



# Suffolk County Voter

www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org Box 1440, Stony Brook, NY 11790-1440 631 862-6860

January 2017

LWVSC Board Meeting: 10:00am Wednesday Jan.18 at SCCC, Main St., Riverhead

## OFFICERS

**President/DPO/County Voter**  
 Lisa Scott 265-2198  
[lisawscott@gmail.com](mailto:lisawscott@gmail.com)

**1st Vice President/Health**  
 Nancy Marr 730-6556  
[enpymarr@optonline.net](mailto:enpymarr@optonline.net)

**2nd Vice President/Voter Service**  
 Judie Gorenstein 491-3177  
[judiel728@aol.com](mailto:judiel728@aol.com)

**Secretary (interim)**  
 Barbara McClancy 324-5743  
[bmcc343@aol.com](mailto:bmcc343@aol.com)

**Treasurer (interim)**  
 Glorian Berk 204-5382  
[glorianberk@aol.com](mailto:glorianberk@aol.com)

## ELECTED DIRECTORS

Marilyn Beard 803-0223  
[mjizzy@gmail.com](mailto:mjizzy@gmail.com)

Roberta Fishman 286-0614  
[robbiefishman@optonline.net](mailto:robbiefishman@optonline.net)

**Naturalization**  
 Sondra Irvine 862-4042  
[fsr Irvine@hotmail.com](mailto:fsr Irvine@hotmail.com)

Barbara McClancy 324-5743  
[bmcc343@aol.com](mailto:bmcc343@aol.com)

Judy Samuelson 267-3055  
[jwsamuelson@optonline.net](mailto:jwsamuelson@optonline.net)

## APPOINTED DIRECTORS

Estelle Gellman 324-9102  
[estelle.s.gellman@hofstra.edu](mailto:estelle.s.gellman@hofstra.edu)

Peggy Olness 751-2655  
[maolness@yahoo.com](mailto:maolness@yahoo.com)

Mary Zopf 499-0107  
[mtzopf@verizon.net](mailto:mtzopf@verizon.net)

## LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

**Brookhaven (co-Presidents)**  
 Nancy Marr 730-6556  
[enpymarr@optonline.net](mailto:enpymarr@optonline.net)

Roberta Fishman 286-0614  
[robbiefishman@optonline.net](mailto:robbiefishman@optonline.net)

**Hamptons (co-Presidents)**  
 Glorian Berk 204-5382  
[glorianberk@aol.com](mailto:glorianberk@aol.com)

Judy Samuelson 267-3055  
[jwsamuelson@optonline.net](mailto:jwsamuelson@optonline.net)

**Huntington**  
 Colette Knuth 424-2569  
[csteward@thestewardgroup.com](mailto:csteward@thestewardgroup.com)

**Shelter Island**  
 Lois Morris 749-3349  
[loisbmorris@gmail.com](mailto:loisbmorris@gmail.com)

**Smithtown (co-President)**  
 Pat LaWare 269-1537  
[lawarepatricia@yahoo.com](mailto:lawarepatricia@yahoo.com)

## OFF-BOARD SPECIALISTS

**Budget**  
 Jacqui Lofaro 537-3361  
[jacqlo@hamptons.com](mailto:jacqlo@hamptons.com)

**Legislative Issues**  
 Mary McLaughlin 427-1925  
[marymclaughlin54@gmail.com](mailto:marymclaughlin54@gmail.com)

**Youth**  
 Judi Roth 283-0759  
[rothhandj@yahoo.com](mailto:rothhandj@yahoo.com)

## Newsday Political Reporter meets with LWVSC board

Newsday Reporter David Schwartz joined a meeting of the LWVSC board on Wednesday, Dec. 14 in Riverhead for an informal, wide ranging conversation which touched on county finances, politics and patronage, possible effects of the new presidential administration on Suffolk County, transparency in the SC legislature, and the reach and effectiveness of print journalism today. We appreciated Dave's thoughtful responses to our numerous questions, and hope to meet with Newsday's editorial board in early 2017 to further explore issues important to the League. Dave was unable to join us for our holiday lunch after the board meeting, since he was working on a story for the following day's issue. It ran as the cover story in Newsday focusing on issues relevant and critical to the future of Suffolk County:

## Dec. 15, 2016 Newsday/News 12 Special Report by David Schwartz Pollution Loophole: How Suffolk developers legally use outmoded sewage treatment rules, potentially endangering water.

Suffolk County estimates that more than 20,000 unsewered commercial properties likely qualify under the county "grandfathering" policy. The properties account for 20-30% of all nitrogen pollution from septic systems countywide. Suffolk County is proposing reforms, but the county estimates that the changes in policy would force only about 25% of applications a year to use advanced wastewater treatment systems that remove nitrogen.

LWVSC and our local Leagues will continue to monitor the SC Dept. of Health and engage with county elected officials in their campaign to reduce nitrogen pollution in Suffolk County.

## COUNTY LAW

-On Jan. 1, 1981 Suffolk County began limiting on-site sewage discharge without treatment to the equivalent of effluent from one or two houses per acre

-However, county code exempted pre-1981 "developments or other construction projects." Consequently, the county Department of Health allows redevelopment of parcels using sewage systems that in many cases have been in use for decades,

## PROPOSED CHANGES

- Limit exemptions to buildings used continuously for the same purpose
- No change in building footprint or sewage flow.
- "Demolition/nonidentical reconstruction" or expansion based on old permits would not qualify.
- Require the use of advanced treatment systems in certain circumstances.

(source; SC Dept. of Health)

## Proposal to Reduce the Number of Suffolk County Legislative Districts

In late November, SC Legislator William J. Lindsay III submitted a bill which would reduce the number of Suffolk County Legislative districts (IR1998-2016) from 18 to 13. The intent is to reduce costs (SC Leg salary, 3 paid staffers, a district office, etc.) while creating districts with "marginally larger populations" while maintaining full representation of minority communities. The LWVSC board has begun researching the details behind the proposal, and hopes to comment at a public hearing on the bill in early 2017. If the bill is passed by the SC Legislature and signed by the County Executive it would become a proposition on the November ballot. There would then be reapportionment needed to create the new districts.

## Stay Tuned: NYS Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman Releases Comprehensive Report on Voter Access in the 2016 Presidential Primary

The AG offered proposals to reform the system; these were very close to many of the ballot and election law reforms advocated by the League. His full report is on the LWVSC website [http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org/files/2016\\_statewide\\_elections\\_report.pdf](http://www.lwv-suffolkcounty.org/files/2016_statewide_elections_report.pdf). The League will be making voting rights and voter access a priority in 2017.