Hello Everyone,

Summer Sundays are opportunities for our members to share their interests and talents and this year is no exception! So far, we’ve learned about the joy of nature activities from Rich DiCecio and David Alexander has shared his love for the practice of Tai Chi. And the fun will continue into August! I hope you attend if you can.

The Hybrid/Zoom situation is still a bit tricky, but improvements are being made and we have a new hire who will be aided by Gabe Stanley, if necessary. Our Weekly Emails will let you know what the details are for upcoming Sundays this month.

The Board had its annual retreat at the end of July and one of the most important conclusions we came to after brainstorming and discussion, is that our Society will thrive better and longer with an influx of younger people and their families. One of our aims is to find an expert who is familiar with the sites that this generation visits frequently so we can publicize our messages more strategically.

Plans are already being made for our Fall programs thanks to a large number of interesting suggestions at the annual pot luck party/planning meeting graciously hosted by the Sprintzens at their home. Thank you to all.

Opening Sunday is on Sept. 11th this year and is expected to be hybrid. We invite you to bring a friend to acquaint them with our wonderful group whether you attend in person or view the meeting on Zoom.

Linda Napoli
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF APPRECIATION

We are a Society of approximately 70 members and succeed best when we are working together. In spite of the pandemic, over the past couple of years, many of us have pitched in to develop new projects, engage in social action, stay connected with each other through online groups and keep our Sunday programs accessible, rich and inspiring.

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to this effort, whether individually or as part of a group. We value you as a person and as a member. Our newest members have already shown the same kind of dedication in these activities and we are grateful.

EHSLI Board of Trustees
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Please consider making a donation.
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.

Visit the Give page on our website:
https://www.ehsli.org/social-action/give/

Watch past Sunday Talks on our YouTube Channel
Audio is still on our website under Home (scroll down to) “FeaturedTalks”: www.ehsli.org
The Supreme Court’s frontal assault on the ordered liberty that we have taken for granted in America has the power to drive us into despair. Imposing second class citizenship for women at the stroke of a pen; undermining the Environmental Protection Administration’s authority in the midst of an environmental crisis; releasing modest gun restrictions during an epidemic of gun violence; the steady imposition of religious standards by a certain Christian fringe; the abandonment of voting safeguards so as to unleash a torrent of partisan gerrymandering - the scope and breadth of the attacks on the American way of life has been sudden and shocking.

What can we do to restore balance in the governance of our country? It seems obvious to declare that we should all vote and the moderate voices will prevail. But the evidence shows that too many voters seem utterly impervious to the dangers many leaders are posing. Donald Trump remains a force despite his unrelenting violations of all standards of decency.

It appears that we are in for a dark period for waging the battle to restore the arc of history towards justice once more. In late June, we were visited by Chuck Lavine, the Nassau Assembly member, who reminded us of the uneven and ragged path that history takes – two steps forward, one step back – that while we might rue the losses, the tally is to be taken in the long run, and that, in the long run, justice has prevailed. Finding comfort in the long game takes courage and an abiding hope in justice and reason.

Back in 2004, after America invaded Iraq, a book was published entitled “Hope in the Dark.” It was another dark period when corporate forces inveigled the U.S. to embark on an adventure to take over the oil fields of Iraq. Once again, the country was drawn into a war of choice placing whole populations at risk in order to further corporate interests of monopoly and profit.

The author, Rebecca Solnit, wrote:

“Your opponents will love you to believe that it’s hopeless, that you have no power, that there’s no reason to act, that you can’t win. Hope is a gift you don’t have to surrender, a power you don’t have to throw away. And though hope can be an act of defiance, defiance isn’t enough reason to hope. But there are good reasons...All transformations begin in the imagination, in hope.”

She quoted F. Scott Fitzgerald who wrote,
“The test of a first rate intelligence is the ability to hold two opposing ideas in the mind at the same time and still retain the ability to function. One should, for example, be able to see that things are hopeless and yet be determined to make them otherwise.”

So, we will continue to fight to keep women’s rights in the 21st century, to enact gun safety and to prepare for climate change. [There is nothing less we can do. Some among us have to acknowledge reality.] Hope will be our driver, facts will be our weapons. And see the sparks coming now from Kansas and Washington.

