



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF EAST NASSAU

voter

*At local, state and national levels
the League works to influence public policy
through education and advocacy.*

August/September 2007

Save the Dates

Wednesday, Sept. 5 – 7:45 PM
LWVEN Board Meeting
Home of Maxine Stolzer
130 Bud La., Levittown, 938-1172

Monday, September 17

CELEBRATE

CONSTITUTION DAY

Morning Program

9:00 AM – 11:30 PM

Bar Association of NC

15th & West Streets, Mineola

Evening Program

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Hofstra University School of Law – Moot Court Room

Hempstead Tpk., Hempstead
(See page 8 for information.)

Wednesday, Sept. 19 – 7:45 PM

LWVEN General Meeting

Topic: Stem Cell Research

Wantagh Public Library

3285 Park Avenue, 221-1200

Saturday & Sunday,

September 29 and 30.

**NYVV (New Yorkers for
Verified Voting)**

Annual Meeting, Ithaca, NY.

A gathering of voting integrity
advocates from around NYS.

(For information: nyvv.org)

Thursday, Oct. 4 – 11:00 AM

LWVNYS Regional Workshop

Farmingdale College

Peachtree Lounge, Knapp Hall

(See page 3.)

**Please Join Us
on Wednesday, September 19, 2007
7:45 PM**

**at the Wantagh Library
3285 Park Avenue (221-1200)**

**For a very informative discussion of
STEM CELL RESEARCH**



On Wednesday, September 19, we will have the opportunity to listen to **Dr. Michael Hadjiargyrou** Associate Professor, Associate VP for Research, Graduate Program Director, State University of NY at Stony Brook) as he reveals the latest information about stem cell research.

The overall goal of his laboratory is to “implement innovative approaches for engineering new skeletal tissue utilizing knowledge derived from molecular/cellular biology and biomaterials.” They are “actively involved in understanding the molecular mechanisms that underlie the wound healing (fracture repair) process.” “The latest methods in molecular/cellular biology are applied in the pursuit of gene discovery, gene structure and functional analysis, expression studies and functional perturbations.”

Several of our members heard Dr. Hadjiargyrou speak about stem cell research a couple of years ago, and were amazed at what we learned. (And, yes, he was able to explain it in a way that even we, non-technical members of the audience, could understand.)

So, please join us to learn a lot and get answers to your questions. The meeting is open to the community, please do not hesitate to bring friends, relatives and neighbors.

League of Women Voters® of East Nassau

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Mary Price, Circulation
Lesley Pollak, Advertising

County Legislature Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, Sept. 5 10:00 AM
 Monday, Sept. 24 10:00 AM
 Wednesday, Oct. 10 10:00 AM
 Monday, Oct. 22 10:00 AM

The Nassau County Legislature meets in the Legislative Chamber, 5th floor, One West Street, Mineola, 571-4252. An admittance pass must be obtained on the first floor of the building, at the north elevator.

Town of Hempstead Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, Sept. 4 10:30 AM
 Tuesday, Sept. 25 10:30 AM
 Tuesday, Oct. 2 10:30 AM
 Tues., Oct. 16 2:30 PM, 7:00 PM

The Hempstead Town Board meets at Town Hall, in the Nathan H. Bennett Pavilion, 489-5000.

Town of Oyster Bay Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, August 7 10:00 AM
 Tuesday, August 21 10:00 AM
 Tuesday, Sept. 25 7:00 PM
 Tuesday, Oct. 2 10:00 AM
 Tues., Oct. 16 10:00 AM, 7:00 PM
 Tuesday, Oct. 23 10:00 AM

The Oyster Bay Town Board meets at 54 Audrey Ave., Oyster Bay, 624-6390.

Call before
attending.
Schedules
are subject
to change.



LWVEN Board of Directors – 2007-2008

OFFICERS

President: Carole Goldfarb 626-3338

Vice Presidents:

Environment/Sprawl Lorraine Newman 735-4876

Voter Service/HAVA Norma Schaeffer 489-3133

Bulletin Circulation/ Mary Price 731-0812

Special Events

Secretary: Shirlee Bergman 249-5276

Treasurer/ Membership: Mimi Hirsch 822-5086

DIRECTORS:

Affordable Housing: Barbara Epstein 221-1948

Bulletin: Paula Blum 785-3213

Budget: Lesley Pollak 731-1066

Education: Maxine Stolzer 938-1172

Immigration Study Carole Goldfarb 626-3338

Issues/Advocacy: Polly Nager 796-6211

Membership: Bobby Stim 731-1067

Elsie Yurasits 292-8045

Programs: Janet Spar 735-8673

Public Relations: Judy Schmertz 221-1576

Students Inside Albany: Judy Schecter 221-5448

In This Issue...

