



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.*

November 2007

Save the Dates

Tuesday, Nov. 6
ELECTION DAY

Wednesday, Nov. 7 – 8:00 AM
LI Fund for Women & Girls
Annual Awards Breakfast
Crest Hollow Country Club

Wednesday, Nov. 7 – 7:45 PM
LWVEN Board Meeting
Home of Judy Schmertz - 221-1576
2428 Kayron Lane, No. Bellmore

Nov. 12 – 16
Fair Elections Action Week

Wednesday, Nov. 14
LWVNC Post Election Luncheon
Speaker: Lawrence Levy
(See page 8 of October issue.)

Friday, Nov. 16- 8 AM - 3 PM
Melville Marriott
Vision LI - Land Use Conference
For information: 631-261-0242

Thursday, Nov. 22
THANKSGIVING

Tuesday, Nov. 27 – 12:30 – 3:00
Memorial Meeting in memory of
Marion Ausubel - Dessert & Coffee
Speaker: Peter Levy
Topic: Court Reform (See p. 4)

Wednesday, Nov. 28 - AM
**LWVNY & UN Department of
Public Information**
Briefings on the Effects of War on
Women Around the World (At UN)

Wednesday, Nov. 28 – 7:45 PM
LWVEN General Meeting
Topic: Immigration
Plainview – Old Bethpage Library
See right column.

Immigration



Immigration has become a hot-button issue everywhere. People have lots of opinions, many of which are based on emotions, not facts. The topic is being discussed and debated on every level of government. Leagues around the country have been studying this issue, and we hope to have a national consensus in February. To do this, local Leagues are having informational and consensus meetings, so that they can come to consensus locally first.

**Please join us at our informational meeting
on Immigration.**

When: Wednesday, November 28, 2007 - 7:45 PM

**Where: Plainview – Old Bethpage Library
Old Country Road, Plainview**

**Who: Members, friends, relatives and neighbors of
members, general public**

We are pleased to report that NYS DEC Commissioner Grannis has **DENIED** a waiver to the Suffolk County Water Authority to drill into the Lloyd Aquifer. Grannis' decision said the water authority must abide by the moratorium and that it has failed to prove that lack of access to the Lloyd would inflict extreme hardship on the authority and its customers.

As the bottom aquifer, the Lloyd must be kept as pristine as possible for as long as possible. This will help.

League of Women Voters® of East Nassau

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County Legislature Meeting Schedule

Monday, Nov. 19	10:00 AM
Monday, Dec. 3	10:00 AM
Monday, Dec. 17	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, Nov. 13	10:30 AM
Tuesday, Nov. 27	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 11	10:30 AM

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

Town of Oyster Bay Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, Nov. 13	10:00 AM
Tuesday, Nov. 27	7:00 PM
Tuesday, Dec. 18	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

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Voter Service/HAVA Norma Schaeffer 489-3133

Bulletin Circulation/ Mary Price 731-0812

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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

Janet Spar 735-8673

Public Relations: Judy Schmertz 221-1576

Students Inside Albany: Judy Schecter 221-5448

In This Issue...

1. Save the Dates, Immigration Meeting, Lloyd Aquifer moratorium info.
2. County and Town Legislative Schedules, LWVEN Officers & Directors, Keeping Connected
3. Pay Equity Questions, Kick the Habit
4. Marion Ausubel Memorial Meeting and Talk on Court Reform, Check Out Websites, Answers to Questions
5. & 6. VOTER Advertisers, Membership Enrollment Form
7. Town S.T.O.P. Day Schedule, National Women's History Museum, Political Quotes, What's in Our Water?
8. About LWV – Who Are We?

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



Pay Equity?

1. In 1963, when the Equal Pay Act was passed, women made ___¢ on the dollar compared to men.
- a. 59¢ b. 63¢ c. 74¢ d. 81¢
2. Today that figure is ___¢ on the dollar compared to men.
- a. 85¢ b. 91¢ c. 72¢ d. 77¢
3. Black women earn ___¢ on the dollar compared to white men.
- a. 65¢ b. 72¢ c. 85¢ d. 87¢
4. Hispanic women earn ___¢ on the dollar compared to white men.
- a. 59¢ b. 52¢ c. 72¢ d. 82¢
5. Over a lifetime, how much less will women earn than men?
- a. \$550,000 b. \$700,000 c. \$1,200,000 d. \$2,000,000
6. Under the Equal Pay Act, employers cannot pay women and minorities less than white men with the same qualifications for doing the same job.
- _____ True _____ False
7. Under the Equal Pay Act, plaintiffs are entitled to compensatory and punitive damages if their employer has violated the law.
- _____ True _____ False
8. Women make up ___% of the American labor force today.
- a. 38% b. 42% c. 44.5% d. 46%

Break the Habit



“Put down the bottled water and back away ...slowly...”