Dr. Richard Koral will have another Orientation to Ethical Humanism for new members as well as returning members and potential members. If you would like to attend, please contact Richard or Tina. 516-741-7304 or office@ehsli.org

Caring Connection
“Create a caring world” begins with us

If you or a member of our community is sick, experiencing loss, or celebrating a milestone, a birthday, let us know. Please connect with Ginger Hendler at caringconnection@ehsli.org or email the office at: office@ehsli.org. Or call 516-741-7304 and leave a message.

Tina, our Office Manager will be in the Society office:
Monday’s: 10-2
Tuesday’s & Thursday’s 10-3
Phone & Email messages are checked daily.
516-741-7304 or office@ehsli.org
Summer Speakers:

July 03: No Meeting. Enjoy the Holiday!!

July 10: Rich DiCecio-HYBRID. Nature - Friend or Foe? Is it a place for restoring the soul or is there a storm brewing?
LIEHS member Richard DiCecio is a retired NYC teacher and HS Guidance Counselor, adjunct instructor of Introduction to Psychology and Sociology courses for CUNY, NYSUT Educational consultant and Instructor of Graduate courses in Education.

July 17: David Alexander-HYBRID. Tai Chi Chuan for Presence Balance and Well-Being.
LIEHS member David Alexander, psychotherapist.
We will practice together some of the movements of Tai Chi Chuan, with focus on enhancing energy flow and well-being, while letting go of tension. The movements are done standing up and can be done by anyone who can stand. We will have periodic chances to sit and discuss how and why integrated mind/body motion releases warm energy, improves balance and helps resolve challenges such as anxiety and depression.

July 24: AEU Assembly All Societies presentation -ZOOM. Theme: “All Hands on Deck!” (The importance of the work of the many volunteers across the Ethical Movement).
Jone Johnson Lewis: “Anna Garlin Spencer: Prophet of Democracy” and Celebration of the 2022 Anna Garlin Spencer Volunteer Award recipients. Mourners’ Moment when we will recognize those we have lost in the past year.

July 31: David Sprintzen-HYBRID. Reflections on a Philosophical Journey.
LIEHS member Dr. David Sprintzen 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.
August 7: Lita Kelmenson. Sculpture Presentation. ZOOM
LIEHS member Lita Kelmenson is a sculptor who, working with wood, invents three dimensional forms which both mystify and beg meaning. Her work engages with current social issues to stimulate concerns within the viewer. Rather than overt depictions these organic structures present a query. Her work has been exhibited in New York City, Long Island and the East Coast. Favorable reviews have appeared in THE NEW YORK TIMES, NEWSDAY and Craft Horizons. One of her works is part of the NAWA (National Association of Women Artists) permanent collection of the J. V. Zimmerli Museum on the campus of Rutgers University. She has also taught in both the public school systems and at local colleges as an adjunct assoc. professor.

August 14: Helene Rudin. Dance Is My Drug of Choice. HYBRID
LIEHS member, Helene Rudin will be our guide on a trip down the road of all things tap. I will give a little history and I hope to teach some basic steps to those who would like to learn. I have been dancing all my life and hope to impart my love of the art to some of you. You will see that dance is one of the best things you can do for your mind, body, and spirit.

August 21: Linda Napoli. Bring a poem of your choice to read. HYBRID.
LIEHS member and Society President, Linda Napoli, leads our monthly poetry group and takes the lead in choosing the poems read in our Sunday meetings.

August 28: No Speaker.

Sept. 4: No Speaker.

Sept. 11 OPENING SUNDAY. HYBRID.
WEEKLY MEETINGS

SUNDAY PRESENTATIONS AT 11 AM

SOME MEETINGS WILL BE IN-PERSON EVENTS OR HYBRID VIA ZOOM.
CHECK THE WEEKLY EMAIL NOTICES!

Join us every Sunday for our Sunday Presentations
Zoom Doors open at 10:30, meeting starts at 11:00.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87199821900
Meeting ID: 871 9982 1900
Or phone in at: 1(929) 436-2866
THIS ZOOM LINK will be the same every week.
Click on the link or copy and paste to your browser.

