President’s Message

“Our Journeys Continue”

Hi Everyone,

As the season of Spring comes into its own, I’m treasuring the colors all around me and the blue sky above. Listening to the birds calling to each other always adds to my day. I’m also attempting to follow one of the (many) aphorisms I try to live by and that is to live with appreciation.

The heartbreaking events occurring in Ukraine (with no end in sight), remind me that as troubled as our American culture is right now, we can continue to make things better in our own small way or in larger ways along with others in our community. It is not all darkness for us; we are not running for our lives in fear with no homes to go back to.

As ineffective and fractious as our Federal government often is, we live in a nation of freedom and laws and we can protest and act against injustice and often get results. So let’s count our blessings and live with appreciation and do what we can to create peace in all our lives.

Please take time to read all the news and announcements in this month’s Newsletter. There is a lot going on in our Society right now.

 SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING – MAY 22nd after the Sunday program. This is an All-Zoom event.

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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
As I write this, I am rueing my procrastination, and trying to catch up preparing my tax returns. Unfortunately, my accountant of 40 years has progressed with the times more than I have and I’m required to use an online program to enter all my information. It’s a kind of “20 questions.” I hope it didn’t forget to ask me something important.

Annual tax filing is one of the truly universal national experiences that we have in America, ranking up there with Thanksgiving and the 4th of July. I used to get extensions to October every year, when my story was more complicated, but now I am moving with the crowd on April 15. I’m sure others also remember seeing the long line of last minute filers at the all night window in the Farley Post Office on 33rd St and Eighth Avenue. The returns were timely so long as the envelope was stamped by midnight. Now, of course, the returns are filed online and the Farley Post Office is no more - now it’s the modern Moynihan Train Station.

Taxes imposts have always been controversial. It wasn’t just “taxation without representation” that aroused the pre-Revolutionaries. They also just didn’t want to pay. Income taxes are the main source of tax revenue and so it is hard to understand how government functioned at all during the century and a quarter before the income tax was finally made legal with the 16th Amendment to the Constitution. How much money could they raise taxing liquor?

It is easy to run for office promising to reduce taxes and hard to run on a platform to raise them. One of the central political divides in America is over the question whether or not reducing taxes encourages economic growth.

In what was called the “Kansas Experiment,” Kansas reduced taxes enormously in 2012 guided by the philosophy that lower taxes would spur a renaissance of entrepreneurial dynamism. The effort was dubbed “one of the cleanest experiments for how tax cuts affect economic growth in the U.S.” The cuts were based on model legislation published by the conservative American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). They were supported by supply-side economist Arthur Laffer and the anti-tax leader Grover Norquist. After 5 years of the experiment, the state was broke, teachers went on strike over draconian education budget cuts, the economy suffered and employment lagged other states. State Republicans rebelled against the Governor and raised taxes in a bail-out. Most people would say that the Kansas Experiment proved that cutting taxes does not, by itself, trigger a blooming economy.

But however one comes out on that question, another point is clear: As Senator Moynihan said, taxes are the dues of democracy. If there is to be a government of the people, then the people have to support it. It is the owners of the community who underwrite it. When the owners of Society are the people, it is to them that the government must answer.
But I think the debate over taxes has the wrong emphasis. Instead of slogans and catch phrases like “tax cuts” or “tax and spend,” why can’t we popularize the call for “right sized taxes”? “Right sized taxes” means that they should be adequate to accomplish the goals that society sets for itself, but not so high as to be oppressive. It is “sized right” to do the job, not too high and not too low. Just Right.

Richard Koral will set a date for 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. Someone will get back to you.

Let’s stay connected

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
May 01: Rev. Ned Wight, Practicing Radical Hospitality.
“Radical Hospitality” describes a sort of “congregational culture” that makes visitors feel welcome and turns strangers into friends. Leaders concerned about growth have identified it as an important leverage point. It is a term coined by Benedictine monks based on writings of their founder, St. Benedict. Rev. Ned Wight will explore both the original meaning and its import to congregations committed to making a difference in the world.

Rev. Ned Wight retired in August 2019 from his position as Interim Senior Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, New York. Prior to that, he served for a decade as Executive Director of the same congregation’s UU Veatch Program, which makes grants to social change organizations around the country. He has also served UU congregations in California and Massachusetts. He holds degrees from Harvard Divinity School, Boston University and Stanford University. He currently chairs the board of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, partnering with grassroots organizations to champion human rights at home and abroad, and serves as Vice President for the UU Retired Ministers and Partners Association.