Ok, so bottled water isn't exactly a deadly weapon, but it is habit forming - and harmful to the environment. Did you know that for every gallon of water that is bottled, two more gallons are wasted in processing? And **most plastic water bottles end up as trash.**

Let's kick the habit together. Pledge to Break the Bottled Water Habit today!

Here's why: Americans drank more than 8.3 billion gallons of bottled water in 2006. Manufacturing all those bottles required 900,000 tons of plastic and **emitted as much greenhouse gas as 500,000 cars.**

And that bottled water may not be so special - as much as 40% of bottled water is actually bottled tap water!

So what can you do? **Take the pledge to Break the Bottled Water Habit** with the Carbon Conscious Consumer campaign and then fill up your reusable water bottle. It's that easy. You'll save energy and money, too!

By choosing tap water over bottled water, you not only save money, you also reduce negative environmental and social impacts, from the energy used to produce and transport the plastic bottles to the plastic waste from discarded bottles.“

(source: Care2.com)

(Editors note: It would be easier to do this if our local water tasted better. Those of us who are served by NY Water Co. pay the highest price for the worst tasting water on LI.)

Help Wanted:

The League of Women Voters of Nassau County (an Inter-League Organization) has several important positions open for caring, interested, capable members, female and/or male. If you are interested in filling one of these positions, please contact Paula Blum: 516-785-3213 or paulablum@hotmail.com, for information on the responsibilities involved, etc. Open positions:

Treasurer
Voter Service Director
Membership Director

Remember: members of local Leagues are always welcome to attend board meetings of their local Leagues as well as the county ILO board meetings. Please get involved.



Memorial Meeting

The LWV of GREAT NECK AND LWVNC are dedicating a program on Tuesday, November 27th to MARION AUSUBEL. All Leaguers are cordially invited to join in this memorial.

- 12:30 PM - In remembrance - with Marvin Ausubel and family, celebrate her life
- 2:00 PM - Hear Peter Levy from the Nassau Bar Association speak on Court Reform, an issue for which Marion worked tirelessly – help make court reform a reality

12:30 – 3:00 PM - Dessert and Coffee
Lake Success Social Hall, Lakeville Road (opposite school entrance)



Check Out these Websites!

Both the national and state Leagues offer phenomenal websites with scads of very relevant information, much of which can be downloaded. They are relatively user-friendly, and every League member should at least check them out.

Go to www.lwv.org to see what's available on the LWVUS website, and to www.lwvny.org for all of the amazing stuff offered by the LWWNYS.

Then, check out www.Vote411.org, which is another LWVUS website, specifically geared to voting information, and also go to www.lwvofnassaucounty.org, for more local information. Give us your reactions and input.



More Useful Websites

www.seeamerica.org – More than 10,000 links to tourist offices, hotels, airlines, local attractions, and other resources across the country.

www.mayoclinic.com – Mental conditioning techniques, exercise videos, and other information from the Mayo Clinic.

www.instructables.com – Illustrated, step by step instructions for making a variety of intriguing projects.

www.number-logic.com - Never-ending supply of Sudoku puzzles to print out or solve on-line.

www.gardenlist.com – Information on more than 2,000 garden catalogs, including customer ratings on quality, price and service. (source: BottomLine Personal)

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON PAGE 3

1. a, 2. d, 3. b, 4. a

5. b, c, and d are all correct, for women with high school, college, and professional postgraduate degrees respectively, according to Evelyn Murphy, economist and founder and president of The WAGE Project.

6. False. The Equal Pay Act mandates that employers cannot pay workers less based on sex. It does not address racial discrimination. Race discrimination cases have been brought under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, which has a much tougher burden of proof.

7. False. Under the Equal Pay Act, awards are limited to two years prior to filing the complaint in court or three years if there is a finding that the act of the employer was willful. A plaintiff may also be awarded liquidated damages, which can double her back pay award, but she still may not recover all of the money she's lost over the entire period of years she's been underpaid.

8. d

Developed by the National Committee on Pay Equity.

Note: Wage gap statistics provided in questions 1-4 are derived from the median annual earnings information for year-round, full-time workers as published by the Census Bureau for the year 2005 (the latest year for which Census wage data is available).