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 AT 1 PM

On Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. we hold a digital discussion group with
Leader Richard Koral on Zoom. The informal discussion will focus on
the political, the social, life’s practices, and the ethical choices we
confront every day. People will have the opportunity to share.
https://zoom.us/j/377400022
Meeting ID: 377 400 022
Phone in: (929) 436-2866
FRIDAY COLLOQUIY 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.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ETHICAL ISSUES IN OUR TIMES- AUG 4, 7 PM

"Ethical Issues in Our Times" is held every month

Topic: What Does “The American Dream” Mean To You?, And what to Most Americans?
These days the very meaning of America seems to be highly contested. Many feel they are oppressed or exploited. Others feel they have been cheated of their rightful place and expectations. How do you feel about your life, its possibilities, benefits, discomforts, and disadvantages? And how do you evaluate the attitudes of your fellow citizens?

Join us in discussing this pressing social issue, in a discussion led by Dr. David Sprintzen, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at Long Island University

To register, call the EHS office: 516-741-7304 or email: office@ehsli.org or register via Meetup
To join Zoom Meeting click on the link or cut and paste to your web browser:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/896985586

Sign up for the weekly email notices to be informed of all of our activities and Zoom links. Email the office office@ehsli.org or call 516-741-7304.
WOMEN'S GROUP - SEPT 9, 7:30 PM

Our Monthly Women’s Group (members of EHSLI only) meets on the first Friday of each month. The zoom site opens at 7:15 pm, and the group runs 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 - AUG 22, 7 PM

This meeting is open to all. For information, contact Linda Napoli lindanapoli819@gmail.com

Sign up for the weekly emails to receive reminders and the zoom link.

BOOK DISCUSSION - AUGUST 23, 7 PM

The Manticore by Robertson Davies

Hailed by the Washington Post Book World as “a modern classic,” Robertson Davies’s acclaimed Deptford Trilogy is a glittering, fantastical, cunningly contrived series of novels, around which a mysterious death is woven.

The Manticore—the second book in the series after Fifth Business—follows David Staunton, a man pleased with his success but haunted by his relationship with his larger-than-life father. As he seeks help through therapy, he encounters a wonderful cast of characters who help connect him to his past and the death of his father.
Announcements:

Join Us for Activism at a Distance Salon

Nonviolence and Gun Safety

An examination of the phenomenon of mass shootings in America and an urgent call to implement evidence-based strategies to stop these tragedies

**Guest Speaker:** Sharon Stanley, Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island and Moms Demand Action, is a retired New York City special education teacher. “Christopher and I just joined in 1995, we were married in 1996, by Dr. David Harmon, one of our EHSLI officers. Our child, Gabe, was born in 1998 and we are so proud to call him a ‘first generation Ethical Humanist!’” She joined “Moms Demand Action” in 2018, right after the Parkland shooting, and has been advocating for sensible gun legislation ever since.

**When:** August 17, 2022, 8:00 PM Eastern
**Via Zoom:** [https://bit.ly/3u6hH5Z](https://bit.ly/3u6hH5Z)

This Salon is presented by the American Ethical Union Ethical Action Committee and co-hosted by: Ethical Society of Austin and more to come.

Activism at a Distance - American Ethical Union - Inspiring Ethical Communities
AEU Statement Regarding The US Supreme Court and Roe v. Wade

On Friday, the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, immediately ending the federal constitutional right to an abortion which had been settled law in this country for 50 years. At a stroke the Court has removed a constitutionally protected right from millions of Americans, threatening their control over their own bodies and putting their health, and even their lives, at immediate risk. This decision reverses progress that many generations of people in this country had fought and even died for: the right to control their own bodies, their sovereign right over their very own flesh.

The American Ethical Union has for decades supported a person’s right to choose if they become or remain pregnant. A resolution passed in 1991 affirmed that “the ultimate decision to terminate a pregnancy … must be the sole responsibility of the woman” and that “it is an erosion of civil liberties for each state legislature to have the authority to deny women free choice on a very personal decision regarding their own reproductive functions.”[1]

This position was reaffirmed in a statement of 2019 in which we opposed the passage and signing into law of the Alabama “Human Life Protection Act.” We noted then that such a law “profoundly restricts the bodily autonomy of pregnant people; is a bill of rights for rapists and abusers; puts the lives of pregnant people at risk; upends basic moral principles; and continues an assault on reproductive freedom which has been waged for decades.”

