



# League of Women Voters

Port Washington-Manhasset

October 2009

The League of Women Voters  
of Port Washington - Manhasset  
Invites members and friends to join us at  
our

## Annual Fall Brunch

Sunday November 22, 2009

11:30am

The Mansion at  
Village Club of Sands Point  
One Thayer Lane  
Sands Point, New York

Guest Speaker

Amy Hagedorn

“2010 Census: Every Person  
Counts; Count Every Person”

\$60.00 per person .... RSVP  
by November 13<sup>th</sup> to Marie Bellon  
at 767-1897

Make checks payable to: League of Women  
Voters, NYS Education Foundation &  
Mail to: M. Bellon, 20 Briarcliff Drive, Port  
Washington, NY 11050

Proceeds from this event support the educational  
activities of the League of Women Voters of Port  
Washington - Manhasset. Contributions made for the  
raffle tickets are fully deductible & \$20 of the per  
person ticket price is deductible to the extent provided

### Message from the President's Desk

Jane Thomas

Last week was the first time in a year  
that I didn't stop to pick up Shirley Barsky for  
our short ride together to the LWV monthly  
board meeting at the Methodist Church. I  
always enjoyed those few minutes with  
Shirley. Her ebullient spirit and earnest  
concern about what was going on in my life  
and the League's always cheered me and made  
me feel a sense of hope for the world. I will  
miss those moments with Shirley very much.  
And the League will miss her as our energetic  
Government Director. May she rest in peace.

Just because it's an off-election year  
doesn't mean it's a quiet time for our  
League—no, no, no... Judy Jacobson has been  
hard at work organizing next Wednesday's  
(Oct 21<sup>st</sup>) Candidates' Night at the Unitarian  
Universalist Congregation; Kay Ullman and  
Julie Harnick are busy organizing our Fall  
Fundraiser (see our invitation); Cathy Persons  
is in the midst of putting together all of our  
Voter Registration drive venues; our County  
League leaders hustled to get our **Voter's  
Guide** prepared (no easy task!) that will be  
inserted in our local papers the week before  
elections; and Rita Tanski and I have just run a  
successful Opening Meeting panel on the  
Town's Pharmaceutical Drop-Off program.  
Whew! We have been very busy.

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## North Hempstead News

by Eileen Brennan

(Message from the President, cont. from page 1)

The League of Women Voters of Port Washington-Manhasset and Great Neck will sponsor a Candidates' Night at The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 48 Shelter Rock Road in Manhasset beginning at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21. Invited are town supervisor candidates: incumbent Democrat Jon Kaiman and challenger Republican Lee Tu; Town Clerk candidates: incumbent Democrat Leslie Gross and challenger Republican John Paul Wicks; Legislative district candidates: 10th district: incumbent Democrat Judi Bosworth, challenger Republican Gary H. Stark; 11th district: incumbent Democrat Wayne Wink and challenger Republican Jeffrey Losquadro; North Hempstead Council District 5: incumbent Democrat Lee Seeman and challenger Republican Louis F. Chisari.

In other North Hempstead news, the Town has abandoned plans to purchase a property at 51 Andrew Street in Manhasset after organized opposition to the purchase from the surrounding community. This was not a case of "eminent domain" because the town was not condemning the unoccupied property which had been on the market for several years. The town had made an offer to purchase it. The property, which is adjacent to the Town Hall parking area, would have been used for additional parking spaces and office space for town employees. Prior to the Town's bid, there had been an existing bid for the property, which the town outbid. Local residents objected, questioning the purchase price, the necessity of the purchase and the damage to the existing neighborhood. Residents congratulated the town officials for listening to their concerns and abandoning the planned purchase.

And that's not all we've been doing. Kay Ullman will once again be personally hand-delivering over 1,000 **Voter's Guides** to schools and libraries all over the North Shore. Eileen Brennan will be covering town hall meetings and reporting on them in our Newsletters. Rita Tanski and Amy Bass will soon start gearing up to organize our "Lunch with the League" yearly event. Phoebe Goodman's Nassau County LWV study group is hard at work on thorny issues regarding special districts' consolidation. Richard Fadem serves as our web master and keeper of our website. Edna Vincente updates us on both national and state Action items. Star Anthony will be keeping us current on Natural Resource issues and Nancy Cowles will handle Students in Albany. And, of course, we have the administrative folks—Marie Bellon as Secretary, Mary-Ellen McCollum as Membership, Julie Harnick as Treasurer, Joan Kent as all-around writer and go-to person, currently filling in for our ailing Kate Bergen whom I hear is on the mend (yea!); Amanda Bechtold and Ann Marie Benziner for handling our mailings; and, of course, Pat Maher for her superb Newsletters.

