Leader’s Message

September

As I write this note, the scenes of our military withdrawal from Afghanistan dominate the news. Leaving Afghanistan offers an opportunity to reflect on the many aspects of our nation’s experience there and to assess whether it was worth the effort, the investment and the painful losses. We first went there to hunt down America’s arch enemy, Osama Bin Laden, but we stayed to bring Western civilization to one of the last unGoogled corners of the earth. It is embarrassing for a first world power - the first world power - to be ousted by a rag-tag band of scrappy desert fighters. But there is also something unnerving about seeing our civilization rejected by a majority of the population.

Clearly, the country supported the Taliban vision of a conservative Islamic society more than the modern, Western secular way of life. It is too easy to keep projecting our values and say that the Taliban must have conquered the countryside against the will of the populace. In fact, they had a lot of popular support.

We have the hubristic assumption that our way of life is the best that has ever been, the most desired, and the goal for emulation by all the peoples of the earth. We have mastered the planet by means of Enlightenment values which brought us individualism,
capitalism, science and the end of superstition and ignorance. We are the purveyors of the modern age and all the advances that it brought us.

But what if some people are just not that into the modern age? Some people just don’t seem to want the Enlightenment and they don’t equate traditional ways with ignorance and injustice. Thus, we are forced to witness a society that promotes and enforces antediluvian codes and rules – women excluded from public life, thieves’ hands cut off, minorities oppressed, heretics punished and religion holding the center of community life.

Over the last twenty years while Americans were present, many people in Afghanistan did have an opportunity to adopt modern ways and many got a strong taste of what modern, cosmopolitan life could bring. Girls went to school and women advanced in the professions. But unfortunately, many other traditions remained, such as corruption, nepotism and self-dealing. A truly civil society cannot be built in a day. As a result, there was a lot of disappointment.

One of the big take-aways must be that civilization cannot be implanted through a military occupation alone. For values of civility and civic commitment to take root, there must be confidence in the commitment of other people; confidence that there will be reciprocity to justify one’s own self-restraint. Sadly, that did not take hold, and the corruption and incompetence of local government sapped the will of those fighting on the front lines.

If we are to encourage people in traditional societies to leave behind superstition and prejudice, to accept science and humanistic values, we will need the patience necessary to use the soft power of education and example. For starters, we could educate our own people. If we could convince the 45% of Americans that vaccines are not bad magic, then we might have the skills to offer that kind of lesson to people in far-off lands.

Dr. Richard L. Koral, Leader EHSL
Sept 05: Judy Rosemarin, Perspectives and Possibilities.
Our perspectives, or points of view, influence everything we think, say or do. The #6 written on a piece of paper, to one person may look like 6. Another person looking at it upside down will be convinced the number is 9. The number remains the same: only our perspectives seem to change it.

What happens when we doggedly hold onto our treasured points of view? Do we sacrifice something “sacred” when we take in another’s perspective? Or do we actually gain something? Do we always need to agree? Can we not first listen to understand before we debate? We all have our filters and facets, yet the most beautiful of diamonds sparkle because of myriad facets. How can we develop more “facets” of our own so as to enhance our capacity to understand ourself and others? Are we ever too old to change a point of view about others or ourselves?

Judy is co-author of “Becoming An Exceptional Executive Coach,” has taught at New York University, Baruch College and is faculty at Osher Life Long Learning Institute (OLLI) at Ringling College in Sarasota Florida. She has a background in Executive Coaching, Community Theater as an actor and director, and is currently writing and performing one-woman monologues. Judy was the original Careers Plus contributing columnist for the New York Post, with an MS in counseling and an MSW in Social Work.

Judy Rosemarin, a longtime member of the Ethical Humanist Society, is currently serving on the Board of EHSLI, is part of the Westbury Volunteer Corps, and has taught her cat Leo how to walk on a leash.

Sept 12: Richard Koral, OPENING SUNDAY.
Celebrating the beginning of a new season and our first time back in the building since the start of the Pandemic in March of 2020. Please RSVP if you would like to attend in-person!
Sept 19: David Sprintzen, Democracy Under Siege.

The MAGA Movement is right now in the process of organizing a slow-moving coup d’état seeking to destroy US democracy. How are they doing that? And what can we do about it?