Now, with the overturning of Roe v. Wade, countless such laws have been and are poised to be passed. In the wake of the Court’s decision so-called “trigger” laws went into effect in 13 states, banning or severely restricting abortion. In another 10, laws are already in effect which will or will likely restrict access. [2] On Friday, then, this country became less free and less safe for all women and all people who can
become pregnant, especially those roughly 80 million women who live in one of the 23 states which now limit abortion access.

We know from history and from international comparisons what these new restrictions will mean. They will mean more back-alley abortions, the terror of a twisted coat hanger, herbicides forced down throats. They will mean more domestic abuse, as men pressure partners they have impregnated to end their pregnancies. They will mean more forced pregnancies, people handcuffed to gurneys to prevent them from making their own choices. Overturning Roe v. Wade is a catastrophe for women’s health. The impact will fall disproportionately on those who are poor and on pregnant people of color.

Moreover, many of the laws now restricting the right to an abortion in the USA do not even have exceptions for rape or incest. Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Texas now prohibit abortion even in the case of rape, a form of anti-abortion extremism which puts these states in contravention of internationally accepted human rights norms.

Multiple United Nations bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee against Torture, have spoken out against abortion bans, which do not have exceptions for rape and incest, recognizing the extraordinary trauma caused by forcing a person to carry to term their rapist’s baby.[3] Yet many states have now passed an effective bill of rights for rapists, giving those who rape more rights over their victims’ pregnant bodies than that person has themselves.

If the health consequences of this decision for millions of people were not bad enough, the truth is that abortion restrictions do not in fact prevent abortions. Indeed, evidence suggests that the abortion rate is at least the same, and perhaps even higher in countries that restrict abortion access than those that do not.[4] Making abortion illegal does not make it go away: instead, it makes abortion more dangerous, as people are forced into unsafe abortions, leading to more injuries and more death.[5] The new restrictions on abortion currently unfolding across the USA are therefore not only evil, but irrational.

We note that most of the justices who voted to overturn Roe v. Wade said in their confirmation hearings that the decision was settled precedent. That justices would signal during their confirmation hearings that they would respect the precedent set by Roe v. Wade, and then vote to overturn it, is dishonest and cowardly. Such behavior shows contempt for the public and brings the whole court into disrepute.

We note that these new restrictions on abortion occur against a backdrop of increased agitation against the rights and dignity of trans people, and we are aware that many trans and nonbinary people - a group already at special risk in our society - will be harmed by the Supreme Court’s reckless choice. We note that the majority opinion overturning Wade was crafted by four cis men, people who cannot and never will become pregnant, and therefore have bodies that will not personally be affected by the legal decision they made.

That millions of people in the United States should have their right to bodily autonomy stripped away by people who will never have to face the choice of whether to get an abortion is a moral outrage and a disgrace, one more sorry chapter in the ages-old story of men’s attempts to control the lives of women.

We note, finally, that this decision is the culmination of decades of campaigning primarily by conservative religious groups, who have viewed ending the right to an abortion as their primary crusade. These groups have now succeeded in forcing much of the USA to live by their own religious views, ramming a sectarian religious agenda down all our throats. This decision is thus an assault on religious liberty and the freedom of members of religions such as our own to pursue our religious values.

The American Ethical Union opposes the decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. The right to end a pregnancy is simply a component of our bodily autonomy, a basic freedom which all people everywhere should enjoy. The court has no more right to limit access to abortion than it has to limit access to any other
necessary medical procedure, and all attempts to limit abortion access are an assault on the dignity of pregnant persons.

Today we reassert, again, our total commitment to reproductive freedom, and call upon our member Societies to stand with the AEU and act in support of that commitment.

