



League of Women Voters of Smithtown Township

# VOTER

*The LWV is a non-partisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy*

September 2011

website: <http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org/smithtown.htm>

Join LWV Smithtown members at a "kick off" luncheon at the

**Bonwit Inn on Wednesday, September 28 at 12 noon**

*Enjoy a delicious 3 course meal, and learn more about the population and demographic changes which will affect us all in the coming years.*

**Seth Forman**

**Chief Planner of the Long Island Regional Planning Council**  
**will share his Summary of 2010 Census Data**

Seth Forman teaches government and public policy at Stony Brook University and Suffolk Community College and is Chief Planner for the Long Island Regional Planning Council. His most recent book is "American Obsession: Race and Conflict in the Age of Obama."

*Three course luncheon includes salad, entrees (choice of Chicken Bosciasla, Sea Bass, Penne a la Vodka, or Omelet with feta cheese and spinach), dessert and soda.*

**All league members, friends, and neighbors are welcome, but seating will be limited.**

*Cost: \$30 if check is received in advance, or \$35 if you pay at the door.*

*Send checks (made out to LWV Smithtown) to:*

*Lisa Scott, 322 River Road, St. James NY 11780.*

*Questions? Email [lisawscott@gmail.com](mailto:lisawscott@gmail.com) or Call 631 523-1653.*

## **President's Message**

It's time to reserve your tickets to our "kick off" luncheon at the Bonwit Inn. We have an exciting speaker, Seth Forman, who will explain the importance of the 2010 census and tell us what towns on Long Island are the fastest growing and which have lost population, the racial and age shifts in towns and the many social implications of the increase in house holds headed by single moms. Join us for delicious food and a stimulating discussion.

I was away on vacation recently at a resort that had a theme of Garden Holiday with speakers on gardens. One of the most significant talks was given by a physics professor on climate change and its effect on gardens. His statistics and charts were alarming, showing we are approaching the point of no return. If any League member is interested in this topic contact me if you feel we can make a difference.

*Mary Zopf*

## **LWV of SMITHTOWN**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Mary Zopf-499-0107**

*President*

**Sondra Irvine-862-4042**

*1st Vice President, Programs*

**Joyce Rosenthal-265-6463**

*2nd Vice President, Voter Service*

**Marie Manginelli-265-1791**

*Secretary*

**Lisa Scott- 265-2198**

*Treasurer, Voter Editor*

### **DIRECTORS**

**June Carlson-979-0776**

*Ways and Means*

**Trudy Gaus-543-1446**

*Archivist*

**Susan Glatzer-724-0871**

*Publicity*

**Arlene Lesser-265-4384**

**Carol McNally-796-3858**

*ATI-Prevention*

### **OFF-BOARD**

**Stella Baker-265-3376**

*ATI, Natural Resources*

**Sharon Kunz-584-7097**

*Phone Squad,*

**Mae Tierney-588-4429**

*Budget*

## **Can You Attend a County Legislative Meeting Once a Month?**

The Suffolk County League of Women Voters is well known, respected and often listened to by members of our County Legislature. By regularly observing and occasionally speaking on resolutions or issues of importance to the League, we have gained this recognition. It is therefore important that we continue this practice and share this role among members of all our local Leagues. If you can attend one committee meeting, or the general session meeting, once a month, or once in a while, it would inform us and help us inform them of our goals. They meet on Tuesdays at 9:30 am either in Hauppauge or Riverhead. The committees also meet on a regular basis, but at different times during the day, in Hauppauge. Call Mary McLaughlin, 427-1925, for more information marymclaughlin54@gmail.com.