David Sprintzen is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Long Island University, He co-founded the Institute for Sustainable Development at Long Island University and served as its Co-Director for seven years. He has authored four books: Camus: A Critical Examination, Sartre and Camus: An Historic Confrontation, The Drama of Thought: an inquiry into the place of philosophy in human experience, and, most recently, Critique of Western Philosophy and Social Theory.

David was a founder, and for the first 20 years of its history, Co-Chair of the Long Island Progressive Coalition. In addition, He was the founder and for 20 years the Executive Director of the Research and Education Project of Long Island. He has served in executive positions on Long Island Jobs With Justice, the Ethical Culture Society of Long Island and on New York Governor Mario Cuomo’s Shoreham Commission.

Among numerous honors and awards, he has received awards from Vision Long Island and from Sustainable Long Island for being a founder of the movement for sustainability on Long Island, and received the Social Justice Leadership Award from the Ethical Society. He has written many theoretical and practical articles as well as scholarly and popular presentations, and continues to teach in the Hutton House Lecture Series at LIU/Post, and at public venues mostly in the New York Metropolitan Area.

Sept 26: Sonia Arora, Police Reform on Long Island.

Sonia Arora is a teaching artist, activist and poet. She lives in Port Washington with her partner Raju, son Kabeera and their cat, Lucky. She is one of the founders of Long Island Together, a collective of activists working to make our communities more equitable, sustainable, and inclusive by challenging structural injustices in education, immigration, public safety and language access.

Sonia is currently the Social Action Coordinator at EHSLI where she has been advocating with members on the Public Banking Bill, Police reform, Voting rights, the Westbury Volunteer Corps and more.
President’s Column
by Linda Napoli

“OUR JOURNEYS CONTINUE”

Hello again, Everyone!

A lot has happened since I wrote to you in my last term as President in 2019. I guess that’s stating the obvious, but, let us go forward. I’m happy to share with you that, in a spirit of qualified enthusiasm, plans are underway to have an in-person (and long distance) Opening Sunday on September 12th. By now, you have already or soon will receive an invitation in the mail.

Our (newly formed) Media Task force has been working to determine how best to make this a safe and successful hybrid program so that long distance members and friends can be with us. We are also considering Zoom only Sundays.

Many of us have been feeling overwhelmed with the news, both political and social. What is this world coming to? My advice (to myself) and all of us is to devote at least a part of every day to time with friends, attention to our inner selves and appreciation of the beauty of nature.

I believe our Society has shown itself to be a steady and caring community in the lives of its members these past months and we are continuing to improve. Share your thoughts with me anytime if you have ideas or suggestions that you feel will support our mission.

See you on September 12th!

SOCIETY UPDATES

Social Action development has been a strong focus in the past couple of years and there are continued plans in the works that will include more of our members. This is a priority for all of us if we are truly practicing our philosophy of Ethical Humanism.

We have gained six new members in the past year and a half, thanks to our open Zoom meetings, which were initiated and led by Richard Koral, Judy Rosmarin and David Sprintzen among others. The plan right now is that these meetings will continue. Tina Keane’s hard work as liaison for all inquiries has been essential.

The monthly Women’s meetings have continued to be led by Barbara Haber and Delorie Cohan. A retreat is being planned for October, 2021.
The fairly new Men’s Group meets regularly and is discussing becoming involved in a social action cause. Richard Koral is the moderator.

The pandemic has brought more participation with other Societies on Sunday mornings. This was put together by the American Ethical Union and has exposed our members to some very interesting speakers. The plan is to continue this practice on occasion.

Our Society’s Sunday morning programs have allowed us a regular connection with each other, thanks to Jim and Joan our stalwart co-hosts and the perseverance of Kelly Schmidt in bringing us the weekly music.

The Board’s Finance and Fund Raising teams’ coordination in the development and distribution of our funds has helped to keep the Society fiscally healthy. (Due to the pandemic, the bulk of our rental income disappeared so these efforts have been extremely important.) Rentals are starting up again in a cautious and safe way. Tina Keane, our office manager, is coordinating this work with the teams’ input.

A Celebration Garden is being planned to give members the opportunity to celebrate the people they love. More information will be coming your way.