He lives in William Cullen Bryant’s historic home, Cedarmere, in Roslyn, NY on the north shore of Long Island.

May 08: Ginger Hendler, Why do we care?
Based loosely on the TED talk structure, I have whittled down my talk about caring into an 18 minute recipe for caring as a means to changing the world. Can being friendly to people, even ones you don’t know, help to raise consciousness and create a more compassionate caring world? What happens when you talk to a stranger? I believe that simple acts of kindness trickle down to a friendlier happier world.

Ginger Balizer-Hendler, a former teacher at the Progressive School of Long Island, is a Long Island based artist, whose vibrant primitive work is based on her love for storytelling. In 2013, Ginger received an artist residency at The Vermont Studio center, where she completed a 17 1/2’ canvas, The Adventures of Gingerella, based on a journey to India. In 2014, The Adventures of Gingerella and the Peaceful Planet Project, an art installation, was featured as part of The East End Arts Council’s JumpstART program to revitalize downtown Riverhead, New York.
The multi-media installation featured her love for Indian miniatures and the Buddhist concept of ahimsa (sanskrit for non-injury), inviting viewers to participate through poetry and performance. Her recent book, The Adventures of Gingerella was published in November, 2015. A later series of paintings is evocative of ancient symbols and mythology inspired by her travels to India and Morocco. Black & white sketches of her travels were accepted into a group exhibit in Japan. She was featured in the 2014 July/ August issue of Long Island Pulse Magazine and is a former contributing writer for Art Times. Most recently, Ginger was interviewed for My Long Island TV by Waldo Cabrera, featuring her innovative mixed media art dresses. The Adventures of Gingerella, was produced in 2018 as a musical at the Glenwood Life Center in Glenwood Landing, NY as well as a Planned Parenthood fundraiser at My Father’s Place in Roslyn. She is passionate about kindness and compassion, which is the theme most often infused into her creative work.

May 15: AEU All Society Meeting & Founders Day.


(Followed by the Spring Membership Meeting.

May 29: Arthur Dobrin.
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 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.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

ETHICAL ISSUES IN OUR TIMES- MAY 5, 7 PM

"Ethical Issues in Our Times" is held every month

Topic: Is the American version of Western Civilization an advance over the culture of its native inhabitants? Or is it not? Why?

In recent years there has been increasing attention paid to the damage inflicted upon the indigenous population by the European occupation and settlement of the “New World.” Many organization have even taken to making land acknowledgements to the tribes whose land is now being occupied. Others have talked of reparations for damages inflicted. How are we to understand this process? What sense can we make of it? And is there any sense in which this can be seen as progress?

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
WOMEN'S GROUP - MAY 6, 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 - MAY 23, 7 PM

This meeting is open to all. For information, contact Linda Napoli

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

BOOK DISCUSSION - MAY 24, 7 PM

Each book title is chosen by the group at the monthly meeting. Please join us and add your voice to the discussion.

Sign up for the weekly emails to receive reminders and the zoom link.
In a Zoom presentation, photographer Ken Kurzweil brings viewers to Bhutan, Myanmar, and indigenous areas in Ethiopia, capturing old traditions as they continue to exist in modern times. Exploring places both familiar and unknown, Ken is especially attracted to the faces and circumstances of the people around him. He says, “Their faces tell me stories that I want to explore and capture hoping that others looking at my work will be similarly moved.”
From Myanmar, the land of pagodas, are towns on stilts, long necked women and monastery schools and nunneries. He photographed the Tshechu “Mask” Festival, the most important religious festival in in Bhutan, as well as the ubiquitous prayer wheels and breathtaking landscapes. In indigenous Ethiopia are photos from tribal areas where women wear lip-plates, where men adorn themselves to mimic the look of local animals, and where he was able to observe and photograph the rite of passage ceremony of a young boy becoming a man.

Ken’s work has been exhibited in a one-person show in a gallery in Toronto and has been in several photography magazines including feature stories in Street Photography Magazine and Extraordinary Vision. He traveled to India on assignment with Photographers Without Borders, Ken was raised in East Meadow and currently lives in Westchester.

This zoom event, which will be held on May 16, at 7:30 pm, is sponsored by the Ethical Humanist Society of LI. The suggested contribution amount is $20 per Zoom window. To sign up, email office@ehsli.org and instructions for registering will be sent. Or, send a check to EHSLI, to: 38 Old Country Road, Garden City, NY 11530. Include email with the check. The Zoom link will be sent when the contribution is received.