What can I say about this wonderful group? I can only render a huge thank-you for all they do. I wanted to let our membership know how hard they all work. I warmly welcome any members to become more active and join us. Get in touch with me at: [janethomas@att.net](mailto:janethomas@att.net). And most importantly, remember to vote on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Jane

## League's Opening Meeting Educates Public on Town of North Hempstead's Pharmaceuticals Drop-Off Program

By Jane Thomas

The Town of North Hempstead has initiated several programs designed to protect our environment. One new effort, the pharmaceutical drop-off program, deserves extra attention. There is growing concern over the safe disposal of medicines that so many take every day. To address this timely issue at the September kick-off meeting, our League invited representatives from the Town of North Hempstead, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Citizens Campaign for the Environment and the Nassau County Police Department to address this issue that we entitled, "Why are your pills in my drinking water?"

The Town of North Hempstead has established a pharmaceutical drop-off program whereby residents can safely dispose of unwanted drugs at several Stop Throwing Out Pollutants (S.T.O.P.) events throughout the year. Supervisor Jon Kaiman, who was a member of our panel, said, "Studies have shown that flushing or pouring medications down the drain can adversely affect our waterways and aquatic wildlife." This innovative program, the first of its kind on Long Island, is headed by Fran Reid, the TNH's Director of Environmental Planning. Ms. Reid said that her department is looking into ways to expand the program so that residents can drop off their pharmaceuticals at any time throughout the year at various town sites.

The main message offered by Dennis Lucia, DEC chief of the Pollution Prevention Unit, was "don't flush or pour unwanted household medications down the drain." He lauded the town's new drop-off program and advised that prior to the drop-off scheduled day, residents mix these meds with

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## Recycling Aluminum for a Cleaner Environment

By Star Anthony

**Why recycle aluminum?** Recycling aluminum causes less destruction of the rainforests, saves money, creates jobs, and saves energy.

Aluminum is derived from bauxite which comes from the rainforest. Trees are cut down, burned, and the land is then strip mined. The many stages needed to transport the bauxite and turn it into aluminum requires significant energy.

On the other hand, recycling aluminum requires less than 5% of that energy. And, wonderfully, greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to only 5% of emissions from the production of new aluminum.

The good news is that 63% of aluminum drink cans are recycled worldwide. If that percentage were increased to 75% we could save as much energy as if we removed **1.6 million cars** from the road. An added benefit is that more recycling increases the number of jobs in the U.S.

There is no limit to the number of times we can recycle an aluminum can. One easy and environmentally sound approach to help preserve our environment is to make new cans out of the old ones. They already exist, so there's no need to destroy rainforests. No shipping is necessary. They are free and just need to be transported to the recycling facility. Every can we recycle is one less can that needs to be mined. And more new local jobs are created!

**How do we recycle aluminum?** Put food and drink cans, aluminum pans and foil (and even non-aluminum pet and food cans) into your recycling bucket. Rinse them first.

**How do you get a new recycling bucket?** Call 883-4447 for more information

**Next time:** fluorescent light bulbs -- good news or bad?

**CALENDAR:**

**Wed, Oct 21st: North Hempstead and Nassau County Candidates' Night for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Election, 7 p.m.** at Unitarian Universalist Congregation at 48 Shelter Rock Rd, Manhasset. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Neck and the League of Women Voters of Port Washington-Manhasset. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Tuesday, Nov 3rd: Election Day - polls open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.**

**Wed, Nov 4<sup>th</sup>: PW-Manhasset LWV Board Mtg,** 9:30-12 noon, United Methodist Church, PW.

**Sun, Nov 22nd: League of Women Voters of Port Washington-Manhasset Fall Fundraiser at the Village Club of Sands Point, 11:30 a.m.** (See box on page one. For more information, contact Marie Bellon at 767-1897.

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something “undesirable” such as coffee grounds, cat litter or dirt and tape up the containers. Nassau County Police Chief Steven Skrynecki agreed and warned that many of these drugs find their way into the hands of young children and teens who either accidentally or purposefully “experiment” with items from their parents or grandparents drug cabinets.

Maureen Murphy, Executive Programs Manager for Citizens Campaign, is the primary author of “Long Island Recycling: A report card for 14 Long Island municipalities.” The Town of North Hempstead was rated A+. She commented that our town has led the way on the pharmaceutical drop-off program. The next S.T.O.P. date is Sunday, November 8, 2009 at the Solid Waste Authority Building at 802 West Shore Road, next to Harbor Links. Call the STOP 311 Hotline for additional information.

The League of women voters of  
Port Washington-Manhasset  
Post Office Box 305, Port Washington, NY 11050  
Website: [lwvpwma.org](http://lwvpwma.org)  
E-mail: [mail@lwvpwma.org](mailto:mail@lwvpwma.org)

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**Mission Statement:** *The League of Women Voters is a civic, non-partisan organization dedicated to building citizen participation in the democratic process and to fostering government that is responsive to its citizens. It takes positions on issues but supports no political candidates or parties.*