You will be hearing about Planning Ahead Packets soon. This is a service the Society provides to its members to help them think about their future needs.

A great big Thank You to Jim LoPresti (outgoing President), Linda Joe (outgoing Secretary) and Lorraine Agostino (outgoing Treasurer) for their hard work and dedication as members of the Board in the past couple of years.

Judy Rosemarin is our new Board Secretary and Wayne Outten is the new Treasurer. Thanks to you both and to the Board for their confidence in selecting me as the new President.

BE SURE TO READ THE WEEKLY EMAILS FOR INFORMATION AND ZOOM LINKS!
WEEKLY MEETINGS

SUNDAY PRESENTATIONS

Join us every Sunday for our Sunday Presentations held via Zoom. Doors open at 10:30, meeting starts at 11:00.

https://zoom.us/j/980426852
Or phone in at: (929) 436-2866
The Zoom link will be the same every week. Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser. Reminders are sent out in the weekly email notices.

TUESDAY MEDITATION GROUP AT 11 AM

Join member Judy Rosemarin every Tuesday from 11 am - 12 pm for a weekly meditation on Zoom. Learn different ways to meditate and enjoy doing it with others. All are welcome to join.

If you would like to join us, please register by calling the office at: 516-741-7304, or email office@ehsli.org and we will send you the Zoom link.

THURSDAY DIGITAL DISCUSSIONS

On Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. we will hold a digital discussion group with Leader Richard Koral on Zoom. It will have a topic, but it will be wide ranging and people will have an opportunity to share. The topics will be announced in the weekly email, but the link to join will always be the same:

https://zoom.us/j/377400022
or phone in at (929) 436-2866
FRIDAY COLLOQUY 10 AM

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. It is a structured meeting, including reflection and self-expression in a nonjudgmental, confidential atmosphere."

If this is your first time attending please register by emailing the Ethical office or calling Arthur Dobrin at 516-997-8545.

(See Al Zeiger's article describing the Colloquy in the Members section (page 17) of the 2020 October newsletter.)

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ETHICAL ISSUES IN OUR TIMES- Sept 2, 7 PM

Join Dr. David Sprintzen for our monthly "Ethical Issues in Our Times"
Now a joint product of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island and the Humanists of Long Island (First Thursday of each month)

Topic: What lives matter? And do they all matter equally? What sense can we make of the current reality?

In recent years an important movement has emerged asserting “Black Lives Matter.” This has sparked a counter movement insisting that “Blue Lives Matter.” Some have sought to mediate the polarization by claiming that “All Lives Matter,” but that view has apparently not been well received by any. Meanwhile, little is being explicitly said about other groups, such as Latinos, Native Americans, and religious minorities, not to mention the devastation that has in recent years overtaken those in the white working class without a college degree. As a nation, we are seemingly being torn apart by antagonistic group identifications. What can we do about it?

To register, call the EHS office: 516-741-7304 or email: office@ehsli.org
WOMEN'S GROUP - SEPT 10, 7:30 PM

Our Monthly Women's Group (for members of EHSLI only) meets on the first Friday of each month. The zoom site will open at 7:15 pm, and the group will run from 7:30 to 9 pm. Barbara Haber and Delorie Cohan will host the group. Email to all women members of EHSLI with the topic and the Zoom link will be sent a week before every meeting.

POETRY CIRCLE - SEPT 27, 7 PM

You are invited to bring in your favorite poetry to share. Various topics will be discussed. Please contact Linda Napoli lindanapoli819@gmail.com

(Comments from participants are included in the Society Member section of the newsletter.)

BOOK DISCUSSION - SEPT 28, 7 PM

The Huntress by Kate Quinn. (Muriel Schwartzman selection)
This novel revolves around a Russian female bomber pilot and a British war reporter who work together as Nazi hunters.

“In the aftermath of war, the hunter becomes the hunted . . .
Bold, reckless Nina Markova grows up on the icy edge of Soviet Russia, dreaming of flight and fearing nothing. When the tide of war sweeps over her homeland, she gambles everything to join the infamous Night Witches, an all-female night bomber regiment wreaking havoc on Hitler’s eastern front. But when she is downed behind enemy lines and thrown across the path of a lethal Nazi murderess known as the Huntress, Nina must use all her wits to survive.