The Membership team would like to create a wider caring circle of members willing to make calls, send cards and e-mails to support our Ethical community. Let our team know if you would like to be part of this. We need you.

Call or leave a message with Tina, Ginger Hendler, or Linda Joe.
From SONIA ARORA: Social Action Report – April 2022

Freedom Under Attack – Forum on May 17th from 6:30 to 8pm

Several members of the Social action committee are planning a Zoom forum focusing on the dangers encroaching upon representative democracy. We have secured the following speakers:

- Shaireen Rasheed: Professor of Philosophy, Diversity, Education
- Solomon Hoffman: Rabbi
- Bob Keeler: Pulitzer Prize winning Investigative Reporter with Newsday
- Anitta Kotta: High School Senior with Youth of Ethical Society
- Rev Marie Tatro: Episcopal Church
- Tom Goodhue: formerly Exec. Director of LI Council of Churches and Synagogues

Next Steps:
1. We are in the process of confirming speakers and getting short bios from all the speakers
2. We hope to organize a meeting with all the speakers so we can discuss what they will speak about
   a. Education
   b. Action

We need to ensure that each speaker has something tangible that our participants can do once our Forum is over.

We will ask all our speakers and participants to try to get all elected officials running for office to sign The Democracy Pledge, which I’m pasting below.

3. How do we get the word out?
   a. Engaging flyer
   b. Social Media/press

**Democracy Pledge**

As a candidate for elective office in 2022, I affirm that the 2020 election was freely and fairly conducted. I affirm that Joseph Biden was duly elected President of the United States. and I commit myself to respect the legal results of the 2022 election, and to concede should those results show that I have been defeated.

Signed by:
Candidate for the office of:
IN MEMORIUM: JEAN M. BOBICK

Our friend, Jean Bobick passed away at the age of 96 after a long battle with cancer. She was surrounded by family. Jean was a long term, valued member of the Society, she will be missed.

Published by New York Times on Apr. 22, 2022:
New Member: Rick Shaper

By way of introduction I am a new member of EHSLI. I participate mainly in the Poetry Circle and Thursday chats with Richard Koral. Sundays are a conflict for me, currently.

I am sharing a 3 minute video by Carl Sagan, the astronomer, now deceased. I think it is a message for the times which should be viewed by all those who provoked the tragic war in Ukraine, or any other war.

Years ago, a NASA Mission was leaving the solar system when, at the request of Carl Sagan, NASA turned its camera around to take a last video of Earth across a great expanse of space. The attached video’s accompanying words are spoken by Carl Sagan.

CARL SAGAN’S PALE BLUE DOT
https://youtu.be/G05FwsbIpT8

My Houseplant Poem

By Vinnie Drzewuck

Houseplants are Soothing and make good companions.
If you’re lonely or sad, grow a Houseplant and see what happens.
Houseplants are like old friends that you get to know better and better over the years.
You can talk to a Houseplant they are good listeners.
George Washington Carver, a prestigious professor of agriculture at the inception of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama was known for talking to plants and is often quoted as saying this about plants, “If you love it enough, anything will talk to you.”
Houseplants don’t criticize, tell you you’re getting fat or are old.
They like you just as you are.
Like some family members and pets, Houseplants don’t need much when you think about it.
A sunny spot or windowsill, water and fertilizer, every now and then.
And you don’t have to walk them or clean their litter box.
Maybe a little grooming is occasionally needed and a new pot and soil once in a while.
Yes, they make good companions and some can live a long time.
To Houseplants we’re just House-people, who have lived together forever, even before houses even existed.
So, after all those years it’s no surprise,
To be a happy and healthy person all that you need,
Is to live with a few happy and healthy houseplants and all will thrive.
Sad News from Deb Strube

Jay, the oldest of her three brothers passed after an extended illness. He was 74, disabled and has sadly succumbed to illness due to tobacco use. As a long distance caregiver it was hard for Deb to watch his deterioration. She would like to take the opportunity to express that continued sale of tobacco should be challenged as it is an addicting substance.

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death. Worldwide, tobacco use causes more than 7 million deaths per year. Facts can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/fast_facts/index.htm

Is this your Birthday or Anniversary month? Let us know!!

Linda Joe May 5

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!
What We Read
A Facebook feature,
edited by Lyn Dobrin

If you would like 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.