Actions of member Societies and individuals might include:
Support of organizations such as Planned Parenthood, National Network of Abortion Funds, and the Midwest Access Coalition, including through financial contributions and volunteering
Participation in social witness, even, where appropriate, civil disobedience
Expressing opinions directly to decision-makers
Submitting a version of this statement to local media
Hosting discussions and speakers in your community about sex education, contraception, and reproductive choices
Partnering with existing organizations to support evidence-based sex education in schools, full access to contraception and reproductive health care, and a person’s right to make choices about their own reproductive system in deciding whether and when to have a child

Relevant links:
AEU Statement on Alabama “Human Life Protection Act”
AEU Resolution on Reproductive Rights
Planned Parenthood Receives Ethical Humanist Award

[3] https://reproductiverights.org/.../law-and-policy-guide...

Update!
The EHSLI Women’s Group, recently had a year-end planning session.

Our Zoom sessions, open to all our women members, have been running since December 2020. Every month, on the first Friday, we discuss a topic of interest with participation that is pointed and sometimes personal (by choice, only- no pressure). There is time at the end to support and respond to others. Our Group is online from 7:15 to 9pm; announcements are sent a week before. We are hoping to meet in person in September.

A reminder: This September, our Women’s Group will be held on September 9th, the second Friday of the month. Then we’ll go back to first Fridays of the month.

Come join us!
PLANNING AHEAD PACKETS

Planning ahead packets are a service provided by our Ethical Society to our community. Over the years, it has proven to be a valuable informational reference to the families of members who have passed away. Some of the elements contained in the packet include family contact information regarding the member’s wishes for a funeral or memorial service as well as any desire regarding organ donations or bequests. Other valuable information may also be included.

Our members are invited to take advantage of this important offering. It has been found to be helpful to loved ones in making decisions at a difficult time in their lives.

If you are interested, please contact the office and Tina will put you in touch with Richard Koral, our Society Leader (who is an attorney) or Joan Beder, who is an Adjunct Leader. They will set up a meeting at your convenience either on Zoom or in person. It generally takes about a half hour.

Dr. Arthur Dobrin, Ethical Humanist Society Leader Emeritus, retired professor of Humanities, Hofstra University Ethics and Relationships and author of Spelling God with Two O’s, will be on my radio show, Just Relationships (WHPC, 90.3 FM) for 2 separate appearances in August, with repeat airings.

Part 1 - What’s ethics got to do with quality relationships? What are Ethics? Why should we endeavor to have ethical relationships - can be heard on Wednesday, August 17 at 3:30 PM with a repeat on Monday morning August 22, at 12 AM.

Part 2 - What does delaying gratification have to do with happy, healthy relationships? Is it okay to "let our hair down" in our intimate relationships? How do we balance the Me and the We? - can be heard on Wednesday, the 24th at 3:30 PM with a repeat on Monday morning at 12AM on August 29th.

About Dr. Duffy Spencer, a longtime member of EHS LI:
Dr. Duffy is a Social Psychologist, Psychotherapist, and author of The Relationship Doctor CD series. She speaks nationally on self-esteem building and how people can take charge of their lives in a positive way. Dr. Spencer has a private therapy practice in Westbury, runs regular women’s growth and couple’s groups and conducts personal growth retreats and seminars.

JUST RELATIONSHIPS
Wed. at 3:30 PM
Mon. at Midnight
On WHPC 90.3 FM
Social Action:

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We want regular Social Action Announcements to be part of our Monthly Newsletter to enable more of our members to take part in making a difference. We invite our members to submit information about actions that you are taking yourself or suggestions about projects that we can start or join in with other groups.

Join the weekly postcard campaign local "Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America/Long Island" group on Fridays.

We started on July 8. Every Friday evening, we will send postcards to various legislators for a different purpose each week throughout the summer, from 6 to 8 pm.

We’re sending postcards to thank those politicians who have stepped up to be Gun Sense Candidates. This means, these candidates support more gun safety legislation.

Please email Sharon Stanley at lihumanist@gmail.com to let her know you’re coming.

We may feel helpless against gun violence, but we are not hopeless!!

