President’s Message

By Linda Napoli

“Faith in Ourselves, Faith in Each Other”

April, come she will…

As I saw how our crocuses stood up against the onslaught of the recent heavy snowstorm, it reminded me of the Parkland students who have turned their grief into a movement for change. Let’s support them in any way we can whether it’s at rallies, communicating with our legislators or verbally reassuring the children we love that we will fight at their side until the scourge of mass shootings in our country has been contained.

This month brings us some interesting speakers as well as the Spring Festival on April 22nd, which is Earth Day. This annual intergenerational festival is always inspiring and fun.

Our second community event concerns the opioid epidemic and its impact on all of us. There’s been a lot of publicity, but it will help if you spread the word about this informative meeting on April 8th.

There are more Society doings listed in this month’s newsletter. Science has shown that participation in a community brings benefits that can actually be measured. Bring your friends!

Thanks to those who participated in the March 25th program. It was a great way to celebrate Women’s History Month!
Presentations

Apr. 1: Jennifer Greene, Is It Ethical to Use Animals for Food?
When is meat-eating justified, if ever? Where’s the harm in dairy and eggs? What about animals who were humanely raised? Jennifer Greene will explore these and other questions with a compassionate, nonjudgmental approach that meat-eaters, vegetarians, and vegans alike can appreciate.

Jennifer is grateful for parents who gave her the freedom of a humanist outlook. A lay leader at the Unitarian Universalist congregation in Sayville, NY, Jennifer is co-author of Demonstrating Our Values through Eating (DOVE), an ethical eating curriculum offered via the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Apr. 8: Anne Klaeysen, Ethics of Contemplation
Anne Klaeysen is leader of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, Humanist Chaplain at New York University (NYU), and Ethical Humanist Religious Life Advisor at Columbia University.

She recently visited with a Sister of St. Joseph in the Catholic Diocese of Rochester, who co-founded and operates Cobblestone Springs, an interdenominational retreat center. After spending an hour in silence with her and the other residents, she was asked whether Humanism had a contemplative practice. She concedes that while she and her colleagues and have addressed humanist spirituality, it hasn’t yet taken the form of a practice or discipline, perhaps because we are so focused on ethical action.

OFFICE HOURS:

Leader Richard Koral: 516-741-7304
Thursday 10:30 am to 3:00 pm and other times by appt.
Always call to confirm before coming.

Office Manager Phyllis: 516-741-7304
Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sundays. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Apr. 15: Stephanie Rudolph, Young Renters: The Pawns of Gentrification. Stephanie is the Director of the Source of Income Unit at the New York City Commission on Human Rights (“Commission”). In her role as Director, Stephanie supervises a team of attorneys and advocates dedicated to enforcing the New York City Human Rights law. Specifically, Stephanie’s team intervenes when brokers and/or owners refuse to rent to homeless families and individuals with housing subsidies provided by the government. Stephanie’s team also handles claims of housing discrimination related to race, disability, national origin, perceived citizenship status, and age.

A proud graduate of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island, Stephanie went on to earn her B.A. from Haverford College and her JD from Stanford Law School.

Apr. 22: Spring Festival, led by Kelly Tanza. Our annual event to welcome Spring takes place on Earth Day this year.

Apr. 29: Mario Murillo, TBD (issues of war, peace and reconciliation) Mario A. Murillo is Professor of Communication and Latin American Studies at Hofstra University, and is an active member of the Advisory Board of Hofstra’s Center for Civic Engagement. A long-time media activist and award-winning journalist, in his many years in radio he has served as program director, director of Public Affairs programming, and a host and producer at WBAI Pacifica Radio in New York, was a feature correspondent for NPR’s Latino USA, and served as a regular guest host on WNYC New York Public Radio.
Leader’s Message

Our movement is called Ethical Culture, which has served to confuse the friends and relatives to whom we’ve tried to explain ourselves. The name doesn’t roll off the tongue easily, there aren’t any familiar word associations to other, more recognizable traditions, and, what’s worse, the name sounds suspiciously close to “cult.”