## **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.

### **Symposium:**

## **“Integrating Restorative Practices Into Our Justice System”**

**November 18, 2011 8:00 am—3:00 pm**

**Touro Law Center 225 Eastview Drive, Central Islip,**

Registration forms & information can be found at [www.crp-ny.com](http://www.crp-ny.com)

Questions? Please e-mail or call Carol McNally at:

[carol@crp-ny.com](mailto:carol@crp-ny.com); 631-650-2321

## **.Help Protect Long Island's Drinking and Surface Waters! Attend the New York State Legislative Hearing on Protection and Management of Long Island Water Resources**

Recently, Suffolk County issued a report documenting a significant decline in the quality and quantity of Long Island's drinking water and surface waters. The New York State Assembly Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation is holding a legislative hearing to address this serious issue. At the meeting, expert panelists will discuss water management, protection, and remedial strategies to combat this serious problem. Many believe this issue is the greatest environmental challenge facing Long Island today.

**When:** Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 10:00am

**Where:** Babylon Town Hall, 200 East Sunrise Highway, Lindenhurst, NY

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,

**The League of Women Voters of Smithtown is committed to help newly naturalized citizens register to vote at the Naturalization Ceremonies to be held at the Federal Courthouse, Central Islip, during the month of October.**

The ceremonies will be held on Monday and Wednesday mornings 9-11. This schedule provides a possible eight occasions for our participation. Our members who have done this in past months have found the experience both interesting and satisfying.

[It is time for me to schedule. I will need 3 volunteers for each morning so that I can transmit these names to the Court administration. If you are interested in helping in this effort please phone or email me with your preferred date\( or dates\) and to get any information and/or answers to any questions you may have.](#)

Thank you so much! Sondra Irvine: 862-4042 or tfsirvine@hotmail.com

**Smithtown Town Board Meeting  
Schedule**

**Thursday: September 15**  
7:00 pm regular meeting

*Eugene A. Cannataro Senior Citizen Center  
420 Middle Country Road, Smithtown, NY.*

**Tuesday: October 4**  
9:30 am work session  
2:00 pm regular meeting

*Smithtown Town Hall  
Second Floor Board Room*

**Thursday: October 27**  
7:00 pm regular meeting

*Eugene A. Cannataro Senior Citizen Center  
420 Middle Country Road, Smithtown, NY.*

**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.

**Library Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule**

Regular meetings at 7pm: **Tuesdays: September 20 + October 25**

Place of meeting to be announced due to library construction and closures.

**STAC**  
Smithtown Township Arts Council



Mills Pond House  
660 Route 25A, St. James, NY 11780  
631-862-6575 fax 631-862-8730

**The League of Women Voters of Smithtown thanks  
Allison J. Cruz, Executive Director  
and the staff of the Smithtown Township  
Arts Council/ Mills Pond House Gallery  
for its support of the League.**



***We encourage all Town Residents to support the  
Arts Council, participate in its cultural programs,  
and visit the historic Mills Pond House in St. James.  
For info: [www.stacarts.org](http://www.stacarts.org).***



# 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

## OFFICERS

**President/DPO /County Voter**  
Lisa Scott 265-2198  
[lisawscott@gmail.com](mailto:lisawscott@gmail.com)  
**1st Vice President/Webmaster**  
Adam Gaus 543-1446  
[adam.gaus@IEEE.com](mailto:adam.gaus@IEEE.com)  
**2nd Vice President**  
Barbara Jordan 324-6144  
[bjordlwvh@aol.com](mailto:bjordlwvh@aol.com)  
**Secretary**  
Naomi Epstein 324-9371  
[naepxyz@aol.com](mailto:naepxyz@aol.com)  
**Treasurer**  
Marilyn McKeown 286-1169  
[mhmckeown@verizon.net](mailto:mhmckeown@verizon.net)

## ELECTED DIRECTORS

Eileen Coblens 516 922-4988  
[ecoblens@yahoo.com](mailto:ecoblens@yahoo.com)  
**Voter Service**  
Judie Gorenstein 491-3177  
[judieL728@aol.com](mailto:judieL728@aol.com)  
Sondra Irvine 862-4042  
[fsr Irvine@hotmail.com](mailto:fsr Irvine@hotmail.com)  
Barbara Magaliff 421-2455  
[barbara\\_magaliff@gmail.com](mailto:barbara_magaliff@gmail.com)  
**Housing**  
Nancy Marr 730-6556  
[enpymarr@optonline.net](mailto:enpymarr@optonline.net)  
**Special Events, Fundraising**  
Susan Wilson 283-6549  
[sswilson@hamptons.com](mailto:sswilson@hamptons.com)

## APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Arlene Lesser 265-4384  
[alstna@verizon.net](mailto:alstna@verizon.net)  
**Legislative Committee**  
Mary McLaughlin 427-1925  
[marymclaughlin54@gmail.com](mailto:marymclaughlin54@gmail.com)  
Mary Zopf 499-0107  
[mtzopf@verizon.net](mailto:mtzopf@verizon.net)

## LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

**Brookhaven**  
Nancy Marr 730-6556  
[enpymarr@optonline.net](mailto:enpymarr@optonline.net)  
**Hamptons (Co-Presidents)**  
Glorian Berk 283-2638  
[glorianberk@aol.com](mailto:glorianberk@aol.com)  
Judi Roth 283-0759  
[rothhandj@yahoo.com](mailto:rothhandj@yahoo.com)  
**Huntington**  
Judie Gorenstein 491-3177  
[judieL728@aol.com](mailto:judieL728@aol.com)  
**Shelter Island**  
Cathy Kenny 749-1848  
[cathy\\_kenny@hotmail.com](mailto:cathy_kenny@hotmail.com)  
**Smithtown**  
Mary Zopf 499-0107  
[mtzopf@verizon.net](mailto:mtzopf@verizon.net)

## OFF-BOARD SPECIALISTS

**Budget**  
Jacqui Lofaro 537-3361  
[jacqlo@hamptons.com](mailto:jacqlo@hamptons.com)  
**Natural Resources**  
Dorothy Cappadona 549-6987  
[Doc.dot@verizon.net](mailto:Doc.dot@verizon.net)

## 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

## Meeting to Redistrict Suffolk County

by Nancy Marr

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.  
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

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.

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 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

continued

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*

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.

**Update of Suffolk County Reapportionment Commission**

Our meeting for August 24 was cancelled by Legislators Cooper and Kennedy. We are waiting for the appointment of two new representatives to replace two who were not appropriate. In the meantime, Legislator Kennedy is submitting a resolution that will require the commission to elect two chairs, one from each side of the aisle. He is also asking the Legislature to provide and pay for technical assistance, again, from both sides of the aisle. It is interesting that, although we assumed that the commission would be nonpartisan, not bipartisan, it is in fact bipartisan because the majority leader (Jon Cooper) and the minority leader (John Kennedy) each appointed four members and the plan to have two chairs confirms that there will be two sides to the effort to reapportion. (Redistricting applies to congressional districts, so we are a reapportionment commission.)

In late August, the New York State Court of Appeals threw out the new boundaries for Nassau County that its GOP members had drawn up for the 19 legislative districts. The judge found that the legislators who drew up the new lines so that they would be in place before the 2011 contests failed to comply with the county charter. It calls for a three-step process - designating a commission, holding public hearings, and adopting the new boundaries at least eight months before the next general election. The actual lines were not challenged, and may be used for the 2013 election, unless there is a political change in the legislature that alters the process for drawing the lines for 2013.

*Nancy Marr*



# Wine Tasting Fundraiser

To Benefit the LWV of New York State  
Saturday, October 15, 5:00-7:00 pm



Sample fine wines and enjoy light fare  
Spend an enjoyable evening with League friends  
Support the efforts of the LWV New York State

**Home of LWV Rye, Rye Brook, Port Chester President Deborah Reisner  
21 Norman Drive, Rye, New York**

(Transportation, hotel and dining options available upon request from state League office)

**\$75 per person or \$250 Sponsorship (2 people and recognition)**

-----  
**Please RSVP by October 7**

Individual	___ (No.) x \$75	_____
Sponsorship	\$250 (2 people)	_____
	How would you like recognition to read:	
	_____	
	I can't attend but wish to support the League	_____
Total		_____