Email Linda Napoli lindanapoli819@gmail.com to get the Zoom Link.
Weill Social Action Fund - Updates from Sue Feifer

Currently the society has three social action initiatives that were developed out of proposals funded thru The Weill Social Action Fund:

**New Hour**
The society collected and filled 250 bags with personal care items for incarcerated women to use upon release. These bags were delivered to New Hour and distributed to both Nassau and Suffolk jails. In addition we provided New Hour with school supplies and diapers for the children the program services.

Our efforts were further recognized by The Starbucks Foundation Neighbor Grant which awarded EHSLI $1,000 to use towards other social action projects. We were nominated for this grant by one of our volunteers on the New Hour project, Cheryl Schruefer.

**Westbury Volunteer Corp**
The proposal was initiated to enrich the educational and lives of Westbury students by providing a variety of mentoring, educational, practical and academic experiences. Several of our members have participated in this program to date.

*Judy Rosemarin* taught a Mindfulness Zoom program for all five classes of the fifth grade in the Westbury School district. The overall purpose was to help students become more aware, honor their challenges, recognize what their stressors were, and how to manage worries while bolstering self-acceptance and gratitude.

- Determined to make it fun, and interactive, Judy developed and demonstrated four simple techniques that kids could easily use and practice as well as time for questions and discussions. She used Power Point to "show" a lot of the concepts taught, knowing that kids like and learn from visuals. There was also focus on learning simple breathing techniques as well as being presented with examples of mindfulness as improving their ability to think clearer. She created a Mindfulness bottle filled with water and a teaspoon of dirt. She shook it and showed it to the students as an example of what worry and stress can do to our minds. The kids were able to see in real time as the dirt settled to the bottom how the water became still and clear. A powerful lesson to us all on applying mindfulness to our daily lives.
- Overall, Judy conducted 10 separate sessions and successfully engaged over 125 students.

*Arthur Dobrin* who was responsible for developing and submitting the WVC proposal for consideration to the Weill Social action fund did a session on ethics and the environment with the fourth graders. In addition to using one of his recently published books as a jump off point
for discussion, Arthur worked individually with sixth and seventh graders on developing writing skills.

Community Solidarity
Community Solidarity is a local, vegan food share currently supplementing the needs of the people of Hempstead and other underserved communities on Long Island at their vegan food shares across Long Island. We are kicking off a food drive on 9/12 and 9/19 to fill 250 bags for distribution with vegan canned or boxed items, paper goods and/or gift cards. These bags will be filled at the society on 9/26 and brought to Community Solidarity for distribution.

Ethical Friends for Children
In addition to these three new proposals, The Weill fund has continued to support the work of Ethical Friends for Children. EFC has participated in donating diapers and school supplies to both New Hour and Community Solidarity.

We have had a very successful year with these social action projects and reached a diverse cross section of our neighbors. These projects are examples of how far we can stretch a little seed money with outreach and determination and of course, volunteerism.

We will be asking for new proposals to submit to the Weill Fund Board for consideration for 2022...So get creative!!!

Y.E.S.
David Sprintzen and Jim LoPresti are now running the YES group. There are currently 15 members. This year’s officers are: Annabelle Chan, Faiza Ahmed, Anitta Kottai.

Board member, Lorraine Zeller-Agostino with 2 YES teens delivering some supplies last September to the food share. The teens are Saanvi Mirchandani and Khushi Shah, recently graduated YES members, donating some of the school supplies they had collected through their GoFundMe project.
Humanists of Long Island  Sharon Stanley
September 2021

Having continually been involved in academia, new beginnings for me always happen in September. And this September will be a wonderful one! We are thrilled to report that the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island will be reopening in September for our in-person Sunday morning meetings at 11:00 a.m. Therefore, Humanists of Long Island can begin our monthly in-person meetings, as well. We are all very excited!