We are so proud of our dedicated social action activist Sharon Stanley who was asked by Carolyn Parker, the new president of the AEU to host a "salon" on gun violence. She will be the main speaker, lead a discussion and help participants get in touch with their local "Moms" groups and to encourage the movement at large to get more involved in the effort.

Please join the Zoom session on August 17 and give her our full support!!
Sharon Stanley, EHS member and a presenter for the public education team of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, interacted with community members and the police at “National Night Out” in New Cassel.

Those interested in making clothing contributions should call Ethical Friends of Children at 516-280-5526 or email efoc@ehsli.org. Ethical Friends of Children always needs volunteers Wednesdays from 10-1. Please click to email Pat Spencer or call her at: 516-603-1940. Or email Jim LoPresti at: efoc@ehsli.org.

Thank you for helping with this need!
A New Monthly Feature!

Let’s get out there!!

by Susan Feifer

Last year when we were starting to venture out again after a year of isolation, I did a platform entitled Let’s Get out there! I wanted to remind folks that there are so many inspiring and wonderful sites close to home that do not require tickets, planes, or passports. I have received requests over and over for more ideas—which means people are on the move again and I will be sharing some of these recommendations in the monthly newsletter.

Before Summer ends here are some local places, I would encourage you to visit:

• Sagtikos Manor in West Bay Shore on Montauk Highway.

This historic home is listed under the National Register of Historic Places. The property was first patented to Stephanus Van Cortlandt (1643–1700), who built the original house. During the 18th through 20th centuries, it was owned by the prominent Thompson and Gardiner families for over 200 years. The manor functioned for a time during the American Revolution as local headquarters for British forces under General Sir Henry Clinton. In 1790, George Washington recorded in his diary an overnight stop at “Squire Thompson’s” during his tour of Long Island.

Saturday tours are given, and you will need to register in advance. You can view the 300-year-old Manor house, including the bedroom where President Washington slept and see actual bullet holes left in the wall during an attack on the home during the American Revolution. The estate now sits on ten acres which includes a walled garden, carriage, and icehouse .and the Thompson-Gardiner family cemetery.
• Gardiner County Park in West Bayshore on Montauk Highway

Do not leave without walking across the street to the 231-acre park which is part of the Sagtikos Manor estate. Originally owned by the Gardiner family-Suffolk County’s first non-native landowners, this nature-oriented park provides hiking trails down to the Great South Bay. In addition to being dog friendly, it is known as an excellent spot for bird watching.

• Captree Boat Basin Marina and Restaurant

One of my family’s favorite destinations all year long is close by and is accessed right off Robert Moses Causeway heading south after you leave Sagtikos Manor. Captree Marina is a 350-acre park which includes the Island’s largest fishing fleet, picnic areas, a walking dock and fishing pier. There is an inside café as well as a restaurant called Tiki Joe’s where you eat in the birds’ nest restaurant or dockside. The views from the docks are stunning from early morning to sunset!

So get out there & enjoy the last days of Summer!!!

Susan Feifer
Society Members:

Proud of our YES members!!

Speakers Planning Meeting was held on July 10, 2022

All who attended agreed that last year’s programs were wonderful and satisfying with high quality speakers. This year’s theme for speakers will be INSPIRATION so that each speaker will be asked to keep Inspiration and Ethics in mind as related to their presentations.

This was a very productive meeting 39 ideas for the year 2022-2023 were recorded to be explored. If you have an idea for a speaker please contact Pat Spencer.
Elke Bluth is very proud of her grandson Justin, who graduated Top of his class, and is now heading for Rutgers University!

A QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD

Sleep interrupted!
Some feathered friend chirping,
Repeatedly!
Time to get to work...
The early bird, you know.
Dreaming on...
And later
Responsible neighbors next door
put out their furry friend.
Barks of joy to face the day!
The sun barely rising.
Closing my eyes again....
The buzz saw starts its day
Frustrated retiree needs something to do.
8:00! Right on time!
Must follow the law.
Then some banging,
Why not?
It might be someone's head against the wall.
Not mine!
Time to get up.

Linda Napoli
CELEBRATION GARDEN RIBBON CUTTING

We had a spectacular day on the last Sunday of June for our official Celebration Garden Ribbon Cutting with many members and friends in attendance.