**Town of Hempstead
S.T.O.P. Household Hazardous Waste
Collection Schedule**

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Sunday, November 18 – Baldwin Park
3232 South Grand Avenue

Sunday, December 16 – Eisenhower Park
Hempstead Turnpike & Merrick Avenue, East Meadow
(Parking Field # 3)



**Town of Oyster Bay
S.T.O.P./Electronic Waste
Collection Schedule**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday, November 18
T.O.B. Department of Public Works
150 Miller Place, Syosset

National Women’s History Museum

The National Women’s History Museum (NWHM), founded in 1996, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and celebrating the diverse historic contributions of women, and integrating this rich heritage fully into our nation's history. Until legislation passes in Congress designating a permanent museum in Washington, D.C., the NWHM promotes women's history through its temporary exhibits, special events, Cyber Museum, and online educational materials. (source: LWVUS)

Buyer Wanted

MUST SELL - CONDO

First floor – 2500 sq ft, upgraded kitchen & baths - new 55+ community - clubhouse, fitness center, pool. Plainview - \$550,000 - 516 626-3338 Owner (League member)

“Government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.”
Ronald Reagan

What’s in Our Water?



The residue of all kinds of pharmaceuticals, over-the-counter and prescription, have been discovered in various waterways. The public health ramifications are tremendous. The presence of the chemicals in birth control pills, antidepressants, painkillers, and lots of other drugs in our water cannot be ignored, but what can be done about it?

It appears that the pharmaceuticals, as well as personal care products, such as shampoos and lotions, are being flushed into our rivers and the ocean from sewage treatment plants, and are leaching into our groundwater from septic systems. Since Americans are using more of these products than ever, it would appear that the situation can only get worse.

Most often, these compounds get into the water when people excrete them or wash them away in the shower. But some are flushed or washed down the drain when people discard outdated and/or unused drugs. Not a whole lot can be done at present about the chemicals that are excreted or showered off, but there is something that can be done about drugs that are flushed away. Some local areas have begun to discourage hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and residents from flushing drugs down the toilet, or putting them into disposals, and others are setting up pharmaceutical take-back sites – in drugstores or police precincts. Others are adding these pharmaceuticals to their lists of household hazardous waste, and collecting them for safe disposal.

So, what can we do? Why not contact your local town officials and suggest that they begin collecting these pharmaceuticals and personal care products as part of the local S.T.O.P. programs? It might not solve the entire problem, but it would be a start, and perhaps it would keep our ground water a little safer for a little longer.

In the meantime, do not throw your leftover pharmaceuticals and lotions, etc. in the toilet or sink. Dispose of them in the trash (mixed with undesirable stuff like kitty litter, etc. to avoid those who might be dumpster diving for drugs). Let’s try to keep those antibiotics, hormones and painkillers out of our water.

Barbara Sullivan-Parry tried to get a committee together to study this issue. Maybe it’s not too late. If you would be interested in being part of a local study group on this topic, call Barbara at 802-3183.



About LWV

Mission

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

Vision, Beliefs and Intentions

The goal of the League of Women Voters is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide.

The League of Women Voters of the United States is a non-partisan political membership organization, which:

- Acts after study and member agreement to achieve solutions in the public interest on key community issues at all government levels.
- Builds citizen participation in the democratic process.
- Engages communities in promoting positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters Education Fund is a nonpartisan public policy educational organization, which:

- Builds citizen participation in the democratic process.
- Studies key community issues at all government levels in an unbiased manner.
- Enables people to seek positive solutions to public policy issues through education and conflict management.

We believe in:

- Respect for individuals
- The value of diversity
- The empowerment of the grassroots, both within the League and in communities
- The power of collective decision making for the common good.

We will:

- Act with trust, integrity, and professionalism
- Operate in an open and effective manner to meet the needs of those we serve, both members and the public.
- Take the initiative in seeking diversity in membership
- Acknowledge our heritage as we seek our path to the future.

Core Values

- We are a nonpartisan political membership organization.

- We believe that grassroots initiatives and consensus building are the strengths of our organization.
- We believe that our organization models the principles of good governance.
- We consider well before taking action and prepare well before beginning to act.
- We believe that citizenship requires knowledge, as well as the ability and will to act.
- We believe that the responsibility of good government rests on the shoulders of its citizens.
- We believe that the rights of citizens at home and abroad are interdependent.

Principles

The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.

The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.

The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.