Since my family joined EHS LI https://ehsli.org in 1995, my friends, the speakers, and programs advanced my awareness of politics, religion, philosophy, history. The Ethical Culture movement has a long history of activism and “deed before creed.” https://aeu.org/who-we-are/history/ My family began visiting different societies and began to understand that ethical culture existed outside of our building. https://aeu.org/who-we-are/member-societies/

I began research in other humanist groups. I learned that there were different kinds of humanism. Ethical Culture falls under the heading of “religious humanism,” as does the Unitarian Universalists and Jewish Humanism. https://americanhumanist.org/what-is-humanism/edwords-what-is-humanism/ The American Humanist Association is aligned with “secular and naturalistic humanism.” I discovered a few other ethical societies who also had AHA affiliate groups. https://americanhumanist.org/get-involved/find-or-start-a-chapter/

I am often asked “why” and “how” did HoLI begin?

The origin story of Humanists of Long Island began in July 2014, when I met Roy Speckhardt, the executive director of the American Humanist Association. (AHA) He was the keynote speaker at the American Ethical Union delegate assembly in Virginia. He spoke of the long history the American Ethical Union (AEU) and the American Humanist Association (AHA) have together, as organizations working toward similar goals. https://americanhumanist.org/about/staff/speckhardt/ Roy invited a few of us out for dinner and he spoke about affiliate groups and how they enhance both organizations. He said to make the meetings fun.

-------- “HoLI” -------

“Humanists of Long Island,” affectionately nicknamed “HoLI,” held its first meeting in September 2014. I thought it might be an added attraction that would help grow membership at EHS LI. Perhaps we could attract people who might not want to wake up on Sunday mornings.

Going forward, HoLI will be meeting on the last Friday of each month, at 7:00 pm.
Our first meeting will be on Sept. 24 and the second will be on Oct. 29. We will be meeting on the first floor. We will not be meeting in November or December, because of the winter holidays. We will meet again on January 28, 2022.
September 24 at 7:00, our meeting will be a “happy to get together” party. BYOB and snacks. We will be brainstorming ideas for the coming months. Everyone, inside and outside of the Ethical Humanist Society is invited to participate! Please RSVP if you would like to attend or if you have any questions at lihumanist@gmail.com. I’ll be sending out a reminder email message in the weekly newsletter later in September. (NOTE: There will be a limit of 25 people and we will follow Covid restrictions in place at that time.)

I’d like to do a special “shout out” and thank David Sprintzen, who has been one of our founding members. He included Humanists of Long Island as co-host for his discussion group this past year. He helped to keep HoLI afloat, and I am very appreciative of that.

I can’t wait to see you all soon!
Sharon Stanley

Our Affiliate Organization, MultiCultural Solidarity

UPDATE: The next 3 diversity circles are via ZOOM:

Sat. Sept. 11 at 11:00AM facilitated by Pramila Venkateswaran
Sun. Sept. 19 at 6:30PM facilitated by Josie Bailey
Thur. Sept.23 at 4:00PM facilitated by Chip Williford

Register by emailing multiculturalsolidarity@gmail.com
To be in the loop for our next in-person/outdoor circle, please email us of your interest. Also check the announcement section of our Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/multiculturalsolidarityLI

89-Second Video hint of what our Zoom diversity circle is like: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hILU8Pv8c4

"The most radical thing I can do is introduce people to each other." In other words we bring diverse people together to meet, exchange, deepen, build a multicultural solidarity network and model the Beloved Community. While we listen to each other’s direct experience with race-related topics. This can interrupt how the current social structure separates us and continues racism.
Announcements:

**EHSLI HELPS COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY**

This month we will be initiating a Social Action supported by a grant from the Joseph & Rhoda Weill Fund, to help our neighbors who suffer from food insecurity by donating 250 custom, reusable bags with healthy food and other essentials #fillabag.

Community Solidarity is a local, vegan food share currently supplementing the needs of the people of Hempstead and other underserved communities on Long Island at their food shares across Long Island. https://communitysolidarity.org

Underwritten by a $1,500 grant from the Weill Fund and with help from Ethical Friends of Children, the Social Action Committee and members and friends, we will be filling 250 custom, reusable bags featuring our own logo for distribution at the end of September at the Hempstead food share, which operates every Sunday.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! WE ARE ASKING OUR MEMBERS FOR DONATIONS** of non-perishable vegan canned or boxed goods, hygiene supplies, and grocery store gift cards.

COLLECTIONS will be Sundays Sept 19 and 26. The bag-filling event to be held at the building after our meeting on September 26th, and distribution of bags scheduled that afternoon. OR bring your donation to the building during office hours Tuesday or Thursday 10 am - 3pm. **Donations should be delivered or mailed by Thursday 9/24/21.**

Questions: Call Lorraine Zeller-Agostino 516-697-4519 or office 516-741-7304.