Column#1 by Linda Napoli : January 2022
Column#2 by David Sprintzen : February 2022
Column#3 by Sylvia Silberger : February 2022
Column#4 by Ben Bortin : February 2022
Column#5 by Dorcas Kiptoo : March 2022
Column#6 by Sharon Stanley : March 2022
Column#7 by Ginger Hendler : March 2022
Column#8 by Ken Feifer : March 2022
Column#9 by Barbara Haber : April 2022
Column#10 by Ryan Capone : April 2022
Column#11 by Anitra Pavlico : April 2022
Column#12 by Yolanda Miller : April 2022
What We Read #13
March 30, 2022
Patricia Shih

I'm a singer-songwriter, visual artist, author and filmmaker. I enjoy speaking and performing at the Ethical Humanist Society.

• What books are on your nightstand?
  I have a stack 3 feet high! But the ones on top are Interior Chinatown, How Can I Keep from Singing: The Ballad of Pete Seeger, The Chinese in America and Funny, You don't look Like a Grandmother. One other is Autobiography: The Story of My Experiments with Truth by Gandhi.

• Do you prefer books that reach you emotionally, or intellectually?
  Both. Now that I have more time to read, I might pick up a book that's just for fun!

• What's the best book you've ever received as a gift?
  My sister gifted me with the opportunity to write a book about my life. The company is called Storyworth and they prompt you with intriguing questions about parts of your life, and you write a short (or long) true story in answering it.

• What kind of reader were you as a child? Which childhood books and authors stick with you most?
  I have always loved reading, ANYTHING! I would read cereal boxes, magazines, newspapers, books, manuals, etc. My favorite set of books was a very old series called My Bookhouse Books. They grow up with the child-reader, starting with nursery rhymes and stories and get progressively “older.” I loved the stories, I loved the illustrations, and I loved the SMELL of those books!

• What do you plan to read next?
  Whatever is on top of my reading stack!

• Which genres do you especially enjoy reading? And which do you avoid?
  Non-fiction, especially biographies. I am less interested in fiction.

• Do you count any books as guilty pleasures?
  If a book makes me happy or makes me feel anything deeply, or if it makes me laugh or think, it’s pure pleasure and I don’t feel guilt at all about that.

• What book might people be surprised to find on your shelves?
  Anything by Dave Barry!
What We Read #14
April 6, 2022
Alicia Evans

The art of fiber, crochet, books and trees inspire my life’s journey. Wherever I go be sure to know I travel with a book and my crochet needle. I’ve been a member of EHSLI for six years and it has been a joyous time.

• What books are on your nightstand?
  *Libertie* by Kaitlyn Greenidge; *The Piano Teacher* by Janice Y.K. Lee; *Becoming* by Michelle Obama; *The Art Thief* by Noah Charney; and *Let the Story Do the Work: The Art of Storytelling for Business Success* by Esther K. Choy.
  I am a book lover with a wealth of titles I will soon read. I’ve a stack awaiting me while signs of “books for sale” has me filled with guilt as I enter premises with initial intent to simply browse but always depart with yet another title forcing person reprimanded of: “Now that’s it! No more books until you finish your stack!” OK, I vow...until next time..

• Do you prefer books that reach you emotionally, or intellectually?
  I truly enjoy a mixture of both, but I guest intellectual stimulation edges a bit over emotional. My intellect continually thirsts for more knowledge.

• What’s the best book you’ve ever received as a gift?
  *The Secret Therapy of Trees: Harness the Healing Energy of Forest Bathing and Natural Landscapes* by Marco Mencagli and Marco Nieri.

• What kind of reader were you as a child? Which childhood books and authors stick with you most?
  As a child, I loved to read. I can distinctly recall my mother taking me to the library before I started school. I vowed to read every book in that small library in Williamsburg Brooklyn. By the time I was 13, I had read a ton of books. My favorites were mysteries. I loved Nancy Drew mysteries and enjoyed *Wuthering Heights, The Red Pony* and *Lost Horizons*.
  Today, I find myself visiting libraries around the County. I am pleased to share grandness of many including best chairs, best views, unique architectural designs and more.

• What do you plan to read next?
  *How to Disappear: Notes on Invisibility in a Time of Transparency* by Akiko Busch.

• What’s your favorite book no one else has heard of?
  *Gone Fishin’: An Easy Rawlins Novel* and *Harlem Hit and Run* by Angela Dews.