But it’s all very simple, as we know. In a word, we strive to foster a culture of ethics. We see ethics as the key to creating a world that is just, equitable and sustainable and so we place ethics at the center of all we do. Ethics is our religion. We simply ask that people consider the ethical implications of every choice and act. We recognize that our actions have consequences and by pursuing the ethical path, we contribute to that humane world we aspire to build.

Well, the world sure needs us now. Where we find ourselves today is in a country where the anti-ethical forces have assumed control of our government. My outrage and frustration are so great that I sometimes want to make a sign that screams “The End is Near!” and march along Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. Is there anyone left who doesn’t see it?

The last straw was on Sunday evening when a porn film star appeared on 60 Minutes and shamed the president of the United States by calling him out as a rake, a liar and a thug. She was the credible one. What bent the camel’s back was a year in which the Trump White House embarrassed the people of the United States with myriad and overt scandals, lies and, lest we forget, actual policies that undermine the rule of law, are retrogressive, vindictive, and hurtful to the most vulnerable among us. Perhaps it had to be a porn star, someone from the level to which Mr. Trump has taken us, who would deliver the coup de grace and break the camel’s back, clarifying the reality we now inhabit with him.

To make matters worse, we’re not alone. Developments in other countries are also tilting toward the authoritarian, ethics-challenged politics that many voters seem to support under the banner of “change” at any cost. Poland, Austria, Hungary and Italy have chosen retrogressive and self-dealing leaders. China has recently joined Russia in opting for a president-for-life. I remember the time, not too long ago, when it was believed that democracy was taking hold in those formerly Communist countries. Today, democracy does not have the broad support it once did.

Our work is cut out for us and our mission is vital. The world needs us now more than it ever did in the last 70 years. It is up to us to model a life that is guided by the ethical path through tolerance, inclusivity and a science-based understanding of reality. All the pieces are there with which to build a world that makes sense.

We cannot stop working to pull it together.

Dr. Richard Koral
Announcements

LEADER’S GROUP DISCUSSION - APRIL 1

APRIL 1, following the Sunday meeting, grab your coffee and bagel and join us in room 201 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm.

Our Leader, Richard Koral, will be holding a group discussion. The topic will be: Follow-up on the March for Our Lives--What should be the next steps for gun regulation?

DIAPER SUNDAY - APRIL 1

Don’t be fooled!

It’s no joke that the first Sunday of every month is the time to bring in disposable diapers for our Ethical Friends of Children Program. Larger size diapers are preferred, but all sizes are useful.

APRIL 4, 1968 - FIFTY YEARS AGO

On April 3, in Memphis, Tennessee, Martin Luther King Jr. gave his last sermon, saying, “We’ve got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn’t matter with me now, because I’ve been to the mountaintop…And He’s allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over, and I’ve seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the promised land.”

One day after speaking those words, on April 4, 1968, Dr. King was shot and killed by a sniper.

On the fiftieth anniversary of his death, a victim of gun violence, we are still engaged in the struggles for which Dr. King is best remembered: fighting racism and inequality, pursuing social justice and serving others.
Earth Day coincides with our Annual Spring Festival this year.

48 years ago, on 22 April 1970, millions of people took to the streets to protest the negative impacts of 150 years of industrial development.

Earth Day is now a global event each year, and according to the Earthday Network, more than 1 billion people in 192 countries now take part in what is the largest civic-focused day of action in the world.

Check their website at [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org) to read about the many campaigns going on to create a greener, more sustainable future and simple ways that you can take action on a personal level.
CAR-LESS CELEBRATES YEAR 3

Car-less Long Island, an organization founded by EHSLI member Sylvia Silberger as a project with the society, is holding its third annual Bike-to-Work Parade on Saturday, April 28 at 9 am. The parade is to show support for investing in a more bike-able and walk-able Long Island. The mission of CLLI in general is to advocate for safer and more convenient means to commute about Long Island without an individual automobile.

