email from one of his aides listing many reference materials that will be helpful in getting prepared.

The proposal the committee presents shall provide:

- For substantially equal weight for all the voters in the allocation of representation in the Suffolk County Legislative body;
- Substantially fair and effective representation for the people of Suffolk County as organized in political parties; and
- Representation areas that are of convenient and contiguous territory in as compact form as practicable.
- No legislative district shall deviate more than 3 percent from the total population of Suffolk County divided by 18 except in those instances where a deviation of greater than 3 percent is required to meet the standards of the Voting Rights Act.

*Background:*

*Section 2 of the VRA was designed to prohibit the techniques used in the past to dilute minority voting power. It makes it illegal to draw district lines that deny minority voters an equal opportunity to “participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice,” whether this denial is intentional or an unintended result of the way lines are drawn.*

*The usual technique to protect the minority population is to draw a district so that those voters represent a majority of the voters in a “majority-minority” district.*

*Race may not be the “predominant” reason for a district’s shape, but considering race as part of the overall mix, along with race-neutral redistricting factors like political preference and community interests and geographic considerations and the like, is proper.*

**County Health Centers** *continued*

that all legally mandated procedures are followed before the sale of the home health agency.

At the August 2 General Meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature, several people spoke in favor of supporting Resolution 1600-11. Dr. Laurel Green, chair of the Public Health Nursing steering committee, presented the results of her committee's report, which collected data showing the county’s usage and suggesting possible options for continuing public health care. She was assured by Legislator Romaine that any decisions regarding the closing of health facilities would be made by the full legislature and not the County Executive alone. She was invited to appear before the Health and Human Services Committee to give a fuller presentation of her report's findings. Following the public portion, the legislature approved Resolution 1600-11 (604).

On August 11 at the Health and Human Services Committee Meeting, the important piece of legislation addressed was Resolution 1726-11. According to this resolution, the Suffolk County Executive helped bring about a \$20 million dollar reduction in State funding of Suffolk County health care centers by having “withheld critical information, which could have effected a compromise from the Suffolk County Legislature.” What Resolution 1726 aims to do is to “create its own negotiating team to continue the Article 6 talks with the New York State Department of Health.” Resolution 1726-11 will be taken up again at the September meeting of the committee.

**LWVSC President  
Attends National LWV Training**

Lisa Scott was recently selected to serve as a New York State coach for membership and leadership development in a program conducted by the League of Women Voters of the United States.

In 2010, LWVUS started a national coaching team, the Ruth S. Shur Fellows. These national coaches now provide personal support and training to the state coaches, who in turn serve as mentors who listen and advise their paired local League(s); cheerleaders to help Leagues to “see” their successes and applaud them;; accountability coaches to keep Leagues on track with their work; and communication bridges between the levels of League.

Although Lisa’s paired League is in Nassau County, local Leagues in Suffolk will reap the benefit of her training in discussions of best practices and organizational development at the LWVSC monthly board meetings.

In this time of increased political incivility and growing polarization, the League of Women Voters is needed more than ever. A strong League in every community is the best way to ensure that we have an American citizenry that is informed on the issues, ready and able to cast a ballot, and to ensure that every vote is counted.

# Voter Services Committee Report

## A Busy Season Ahead

by Anne Marshall

With the local election season just around the corner, Voter Services Committee members showed their dedication by braving summer traffic to come to planning meetings in Bridgehampton from points as far as Amagansett in the east and Westhampton Beach in the west. As a means of taking action to encourage informed and active participation of citizens in government (LWVH Mission statement), the committee has focused on the following initiatives:

### SCHEDULING CANDIDATE DEBATES

- \* Thursday, Oct. 13, 7 p.m. at the Rogers Memorial Library: County Legislator and Southampton Town Council
- \* Monday, Oct. 17, 7 PM at LTV Studios: County Legislator, East Hampton Town Supervisor and Town Council.

### FACILITATING VOTER REGISTRATION

This committee helps to facilitate voter registration by new citizens at the naturalization ceremonies at the Central Islip Federal Courthouse.

### GIVING CANDIDATE DETAILS TO VOTE411.ORG

We will participate in VOTE411.org., a website sponsored by the national LWV, that provides information about candidates in the November 2011 elections. Our League will work to manage the section about local candidates.

### DISSEMINATING VOTER INFORMATION

Details of election dates and voter registration requirements and deadlines. Among the deadlines:

- \* Last day to register for the General Election (Nov. 8) by mail: Oct. 14, received by Oct. 19
- \* Last day to register for the General Election in person: Oct. 14
- \* Last day to mail Absentee ballots: Nov. 1

Also provide information about the new voting machines.