• Do you count any books as guilty pleasures?
  *The Couple Next Door* by Shari Lapena. This thriller has tons of twists serving as a wonderful getaway trying to figure out the mysteries of a next-door neighbor. An easy escapism read. On occasion I delved into Black romance novels by award winning writer Donna Hill.

• What book might people be surprised to find on your shelves?
  *Matrix Energetics: The Science and Art of Transformation.*
What We Read #15
April 13, 2022
Richard Koral

Richard Koral is the Clergy-Leader of the EHS of LI. A native New Yorker (East Meadow High), his ambition to travel has been channeled into reading far and wide. He’s toured novels from every continent but Antarctica as well as empires across the galaxy.

- What books are on your nightstand?
  “The Spy” by James Fenimore Cooper. I’ve been intending to read it for months but I keep getting distracted by other things.

- What’s the last great book you read?
  The last “Great” book I read was (is) “The Magic Mountain” by Thomas Mann. I’ve had it on my shelf for years and I finally picked it up. My house is filled with books I intend to read. But the last book I read that was “great” is “Snow” by Orphan Pamuk, a Turkish writer.

- Which genres do you especially enjoy reading? And which do you avoid?
  I always loved good fiction and I was in a book club for two decades. But lately I’ve been overwhelmed by non-fiction - public affairs and history. I never read “self-improvement” books. That’s because I’m beyond help.

- What’s the best book you’ve ever received as a gift?
  Charles Dickens’ “Bleak House” in a first edition. That might be the only novel I read twice.

- What do you plan to read next?
  I just got “The Hell of Good Intentions” by Stephan Walt, about the failures of American foreign policy.

- What’s your favorite book no one else has heard of?
  I was very affected by “Fig Tree John” by Edwin Corle. Written in the early ‘60’s, it is about the clash of cultures between white settlers and a sole Native American living in California at the turn of the last century. I kept the book for years. I recently took it off the shelf and it fell apart in my hands.

- Has a book ever brought you closer to another person, or come between you?
  I am made to wonder about a friend, sometimes, when they tell me about a favorite book. I read it and think “Do I know you? What did you see in that book that you thought was good?!?” Then I forgive them.

- What book might people be surprised to find on your shelves?
  I have so many dictionaries. Why do I have so many dictionaries? I don’t know.
What We Read #16
April 22, 2022
Rich DiCecio

I am a ‘retrieved’ EHSLI member going back to the mid 80’s & 90’s, husband, father of two daughters, retired NYC JHS Social Studies teacher and HS Guidance Counselor. I am NOT a voracious reader and have become less of one in my near dotage (or is my dotage here already? - I’m not sure some days).

• What’s on my nightstand?
  My nightstand has a C-PAP machine on it, but my end table and Kindle contains an eclectic stack ranging from James Lovelock’s GAIA, to An Anthropologist on Mars by Oliver Sachs, to Robert Dugoni’s, The World Played Chest. The surprise book may be Dostadning by Margarita Magnusson. I am still enjoying Arthur Dobrin’s complicated Where We Started (attending his 5 sessions discussion group helped - if he ever offers it again - I highly recommend taking part).

• What kind of reader were you as a child? Which childhood books and authors stick with you most?
  As a child, I enjoyed The Hardy Boys (who I discovered has several authors and co-authors), Mark Twain’s The Prince and the Pauper which primed my sense of Social Justice (?), and Black Beauty, by Anna Sewell. As a teen my imagination and lust for travel was firmly implanted by Homer’s The Odyssey, and my sexual curiosity with Memoirs of a Woman of Pleasure, by John Cleland in 1748.

• Who is your favorite author?
  My favorite author is typically the one I just read. Which means, John Boyne’s The Heart’s Invisible Furies lost out a few months ago to Educated by Tara Westover. Don’t want to leave out other author’s that have shaped me in one way or another. Isaac Asimov, Foundation series; F Herbert, Dune series; George Orwell, Tolkien, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Yevgeny Zamyatin - author of WE (predated A. Huxley and G. Orwell).

• What moves you most in a work of literature?
  What moves me most about the books I enjoy are the struggles the protagonists face - both external and internal. The battle of survival... their qualities of courage, resilience, their abilities to endure setbacks, overcome obstacles, loss. The characters typically face ethical challenges... good vs evil, family loyalty vs breaking away - becoming. I want the world to be as I imagine it should be, I want Tara, in Educated, to escape her father’s hold on her, break FREE and BECOME her own person.
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.

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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.
Create a Caring World