



The Ethical Humanist

Newsletter of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
Create a Caring World



President's Message

"How I Learned Empathy Through Driving Lessons"

Sunday Meetings

Begin at 11:00 am

Oct. 6: Ken Feifer: *The ACA- It's About More Than Just Health Insurance.*

Oct. 13: Richard Koral: *TBD.*

Oct. 20: Roger Tilles: *Quality education for our kids, quality education for all kids.*

Oct. 27: Eric Alexander: *Main Street update from LI Communities.*

Nov. 3 : Ryan Madden, *People & Planet First.*

Colloquy

Every Sunday at 9:30 am

Last month I met with three lifelong friends. Two of these friends are strong supporters of our current president. I tried with every empathetic bone in my body to see through their eyes. Not to agree...just to understand. I couldn't do it. Empathy has its limitations...at least mine does. For the sake of our friendship we agreed to keep politics out of our conversation. Our friendships are deep. We've shared some of the most intimate aspects and significant events of our lives. We could not bridge this divide.

I got to thinking about how I became an empathetic person. For some it seems to come naturally. I find that women, in general have more empathy than men. For me it was a skill to develop and I did. It still evolves. The beginnings were really simple. I was 18 years old. My father was teaching me to drive. When someone cut in front of me in a dangerous way, I yelled and said things that embarrass me when I think about it. My father seriously frowned upon foul language. I was surprised when he said nothing about the language. He said "You don't know what kind of day that man had. Maybe his wife or kids are sick. Maybe he was fired from his job. Maybe he was thinking about that instead of his driving." He never mentioned my cursing. I don't know if it was intentional on his part but the message I got was how you treat and understand others is far more important than the language one uses. Now and then, I really appreciate his wisdom. That was the beginning of a real life change for me.

Some questions:

When do you remember feeling other people’s pain/joy? What was that like?

When is it easiest to empathize? When is it most difficult? Why?

How has your life changed because someone understood the feelings behind your words?

Are you able to do that for someone?

I look forward to your comments either in person,
by email to jimlopr@gmail.com, subject line the word: Feedback,
or a note marked: Feedback.

Thanks for reading this.

Jim LoPresti



**Ethical Friend of Children
needs specific school supplies.**

Please donate: pencil sharpeners, pens,
scissors, calculators, 3 & 5 compartment
notebooks, backpacks, protractors, set
squares etc.,

**If you do not have time to go shopping then
consider making a donation to EFOC.**

Thank you in advance from the volunteers of EFOC
515-280-5E26
www.ehsl.org/social-action/ethical-friends-of-children/



Presentations



Oct 6 : Ken Feifer, The ACA--It's About More Than Just Health Insurance.

Ken has worked for Mount Sinai in New York for the last 22 years of his career. When he joined Mount Sinai, he was the Senior Director of the Mount Sinai Hospital's Solid Organ Transplant Programs. In 2003 he became the Associate Dean and Chief Operating Officer for the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai's Affiliation with public hospitals, a position he continues to hold.

Ken is also an adjunct professor in health care administration at two area colleges, the College of Westchester and the New York Institute of Technology where he teaches in the Health Care Administration Programs and in addition develops curriculum. He also an Adjunct Professor at Ashford University's online program in Public Health.

Ken holds both a Master's Degree in Social Work and an MBA with a concentration in Health Care Administration.

Ken and his wife Susan are long term members of the Ethical Society having joined in 1981 shortly after they were married. Their two children are graduates of our Sunday School.



Oct. 13: Richard Koral, TBD.

Dr. Richard Koral has been our Leader of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island since January 2018.

Oct. 20: Roger Tilles: *Quality education for our kids, quality education for all kids.*



Roger B. Tilles was first elected to his first 5 year term in 2005 as the Regent for the Tenth Judicial District of the NY State Education Department, representing Nassau and Suffolk counties. Regents are responsible for the general supervision of all educational activities within the State, presiding over The University and the New York State Education Department. He is now serving his third five-year term effective April 1, 2015-2020.

Regent Tilles graduated in 1968 from Amherst College with a Bachelor of Arts degree and from the University of Michigan College of Law in 1971. He became Director of Law and Legislation for the Michigan Department of Education, was elected to the Michigan State Board of Education, and in 1975, he became the Executive Secretary to the Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives. After being a candidate for U.S. Congress, he opened his own law practice in Washington, D.C. in 1978, until his return to Long Island in 1983 where he was the Director of the Tilles Investment Companies. He is a member of the New York, D.C. and Michigan Bar Associations.

He was Chair and a founding member of the Association for a Better Long Island, past acting Chair of the Long Island Regional Planning Board, served as Chair of the Long Island University Board of Trustees, served on the Boards of WNET/Channel 13 and WLIW/Channel 21 and has been Executive Vice Chairman of the Tilles Center For The Performing Arts, in addition to serving on the Board and Executive Board of the Long Island Association. He has also worked to form the Long Island Arts Alliance, attempting to bring together the cultural institutions of Long Island.