Celebrate Bike-To-Work Month
JOIN CAR-LESS LONG ISLAND’S 3RD BIKE-TO-WORK PARADE

The parade follows a 6.5-mile loop with a shorter cut off for those on foot, those with small children and those who just want a shorter ride.

The parade culminated with a Bike-to-Work Festival with prizes for the best outfits and most creative bikes! Dressing up is optional, but way more fun. So be creative!

We will also have food, music and fun activities for everyone

For registration and more information: Car-LessLI.org/parade

WHEN: April 28, 2018 @ 9 AM
WHERE: Hofstra University (see website for map)
FREE AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
Minutes of the March Meeting:

1. Our Next Meetings are on April 30, July 30, August 27, September 24. The May and June meetings are cancelled. All meetings are at EHS. www.ehsli.org. All begin at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP lihumanist@gmail.com.

2. We are all inspired by the “March for Our Lives” on March 24. We are encouraged that the students are so involved.

3. Working Families Political Guide-Powerpoint- Boring

4. Spring Guide About the Working Families Party-Excellent Document! It discusses ways to advocate for candidates. It suggests canvassing, holding town hall type events, signing petition, etc.

5. Here is a link to download or print out a voter registration form: https://www.elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/download/voting/voteform.pdf

6. Car-less LI-The parade is on Saturday, April 28. You may register here: http://www.carlessli.org/parade. It is a lot of fun! You may bike or walk. People are encouraged, but not obligated to wear a costume or dress up your bicycle. Prizes are awarded for the best costumes. However, whether or not you decide to get dressed up, it’s a lovely way to spend a spring morning.

7. We all agreed to “sign on” to support nyrenews.org

8. Action Items:
   A. Ellen will research the possibility of displaying signs that remind people to register to vote.
   B. Janet will brainstorm ways to have a “Meet the Candidates” forum.

Sharon Stanley
April greetings from the Kids Ethics Program!

Its hard to believe that our year together is almost through, but here we are, Happy Spring!! The kids have been spending this past month looking at different religions and how they compare to Humanism. We have also spent some time talking about women’s history and learning about some of the historic contributions made by women.

This week we painted birdhouses that we hope to hang on the grounds of the Society building as soon as weather permits.

In the fall we planted some bulbs along the front of the building and we are looking forward to seeing them grow and bloom.

We hope to continue to learn about ourselves through thoughtful discussion, and we invite anyone who would like to add to our discussions to come on downstairs and join us anytime!

Thank You!

Christine Lamattina
Director of Ethical Education
ccl1311@aol.com

Mina Sainbert,
Assistant Teacher-
Social Media Manager

Please like us on Facebook:
Kids’ Ethics Program Long Island
YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

Look for us on Facebook: LONG ISLAND Y.E.S.

The Y.E.S. group will be hosting a children’s book drive to support the work of The Book Fairies on Sunday, May 6 from 9:30 to 1.

The Book Fairies recycles gently used books to places that need them— impoverished schools, children’s hospital units, shelters, incarcerated youth programs, and more.

This is primarily a children’s and teen’s book drive, but the Book Fairies can use adult-level books as well. Clean out those bookshelves— but no encyclopedias, please. Books only (no cd’s, dvd’s, etc.)

And… PLEASE DONATE ANY STURDY CARDBOARD BOXES WITH LIDS OR CLOSABLE TOPS.

Also, if you would like to contribute to our bake goods giveaway that day, please bring something that morning.
Society News:

**MEN’S NIGHT OUT - April 12th**

Join the men of the EHSLI for another night out at a local diner for conversation, collegiality and dinner. One evening a month we’ll gather together to catch up on our news, share insights about world events and maybe even concoct a plan.