On hand to cut the ribbon (actually a flower garland) were Leader Richard Koral, Assemblyman Chuck Lavine, President Linda Napoli, Project Manager, Lorraine Agostino and Jim LoPresti, Buildings and Grounds chair. The festivities were introduced by guitarists Tina Keane and Sharon Stanley appropriately leading us in “The Garden Song” as the assemblage followed them down the bluestone path into our new “Celebration Garden”.

John Bell, the sculptor whose piece “Steel Pictionary” was recently purchased and installed in the central garden, discussed his process and inspiration. Members and guests were treated to refreshments by our Women’s Group and music floated on the breeze as people explored the newly rehabilitated grounds, planted with native, sustainable species. One area, the “Woodland Meditation Walk” has never before been accessible and attendees were delighted to follow the shaded path to sit on the benches and view a winged sculpture by Robert Roesch, previously on display in the building, now nestled among the trees poised to take flight.

Our Celebration Garden remains a work in progress with plans for more plantings (of native species), more seating, signage and bluestone to enhance the woodland path. Volunteers have signed up for watering the new plantings and there will be the usual garden chores such as weeding and removal of invasive vines and plants which had previous dominated the grounds.

Future plans involved special events, educational talks and native plant sales in the garden. The plan for a dedicated “commemoration garden” is currently being considered. Ceremonies and even Sunday platforms could be held outdoors. The possibilities are endless.

But first, let’s enjoy the fruits of the past year’s labors. The Celebration Garden is open to visitors during daylight hours. Each area has its own special attraction. The Woodland area provides a lovely oasis on hot summer days, and the new plants have begun flowering and providing berries for the birds and butterflies which can been seen as one sits or strolls.

We hope that you will visit and find peace and joy in nature in our own Celebration Garden. We look forward to seeing you there.

LORRAINE AGOSTINO, PROJECT MANAGER
The New Celebration Garden Opening

So in less than one year, on June 26, 2022 our Celebration Garden opened for us all to enjoy. The day was clear and bright, and lots of members came for the special day. Everyone seemed thrilled not only for the Garden but to be able to spend time with and enjoy each other, in “3D,” as some had said, due to Covid’s having isolated us for the past two years.

It was a true Garden Party with music, delicious food and even a diagram of the names and locations of the newly planted native plants.

I, for one, was particularly moved to see so many chatting, relaxing and enjoying the sense of community in a fresh new way. Lots of hard work and fundraising - doing and participating with generous contributions- went into bringing this previously neglected space back to life. It seemed that everyone present felt a sense of celebration with renewed spirits with each other, as they enjoyed the Celebration Garden’s opening.

There are paths to follow into the heavily shaded areas, there are two pieces of handsome outdoor sculptures and joy filled the garden all afternoon.

Seriously, on a hot day, come by. The shade is amazing!

JUDY ROSEMARIN
Follow the path to the Woodland Meditation Walk.

Leader Richard Koral and members

Sculptor, John Bell and Alice Sprintzen

Stacy, Vinnie, Lorraine
What We Read
A Facebook feature, edited by Lyn Dobrin

It’s not too late to participate in this adventure, email: lyndobrin@gmail.com.

You can interact with our members on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/LIEthical

Or read the reprinted columns in issues of this newsletter.

January 2022: Column#1 by Linda Napoli
February 2022: Column#2 by David Sprintzen
                  Column#3 by Sylvia Silberger
                  Column#4 by Ben Bortin
March 2022: Column#5 by Dorcas Kiptoo
                  Column#6 by Sharon Stanley
                  Column#7 by Ginger Hendler
                  Column#8 by Ken Feifer
April 2022: Column#9 by Barbara Haber
                  Column#10 by Ryan Capone
                  Column#11 by Anitra Pavlico
                  Column#12 by Yolanda Miller
May 2022: Column#13 by Patricia Shih
                  Column#14 by Alicia Evans
                  Column#15 by Richard Koral
                  Column#16 by Rich DiCecio
June 2022: Column#17 by Francine DiCecio
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/](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](https://www.facebook.com/humanistslongisland/).

**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](mailto: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.*
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

Create a Caring World