He is also involved with significant interfaith activities: two of the most prominent being Project Understanding, which he formed with Monsignor Tom Hartman in 1987, bringing Catholic and Jewish teenagers together annually on a mission to Israel; and as the producer of the first Vatican commemoration of the Holocaust under the auspices of Pope John Paul II in Rome in 1994.

He is a member and past President of Temple Beth-El of Great Neck, is on the Board of The Jewish Outreach Institute and has been a member of the National Young Leadership Cabinet of the UJA.

Roger Tilles was born and educated in Great Neck in their public schools and his daughters, Eliana and Hanaleah, graduated from the Great Neck public schools.



Oct. 27: Eric Alexander, Main Street update from LI Communities.

Eric Alexander is the Director of Vision Long Island, the area’s Smart Growth planning organization. Eric has over twenty five years of experience in housing, transportation, community development and coordinating successful community projects. Specifically, Eric has been a proponent of downtown planning, infrastructure investment and mixed use development through advocacy efforts on Federal, State, County levels while working with municipalities to develop and implement smart growth policies, regulations, and projects. All told his efforts at Vision Long Island have resulted in acting as a catalyst for well over 100 Smart Growth projects supporting over 13,000 units of Transit Oriented Development across LI.

Eric has been listed as one of Long Island’s 100 most influential leaders by the Long Island Business News for three years running and was featured on the cover of Corridor magazine. In 2018 he was placed on the LI Press Power List. In 2017 he was given a LI Business News Hall of Fame designation. In 2016 he was honored by the Hollywood Baptist Church for a Martin Luther King Jr. “Leadership” Award, by EHS of LI for a “Social Justice Leaders” Award and in NYC for a “Gotham Green” Award.



Nov. 3 : Ryan Madden, People & Planet First.

Climate change, ecological collapse, biodiversity loss, and species extinction are a product of our prevailing economic system. To combat the intersecting crises of our time, we need a paradigm shift in how we relate to the economy, to one another, and to our world. We must push back against the extractive logic of a system that decimates the vital life support systems of earth and instead promote alternative modes of being based on reciprocity and mutual respect. We must transform a system based on endless growth to one based on regenerative practices, rooted in ecological justice: a state of balance between communities and ecosystems based on mutually beneficial relationships and participatory self-governance. This talk will explore the ideological trends that have led to our current crises and offer solutions for addressing these issues from a grassroots organizing perspective.

Ryan Madden is a climate activist and organizer with a BA in Political Science & Environmental Studies from SUNY Binghamton. He has experience working with civil society groups within United Nations climate change conferences, with non-profits on community-based energy efficiency programs, and with grassroots organizations on renewable energy advocacy and climate legislative campaigns. He currently serves as the Sustainability Organizer for the Long Island Progressive Coalition where he leads efforts for energy democracy and climate justice in New York State.

Announcements:

"LET'S TALK ABOUT IT"

"LET'S TALK ABOUT IT" is a new initiative at our Society on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. In an effort to have more opportunity for members and visitors to voice their opinions on the Speakers' topics, a moderated discussion will be held each week following the Coffee Hour.

Let us listen and learn from each other.

THURSDAY OCT. 10

MENS NIGHT OUT

Thursday, October 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

Hunan Dynasty

2292 Hempstead Turnpike, East Meadow, NY 11554

Please RSVP to Richard Koral at:

leader@ehsli.org



THURSDAY OCT. 17



LEADER'S LUNCH (Thurs. 10/17)

Join the EHSI Leader, Richard Koral, at a lunchtime gathering every month for a group discussion on a chosen topic or a featured article. we will meet on Thurs., October 17th @ 12:00pm in Room 201.

Bring a brown bag lunch.

Be sure to RSVP office@ehsli.org so we know how many people will be attending

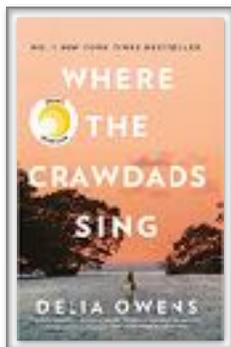
October 19-20



The Women's Retreat will be October 19 - 20, 2019 at St. Josephat's Retreat House in Glen Cove. This event is for members only. You can come spend the day or stay overnight. Meals will be included. Topics being discussed will include issues that women of Ethical face in society.

For more information, contact Delorie Cohan at rodel48@aol.com or call 516-639-0070

Sunday October. 27th, 12:30



On Sunday October. 27th at 12:30 p.m. join us to discuss the New York Times bestseller *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens.

"...*Where the Crawdads Sing* is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps."

https://www.bookbrowse.com/reviews/index.cfm/book_number/3846/where-the-crawdads-sing

SAVE THESE NOVEMBER DATES

Nov. 3 - Our Fall Member Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 3rd after the Sunday meeting. Please make every effort to attend.

Nov. 24 - Small Group Discussion: The Joys and Value of Friendship

Our Affiliated Group:

Humanists of Long Island



Humanists of Long Island October 2019
Sharon Stanley, Co-chapter chairperson

Humanists of Long Island began September with a bicycle parade and a conversation on Gun Safety.