Please introduce yourself to our newest members from 2021 and 2020:

Richard DiCecio
Elayne Gersten
Sal Capone and his son Ryan
...
Ben Bortin & Andrea Starr
Frank Miller-Small
Anne Tiss
Workshop on Fairness and Social Justice

Have you ever been treated unfairly or treated someone else unfairly? Did or do you have an unfair advantage over someone else? If yes, do you want that to change? What are the ethics involved?

Can 2 people disagree and both have ethically sound positions? Has this ever happened to you? Were you able to resolve the situation? Is there a way to narrow the divide?

We (Arthur Dobrin, David Sprintzen, Jim LoPresti) propose the creation of a “colloquy-type” discussion group to explore the personal significance of our life’s encounters both positive and negative with interpersonal fairness and social justice. It would explore issues concerning: age, gender, ethnicity, income, nationality, race, religion, spousal loss, and wealth.

The group would meet either every week or every other week. It would have a discussion facilitator (Arthur), would have a regular EHS membership, limited to approximately 10 participants, but would remain open to all members of our Society. Should significantly more people wish to participate, we would create additional small groups.

If you are interested email Arthur Dobrin, David Sprintzen or Jim LoPresti.

Did you ever say" I wish I could hear that Sunday Morning speaker again"? Well you can! The talks are recorded on our website at: ehsli.org/resources/archives/talks. The talks are usually available 2-4 weeks after the speaking date.
Introducing our New Board Members

Wayne Outten:

Ginny and I moved from Manhattan to Manhasset in 1979. We joined the Society in the early ‘80s when our children (Ross and Sarah) were young - we wanted them to learn ethical values without the trappings of traditional religion. I have remained a member, because I embrace the Society’s values, love and learn from its programs, and have met wonderful people; but my attendance and participation has fluctuated, depending on work and other factors.

About ten years ago, Ginny and I built our dream home on a river near Ocean City MD. In late 2020, we sold our Manhasset home and now reside in Maryland.

I have practiced law in NYC for more than 40 years. In 1998, I started Outten & Golden, which focuses exclusively on representing employees. I still practice law, though I am moving gradually toward semi-retirement. I am pleased that, with videoconferencing, I can continue to participate in the Society and to help by being on the board again. This is my third stint on the board.

Judy Rosemarin:

As a member of the Ethical Humanist Society, for 20 years, I am grateful to have formed and forged rich and treasured friendships with people who, like myself, believe in the immeasurable potential for the good in humanity. And when bringing out the best in others, we also wind up manifesting it ourselves.

Having had the honor of serving on the board years back, today I see this new opportunity as a chance to work with fellow board members to help our Society move into its future, in a sustained way.

I love our shared values of faith in inherent human worth, social action, accepting people of all backgrounds, lifestyles and faiths, and the diversity of speakers who share their wisdom and expertise each Sunday morning.

Having been an Executive Coach for 35 years, I have helped people grow, dare and succeed in their lives.

Now, as your new board member, I plan on fully contributing all of my skills, in every way, to bring out the best of our community.
CELEBRATION GARDEN

The Fundraising Committee is excited to announce a new venture. Plans are in the works to create a “Celebration Garden” utilizing the back area of our property extending from the parking lot to the western edge. The Celebration Garden will be a beautiful natural environment created as a place for members and friends of EHSLI to commemorate, celebrate and memorialize loved ones.

Opportunities will be offered to donate plantings, trees, benches or memorial bricks & stones to honor a person, treasured animal or life event. The design will be created out of the existing trees, shrubs and gardens with the addition of self-sustaining native species. It will include areas for reflection and gatherings as well as strolling and sitting in a peaceful grove. It will also become a home for the Painted Horse sculpture donated by Joan Beder.

Other uses would include opening the garden to the surrounding community for parties, photography, educational talks on native plants and rain gardens and fundraisers. We have a beautiful property which has become a “jungle” in the past couple of years, so the property will need a good clean-up.

We’ll be looking for volunteers in the fall and spring to work with Anthony Marinello of Dropseed Native Landscapes in conjunction with volunteers from ReWild Long Island. Stay tuned!