1. Save the Dates, Meeting on Stem Cell Research
2. County and Town Legislative Schedules, LWVEN Officers & Directors, Keeping Connected
3. Ida Trager Regional Workshop, FOIA Update
4. Immigration Study, Constitution Discussion, Congratulations Carole and Ted
5. & 6. VOTER Advertisers, Membership Enrollment Form
7. Town S.T.O.P., Labor Day Pay Equity Campaign, Voting Machines – 2007, Correction to June/July VOTER
8. Constitution Day Event – schedule and pre-registration form

Keeping Connected

LWVUS & LWVUS Education Fund

1730 M Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036-4508
 202-429-1965, www.lwv.org, lwv@lwv.org

LWVNYS & LWVNYS Education Foundation

62 Grand Street, Albany, NY 12207
 518-465-4162, www.lwvny.org, lwvny@lwvny.org

LWV of Nassau County:

Post Office Box 539, Point Lookout, NY 11569, 516-431-1628
www.lwvofnassaucounty.org, info@lwvofnassaucounty.org



Ida Trager Regional Training Workshops

The State Board and Your Local League (LL) Working Together: Voter Service/Membership/Financial Support/State Study on National Popular Vote/Other

See the 2007 schedule below and make your reservation to join members from your state board when they come to your area to facilitate training, dialogue, and an active networking opportunity among local Leagues. **Share information and a light meal** with state League president Martha Kennedy, VPs Marcia Merrins (Membership), Maggie Moehringer (Voter Service), and Betsey Swan (Development) as well as other state board members.

OCTOBER 4 Long Island 11:00 am – 3 pm
Farmingdale University, 2350 Broadhollow Road
Farmingdale, NY - Knapp Hall (Peachtree Lounge)

GOALS

1. Foster strong relationships between the LWNYS and LWV local Leagues, boards and members
2. Foster strong relationships among local Leagues within regions
3. Problem solve among local and state LWNYS leaders.
4. Identify the best ideas and best people to move LWNYS forward
5. Provide a consistent annual platform for open and intimate dialogue, problem solving and visioning

OPEN TO INTERESTED LEAGUE MEMBERS & FRIENDS

PLEASE CLIP AND SEND TO:
LWNYS, 62 Grand St., Albany, NY 12207
Or Fax 518-465-0812 (Credit Card Only)
Phone: 518-465-4162

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Email _____

Local League _____

Long Island Workshop – **October 4, 2007**

Enclosed is my registration fee of \$5

My check is enclosed (payable to LWNYS)

Charge my: Mastercard VISA
 Discover Card American Express

Cardholder's name _____

Exp. Date: ____/____

Card Number _____

Signature _____

The workshop is hosted by the LWV of Suffolk County, which has made the arrangements for food, etc. To show our appreciation for their efforts, please RSVP as soon as possible. Contact the state office (see above) if you have any questions. Telephone and/or written multiple registrations are happily accepted.

Freedom of Information Act Update

The first week in August, the US Senate unanimously approved bipartisan legislation -- the OPEN Government Act -- to update the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and make government more transparent.

Supporters sent over 7,000 e-mails to 86 Senators in support of the OPEN Government Act to update FOIA, a very clear message to the Senate that open government and the public's right to know are American values that transcend party lines.

This pressure ensured the passage of a strong bill that will improve the FOIA process by:

- Imposing meaningful deadlines on agencies handling information requests;
- Establishing a FOIA hotline;
- Bringing government records held by private contractors into full public view;
- Creating a FOIA Ombudsman to provide an alternative to costly litigation between FOIA requestors and federal agencies; and
- Allowing federal agencies to waive FOIA fees for freelance journalists and bloggers.

The House of Representatives passed a similar bill earlier this year. Hopefully it will soon become law.

IMMIGRATION: Can We Rise Above the Emotional, Partisan Ranting on All Sides of the Issue to Forge Rational Policy that Works?

Carole Goldfarb

In less than half a year LWV will take a position on one of the most divisive and least understood issues facing our nation at this time: immigration. We hope that East Nassau members will take the opportunity to learn more about the hidden factors that impact the problems causing such widespread dissension, so that we can make reasoned voices heard.

At our **November meeting**, we will be taking a look at the **history of immigration law in this country** and some **little known aspects of our current policies and related problems**; such as its *effect on state and national economies, the environmental impact of a large immigrant population, integrating new arrivals socially and culturally, the effect on wages in this country*, both on American workers facing competition for jobs and immigrant workers who are frequently exploited, and *the strain on our educational system*.

We will consider the **effect of policies that affect the flow of immigrants into this country**, such as *agricultural subsidies, NAFTA and our export policies, guest worker programs for both skilled and unskilled workers, and admission of family members*. We will look at **major enforcement deficiencies and the hardships they cause**.

Based on this information and discussion, we will weigh in on a set of consensus questions at our January meeting.

These will involve:

criteria and priorities to be considered in any future legislation, the rights of families to remain together, how to deal more effectively with unauthorized immigrants, how to treat unauthorized immigrants, and whether federal immigration law should be coordinated with foreign policy toward nations with large emigrating populations.



Congratulations and Best Wishes to

Carole Goldfarb
and
Ted Goldstein

A colorful illustration of a three-tiered wedding cake. The cake is decorated with pink and white frosting and has a bride and groom figurine on top. A single red rose is placed at the base of the cake.

Constitution Day Discussion

The Constitution Day event planned for September (see page 8) was discussed by East Nassau members following the August Board Meeting. Present (from left to right) were: Shirlee Bergman, Polly Nager, Paula Blum, Carole Goldfarb, Mimi Hirsch, Maxine Stolzer, Judy Schmertz, Lesley Pollak, Lorraine Newman, Bobby Stim.