### GETTING OUT THE VOTE

Working with all relevant LWVH committees to encourage a larger voter turnout through a **Get Out the Vote** campaign.

Please join us at our next Voter Services Committee on Thursday, September 15, 12:30 p.m. at the Bridgehampton Library.

## Meet Our Newest Member

**Janet Verneuille**

*Sag Harbor*

Janet—who just earned an MA in social policy—became business administrator of the Sag Harbor School District in 2010 after a successful career in banking as CFO of Bridgehampton National Bank and Georgia Bank.

Before her shift to education, she spent a year as East Hampton's comptroller, working to rebuild the town's shaky financial systems. Long interested in the League because of its nonpartisan policy, it took a nudge from member Nada Barry to get her to join—along with her daughter Emily's positive experience participating in our "Running and Winning" workshop.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Continued from page 2*

begin the next chapter of their lives. We all run into these people—we must recruit them! Our League needs, from amongst you who receive this newsletter, a spark that says, "I am that person—I have ideas on how to bring new members into the League." Our members stand ready to help you.

Terri Davgin will continue to run Hot Topics lunches, which bring people to the League on topics outside of the League—whether it is "hot" yoga instructors or "cool" LongHouse speakers. Gladys Remler and Ursula Lynch in Special Events will tell you that at the August 13-14 Flea Market in Westhampton Beach, membership was front and center, with banners and visors to call attention to ourselves and League literature on hand to encourage membership. Our Ellen's Run contingent (where, by the way, we were joined by Judge Andrea Schiavoni, Councilwoman Bridget Fleming and Assemblyman Fred Thiele) is another membership venue. So, the ideas are there and new ones always welcome—what we need is leadership—what we need is YOU!

Mary Blake, Terri Davgin and Sue Wilson went to the State Convention and came home so energized they asked Glorian and me for a special meeting. They convinced us we should emphasize our core values this year and work on not only registering people but on getting out the vote! The Board agreed and that will be one of our main focuses this year. Anne Marshall is getting statistics on voting in all of our hamlets with the possible idea of a contest among our hamlets to see who can raise their vote total the most this year. As evidenced on multiple television programs, Americans love contests—so we hope we can give them one. Stay tuned!

# LWVH Board & Green Tips

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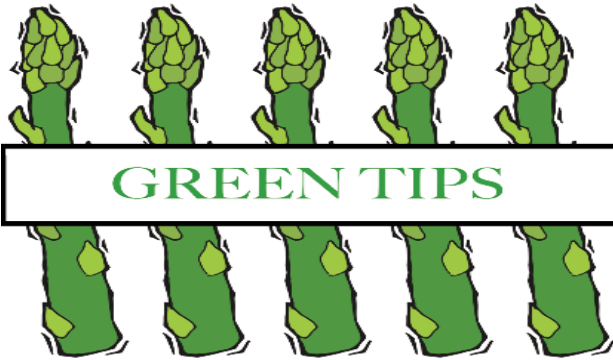
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by Sue Wilson

## KEEPING THE FAMILY CAR LOOKING GREAT IN A GREEN WORLD

A fairly common image during the spring and summer months is the family car parked on a sloping driveway by the house, a rubber bucket on the grass, with the hose lying in wait. Unfortunately, this long-time practice can harm the environment. The residue that's rinsed off the car runs down the driveway and ends up in our rivers, lakes and streams, polluting the local water supply.

If you choose to wash your car at home, use biodegradable car wash products that reduce the amount of chemicals released into the environment. Make sure that the products you use are phosphate-free.

Homemade car wash can be made by combining  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of powdered, chemical-free laundry detergent and a cup of liquid dishwashing detergent. Even though you're washing with biodegradable cleaners, it's still best to stick to washing the car on your lawn to keep thirsty critters from drinking the soapy water. Avoid using paper towels to reduce waste. Microfiber towels hold a lot of cleaner and rinse easily with very little water.

## The Carwash

Although more expensive, commercial carwashes are actually a great way of keeping your car clean in an eco-friendly way. Most are required to treat the dirty water before releasing it into the environment and their mechanical washing systems monitor the usage and pressure of water to reduce water waste. Most commercial carwashes also re-use the rinse water over and over again. That saves them money while being environmentally friendly. The International Carwash Association helps commercial stations maintain regulated standards.

# The Voter

League of Women Voters of the Hamptons

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