Celebration Garden co-chairs:
Judy Rosemarin and Lorraine Zeller-Agostino
Help spread the word

We have an office on the 2nd floor of our Society building that was recently vacated and is immediately available for lease.

It's a great space for business professionals and a great location--easily accessible by car, train or bus.

We are looking for a non-profit organization to rent the space. If you know of anyone, please send them our way.

The rental spaces can be seen on our web site: https://www.ehsli.org/ceremonies-building-rentals/building-rental/

By contributing to the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island you are helping to maintain its mission and purposes and the many programs and services it offers to its members and the public.
Member Susan Feifer was interviewed by Eric Alexander on his Main Street News Show. They discussed Susan’s career as a vocational consultant and Changing Lives thru The Power of Work. Eric, who is the director of Vision Long Island, had been the long time leader of EHSLI’s youth group. Eric had previously featured segments with member David Sprintzen on public banking and leader emeritus Arthur Dobrin on police reform.

COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE POETRY CIRCLE

Rick Shaper:
I joined the Poetry Circle late but am enjoying it very much. Reading, discussing and learning the insights of others adds understanding and depth to the works, that which we otherwise might miss. Poems I first read with little interest now have come to life. It isn’t necessary to be widely read in poetry (I myself am not) to gain from and contribute to the discussion. I encourage anyone with an interest to log in and join in. P.S. We are also getting used to, and better at, Zooming, sharing screens, etc., a practice that seems destined to be with us for some time!

Ben Bortin:
I agree, the poetry group under Linda Napoli’s leadership is wonderful! It’s exciting to see the world through the eyes of various poets, and to hear the responses from people in the group. It has really opened doors for me.
Son Ross with wife Lori; daughter Sarah with husband Mike; Ginny and Wayne; close friends Ingrid and Ray Keating, and front row: grandsons Brody(5) and Connor(7) - plus Isabella Keating(14). In front of our Maryland home.

Wayne Outten:
The occasion was our 50th wedding anniversary (June 26th) at our Maryland home. The plate Ginny and I are holding has an interesting history (and future):

- It was presented to my grandparents (Gorman and Nora Perdue), my mother’s parents, on their 50th anniversary (in 1963) by their seven adult children.
- The plate was then passed down through their children on the event of each of their respective 50th anniversaries. Five of the seven couples inherited and passed along the plate; with respect to two couples (including my parents), one of the spouses passed away before their 50th.
- Starting in 2014, the plate has been passing through the grandchildren’s generation (about 25 of them). Ginny and I inherited the plate from my brother Bruce (and wife Cecilia), who celebrated their 50th last year. We were the fifth in line; eight more “grandchildren” couples are still “in the running” to inherit the plate someday. Next summer, Ginny and I hope to hand off the plate to my sister Darlene (and husband Mike) when they have their 50th.
- Eventually, the plate will be passed along to the next generation (starting as early as 2040), which will include Ross and Sarah someday (I hope).
Ethical Friends of Children NEEDS YOUR HELP on a Wednesday from 10-1pm.

Due to COVID some of the EFOC volunteers no longer participate in the program, leaving only Jim and Pat volunteering.

Are you free on a Wednesday morning to help sort and pull clothing? If Wednesdays don’t work, we could work with you to determine a good time. Feel free to tell your friends and family of our program and need. Perfect opportunity for teens looking to help their community. We do not interact with the general population but leave clothing for them to pick up later in the day.

Please click to email Pat Spencer or call her at: 516-603-1940.
Or click to email Jim LoPresti at: efoc@ehsli.org

Thank you for helping with this need.
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.

YES (Youth of Ethical Societies) is for teens aged 13 to 18.

Humanists of Long Island is the name of The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island's chapter of the American Humanist Association. Find them on Facebook at Humanists of Long Island.

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. Please contact director Jim LoPresti at EFOC@ehsli.org if you’d like to help.

Affordable Office Space for Rent:
We have great office space available for long term leasing by non-profit organizations. Reasonable rates. Ample free parking and a short walk from the Nassau County Seat and the Mineola LIRR train.

The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a member society of the American Ethical Union and a Chapter of the American Humanist Association.

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Create a Caring World