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Check Payable to LWNYS or

\_\_\_ Credit Card type (circle): Master Card -- Visa -- American Express -- Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send form with payment or credit card info to:  
LWNYS - 62 Grand Street - Albany, NY 12207  
or call with credit card info 518-465-4162  
or fax form and credit card to 518-465-0812**

**Payments are tax deductible only if made payable to LWNYS Education Foundation**

**League of Women Voters of Smithtown**  
*Membership Registration*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Even if you do not have time for active participation, your membership alone will strengthen our voice.**

Individual Membership	\$50.00
Household (2 at same address)	70.00
Student Membership	20.00
Additional Contribution	_____
Total	\$ _____

*Make dues checks payable to LWV of Smithtown and mail to:*

LWV of Smithtown  
 c/o Lisa Scott  
 322 River Road  
 St. James, NY 11780

*Please note:*

*If you wish to make a **tax-deductible** donation to the League beyond the dues amount, a separate check for the donation must be written to "LWVNY Education Foundation" and mailed to the address above. Thank you.*

**JOURNEY TRAVEL & EVENTS**

*Marie Roman Sesti*

*Formerly Aventura Travel*

631-360-3600

651-724-9085 (Res)  
 Fax: 631-360-3682

106 E. Main Street  
 Smithtown, NY 11787  
 e-mail: journeyaa@aol.com



*Salon Dee La Rosa*

www.salondeelarosa.com  
 Email: info@salondeelarosa.com

532 Rte. 25A  
 (North Country Rd.)  
 St. James, NY 11780  
 631.862.6660

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**  
**They Support Us!**



2077 Jericho Turnpike  
 Commack, NY 11725

Main 631-343-7123

Fax 631-343-7124  
 Florist 631-343-7125



**Old Dock Inn**

Seafood - Steakhouse  
 798 Old Dock Road  
 Kings Park, N.Y.  
 631-269-4118

Your Hosts  
 George and Janet

**Carol Forgash, L.C.S.W., B.C.D.**

Consultation and Training Services  
 Psychotherapy Services  
 EMDR & Performance Enhancement

**THE LIFELINE CENTER**

353 North Country Road  
 Smithtown, New York 11787

Tel: (631) 265-3194  
 Fax: (631) 265-8676

email: cforgash@optonline.net  
 website: www.advancededucationalproductions.com



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ®  
OF SMITHTOWN**

**322 River Road  
St. James, NY 11780**

*Address Correction Requested*

**POSTMASTER:  
DATED MAIL-  
Please Rush!**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**September 2011**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Sept. 12</b>	<b>LWV Smithtown board meeting, Commack Library, 7pm</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Sept. 20</b>	<b>Library Board Meeting, 7pm (location to be announced)</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Sept. 21</b>	<b>LWVSC Board Meeting, SCCC Culinary Arts Center, Riverhead, 10am-12noon</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Sept. 27</b>	<b>NYS Leg.Hearing on LI Water Resources, Babylon Town Hall, 10am</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Sept. 28</b>	<b>LWV Smithtown Kickoff Luncheon with Seth Forman, Bonwit Inn, 12noon</b>

**October 2011**

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Oct. 3</b>	<b>LWV Smithtown board meeting, 7pm (location to be announced)</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Oct. 4</b>	<b>Town Board Meetings, 9:30am-Work Session; 2pm-Regular Meeting, Town Hall</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Oct. 19</b>	<b>LWVSC Board Meeting, SCCC Culinary Arts Center, Riverhead, 10am-12noon</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Oct. 25</b>	<b>Library Board Meeting, 7pm (location to be announced)</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Oct. 27</b>	<b>Town Board Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 7pm</b>

**PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP REGISTER VOTERS AT NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES IN  
CENTRAL ISLIP DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER! See page 3 of this Voter for details.**