When: Thursday evening, April 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
Where: The Park City Diner, 101 Herricks Rd., New Hyde Park, 1/2 mile west of the Society
RSVP: To the Society office@ehsli.org so we will know how big a table to reserve

**LEADER’S LUNCH DISCUSSION - April 26th**

A link to the article will be distributed the week before so you’ll have time to read it before the 12:00 noon discussion on Thursday, April 26. Bring a brown bag lunch.

**BOOK DISCUSSION – APRIL 22ND**

For our second book discussion, we will read “Salvage the Bones,” another book by Jesmyn Ward. This book won the National Book Award in 2011.

“As the twelve days that make up the novel's framework yield to a dramatic conclusion, the unforgettable family at the novel's core—motherless children sacrificing for one another as they can, protecting and nurturing where love is scarce—pulls itself up to face another day.”

Go to the National Book Foundation website to get a synopsis of the story and hear a short reading by the author.

The book discussion begins at 12:30 pm and will be led by Jean Bobick.
MONTHLY QUESTION
How light is your carbon footprint?

MONTHLY QUOTE
“There are weapons that are simply thoughts. For the record, prejudices can kill and suspicion can destroy.”

Rod Serling

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, June 3
at 1 pm

A Celebration Luncheon for
Arthur Dobrin’s 50 Years as an
Ethical Humanist Leader

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Flea Market in May

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS AND YOUR HELP!!!

WHEN: May 24th, Thursday and May 25th, Friday, 3-8PM.
WHAT: To Sort, Price and Display items

WHEN: May 26th, Saturday, 8-2PM.
WHAT: To Sell items and Clean up

This is an important fundraiser for the Society. Please offer help in any way you can, sign up now
or speak to Pat about the event. Please distribute the flyers and let your friends and neighbors
know about this event. Contact Pat Spencer 516-433-5019 or Phyllis 516-741-7304.
SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 16TH

Women's spring meeting to be held on June 16th at Joan Beder's House.

ANITRA'S PIANO CONCERT

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES
WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS AND YOUR HELP!
Contact Pat Spencer 516-433-5019 or Phyllis in the office 516-741-7304

A Giant 80-Family Flea Market
Saturday, May 26th, 2018
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 741-7304
Cash Only
Parking Available

We Need Your Donations and Your Help!
Contact Pat Spencer 516-433-5019 or Phyllis in the office 516-741-7304

Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
80 Family Flea Market
Saturday, May 26th 9-1PM
Drop off donations on Thursday/Friday 3-8PM
Items accepted:
- Bedding
- Throw Rugs
- Linens
- Cookware
- China
- Purses
- Silverware
- Suitcases
- Jewelry
- Bicycles
- Radios
- VCR’s
- Flat Screen TV’s
- Small Toys
- Puzzles
- Games
- Computer Games
  - Sporting Goods
  - Infant Furniture
  - Microwaves
  - Small Kitchen
- appliances
- Art work
- Collectables
- Items Suitable for the Tiffany table

Items NOT accepted:
- Clothing
- Shoes
- Carpets
- Electronics
- Computers
- PC’s
- Printers
- Typewriters
- Keyboards
- Laptop
- Exercise Equipment
- Cell Phones
- CD’s
- Videos
- Records
- Stereos
- Scanners
- Large Appliance
- Large Toys
- Books

All items must be clean, in good repair and in working condition
Garden City Rental Space Available

Do you need private office space? Are you looking for meeting rooms to accommodate up to 194 people for religious services, seminars, trainings or offsite events?

Non-profit organizations like ours often have a need to find affordable space to rent. The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island has great office space available for your long term leasing. Available are one individual office, a board room for meetings up to 50 people and a large auditorium that you use for larger events. In addition we have ample free parking and we are a short walk from Winthrop University Hospital, the Nassau County Seat and the Mineola train station.

The rental spaces can be seen on our web site under Resources/Rentals: www.ehsli.org/ceremonies/building-rental/

For further information about renting affordable space please call: 516 741-7304 or email ethicalsociety@optonline.net
Friday, April 20, 2018 at 8:00 PM

Rick and Michele Gedney, known as the duo Open Book, have been writing, recording, and performing together since 2000. Their original music features melody invention and vocal harmonies supported by a tapestry of interweaving guitars. They have released three albums which have received national airplay and critical acclaim.