On Saturday, September 14, 2019, member Sylvia Silberger, chairperson for the Long Island Alliance for Transportation Alliance, held their 4th Annual Bicycle Parade. Here is a link to the lovely article, with photos from Newsday! <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/bicycle-mobility-week-1.36317417>. It was exciting to receive a surprise visit from Senator Kevin Thomas, who presented us at the parade with two proclamations! One was for Long Island Transportation Alliance, and one we for the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. It was a wonderful day all around!

On Saturday, On Wednesday, September 18, member Sharon Stanley, along with Jimmy Dougherty and Kay Lustig, all members of the "Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America," presented a new public education campaign called Be SMART at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. At the presentation on the three spoke about the inception of the Be SMART campaign. The program is designed to help parents and adults take responsible actions that can prevent child gun deaths and injuries by raising awareness. The acronym **SMART** stands for **S**ecure all guns, **M**odel responsible behavior, **A**sk about unsecured guns, **R**ecognize the role of guns in suicide and **T**ell your friends and peers to be smart. Whether or not you've attended any of these new presentations, the pneumatic can begin a conversation on gun safety; with the emphasis on making sure the public is aware about the risks of unsecured guns and ammunition.



Here is a link to the article in the Garden City News, promoting the event:

<https://www.gcnews.com/articles/gun-safety-campaign-coming-to-garden-city/>



Humanists of Long Island's meeting schedule is October 28, November 25. Our December meeting is cancelled. All our meetings are at EHS, begin at 7:00 pm and are free and open to the public. www.ehsl.org.

If you would like more information, contact Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com. All members inside and outside of the Ethical Humanist Society are welcome to attend because we are all humanists of Long Island!



Sharon Stanley

News from the American Ethical Union



World Humanist Congress, August 6-9, in Miami!

Registration opens October 1, 2019.

WANTED: Rep for Humanists International

As you probably know, the American Ethical Union is a member and co-founder of Humanists International (formerly the International Humanist and Ethical Union).

The AEU is looking for a member to represent us at HI conferences for the next three years. [APPLY HERE](#)



EHS OFFICE HOURS:

Leader Richard Koral: By Appointment
516-741-7304 or leader@ehsli.org.

Office Manager Phyllis or assistant, Tina: 516-741-7304
Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.
First Sunday of the month 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Our Youth Programs:

Kids Ethics Program Long Island

Happy Fall, and welcome back to another year of the Kids Ethics Program of Long Island! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer!

This year our focus will be **Our Beautiful Earth**. We will be learning about our planet, and our environment in detail. We will be talking about what we can do to make it cleaner, safer, and a better place for all living things. We will also be doing many hands on activities, and learning a little science too!

Our meetings will continue to take place in the downstairs classroom, from 11:00 - 12:00 every Sunday. All are welcome!

The Kids program is also participating in the Ethical Society's annual school supply drive, so if you can, please bring in donations of pencils, pens, notebooks, folders, rulers, backpacks, and anything else you think a child may need for school this year.

I hope to see you Sunday!

Christine Lamattina
Director of Children's Education



Please like us on Facebook:
[Kids' Ethics Program Long](#)



Our free Kids' Ethics Program for children aged 6 to 12 is a fun way to learn to be an open-minded, honest and kind person. Classes are held in a spirit of inquiry by our experienced, dedicated teacher. Ethics are taught the easy way through discussion, role plays, games and projects.



Heather Pierson Band

Friday, October 18th at 8:00 PM



Heather Pierson is an award-winning pianist, multi-instrumentalist, singer/songwriter, and performer whose inspiring live performances and growing catalog of releases delve into Americana, blues, New Orleans jazz, vocal chants instrumental piano, and poignant folk. In 20 years on her own record label, Vessel Recordings, she has released 11 CDs of original music, and a new full-length recording, *Lines and Spaces*, is currently in the works and planned for a late 2019 release.

Door open at 7:15pm and the show starts at 8:00pm.

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.

Sorry, no pre-sales are available

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



Contacts

38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

516-741-7304

www.ehsl.org

Office Manager: Phyllis Herschlag

Asst. Ofc Mgr: Tina Keane

ethicalsociety@optonline.net

more at www.ehsl.org.

Newsletter Editor: Linda Joe

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.ehsl.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 weekly. 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.

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, please contact Phyllis or Tina at ethicalsociety@optonline.net

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 or Tina 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.](#)

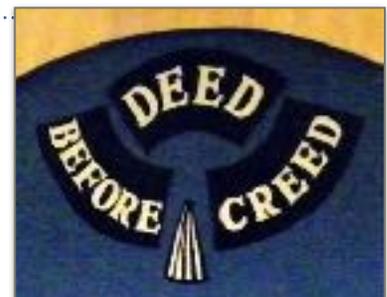
Twitter: www.twitter.com/ehsli

Meetup: www.meetup.com/Ethical-Humanist-Society-of-Long-Island/

This site lists a full schedule of our events. Support us by becoming an EHSLI meet-up member.

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