Open Book is the winner of the 2017 Connecticut Folk Festival Songwriting Competition. Michele and Rick work as facilitators at Dar Williams’ “Writing a Song That Matters” retreat at The Garrison Institute in New York’s Hudson Valley.

Suggested Donations For This Performance: Adults: $20, Students (w/IDs): $15
Children under 12: $6 (very young children are free)
Tickets on sale at the door.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a welcoming home for people who think that nothing should be more important to people than people. If you value independent thought, stimulating presentations, a celebration of both science and the arts, the education of youth in the ideals of humanism, and a community of friends who work to create social change, you will find what you’re looking for with us.

Programs

Sunday morning meetings begin at 11:00 a.m. for approximately one hour. A blend of music, poetry, meditation and an informative presentation, our Sunday mornings are the centerpiece of our week. Every talk is recorded… Go to http://www.ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks/

Colloquy is a time of shared reflection and nurturing. It’s an opportunity for people to meet in a small group, examine a particular aspect of life, explore and practice self-reflection. Colloquy meets at 9:30 a.m. before our Sunday meeting. We often lunch together at a diner after the general meeting. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Kids Ethics Program meets weekly at 11:00 a.m. for children ages 5 to 12 and covers topics of “what makes a good person?” Free babysitting is provided for younger children. Facebook: Kids Ethics Program Long Island

YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18. YES meets approximately twice a month. The YES group hosts a Sunday morning presentation each year. Join their Facebook group at Long Island Y.E.S.

Humanists of Long Island is the name of The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island’s chapter of the American Humanist Association. We meet on the last Monday of each month. For questions email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com or leave a message at 516-741-7304. Find them on Facebook at Humanists of Long Island.

Darwin Day is our annual celebration of science, held in early February in honor of Charles Darwin.

Contacts

38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

516-741-7304
www.ehsli.org

Office Manager:
Phyllis Herschlag
ethicalsociety@optonline.net

more at www.ehsli.org.
Commemoration Sunday is our first meeting of each new year when we renew our core values of freedom, justice, dignity and compassion.

Ethical Friends of Children assists more than 2,500 children each year by providing them with clothing and infant furniture at no cost. Our “store” – staffed entirely by volunteers – lets families pick out the things they need, at no cost to them. Please contact director Jim LoPresti at EFOC@ehsli.org if you’d like to help.

The Social Justice Leadership Award was created by the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island to honor those individuals who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of humankind, recognizing people who have made significant contributions in the areas of peace, justice, human rights, or humanitarian causes.

The Young Activist Grant was founded to encourage Nassau County middle and high school students to develop their own humanitarian skills. The annual grant, awarded in the fall, offers $500 as seed money for a worthy project. See our website for an application.

The Movie Group. For information about joining the movie group, contact Al Zeiger at 516-538-2687. Leave a message and he’ll return your call.

Sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour: For $15 you can sponsor a Sunday Coffee Hour and, with advanced notice, have your name and message added to the Sunday Meeting bulletin! Please contact Phyllis at ethicalsociety@optonline.net

Affordable Office Space for Rent
We have great office space available for long term leasing. Available are two individual offices (230+ sq ft each). Reasonable rates. Ample free parking and a short walk from the Nassau County Seat, Winthrop University Hospital and the Mineola LIRR train station. Non-profit organizations only may apply. Also on site and available for occasional rental are a conference room for meetings up to 50 people and a large auditorium that can be used for larger events. Inquire through the office, 516-741-7304.

Social Media:
Facebook: Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
Kids Ethics Program Long Island
Long Island Y.E.S.
Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli
Meetup: www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island/
Blog: Leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin is blogging weekdays at arthurdobrin.wordpress.com
Community Action: www.communitiesandpolicetalk.org

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

Create a Caring World