



Ladies' Village Improvement Society

Established in 1895

**November 2023**



## *Calendar*

**Saturday  
November 4th  
11:30 a.m.**

**Landmarks Luncheon  
Maidstone Club**

**Monday  
November 13th  
2:30 p.m.  
Member Meeting  
EH Library**

**Monday  
December 11th  
2:30 p.m.  
Member Meeting  
First Presbyterian  
Church of EH**



## ***David Clarke to Speak at November Member Meeting***

**D**avid Clarke will be speaking about the Menhaden Fish Factory at Promised Land at the November member meeting.

David's family were owners of the Smith Companies which included the fish meal business at Amagansett as well as fish meal factories on the East and Gulf coasts. The Amagansett operation was closed in 1969, due to a decline in fish population. The entire Smith Companies were sold to Hanson, PLC in 1973. In connection with the sale, David arranged the sale and donation of the entire tract of Smith property in Amagansett to New York State. It is now known as Napeague State Park. He also arranged the family's donation to the Federal Government of a 9,000 acre tract of marshland in southern New Jersey which is now part of the Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge. Following the sale of the family business, David remained at Hanson and became Vice Chairman. He left to pursue other opportunities in 1995.

David has diverse interests. He has had notable success in offshore sailboat racing. He is an avid photographer and is also involved in wildlife conservation and art. David and Leslie Clarke, chair of the LVIS Grounds Committee, have been married for 47 years and live in Amagansett.

**A**lso on the agenda, Membership Chair Larrilee Jemiola and Vice chair Patti Ferrin will introduce new members. In addition, members will be asked to approve a Bylaws change proposed by the Membership Committee and approved by the Board. It reduces the number of years it takes for a provisional to attain permanent membership from two years to one year. An eblast containing the details was previously sent out to all members.



# *Join Us for our Annual Holiday Reception*

Members, Provisionals and Volunteers plus  
one are invited...

Sunday, December 3rd

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Palm 94 Main Street

*RSVP at [info2@lvis.org](mailto:info2@lvis.org) or 631-324-1220 ext.2*



# *Meet Our New Members*

Membership Chair Larrilee Jemiola and Vice chair Patti Ferrin will introduce the following new members at the November meeting:

Mary Jane Brock

Sponsors Anne Thomas and Durell Godfrey

Arlene Bujese

Sponsors Michele Allman and Almeda Rickenbach

Kathleen Espinoza

Sponsors Marcie Reed and Michele Folman

Sita Flaig

Sponsors Lys Marigold and Durell Godfrey

Amanda Gelb

Sponsors Priscilla Turner and Erin Hirschorn

Irene O’Gara

Sponsors Michele Evans and Kathy Walsh

Susannah Reid

Sponsors Michele Folman and Almeda Rickenbach

Charlotte Sasso

Sponsors Margaret Farrell and Sarah Minardi

# *Fall is in the Air*

## *The Special Events Committee*

The Special Events Committee, chaired by Vickie Lundin, took their show on the road to the Senior Citizens Center on Springs Fireplace Road on Saturday, October 12th. The Shops departments donated merchandise and seniors were able to select items from a display table. Also at the event, gift certificates to LVIS and table centerpieces were raffled off.

*Photos by Vickie Lundin, Ilissa Meyer and Betty Pasteur*







# *A Message from the Trees*

*Listen closely, my friends, the trees are speaking to us more than you realize.* And they're not just talking, some are screaming. And rightly so. Many of them are hurting. Hurting badly, and others are openly sympathizing because their days will be coming.

I'm not a Debbie Downer by nature but I'll admit that our community needs to be educated about what's here or coming down the pike. Many trees are in trouble. The LVIS Tree Committee of which I chair is probably my most passionate "job" since I retired from teaching hundreds of 5,6,7 and 8 year old local children (oh and those infamous fifth and eighth graders who sadly had to deal with a newlywed teacher who had no idea what she was instructing!). Upon retirement, trees suddenly became my life and my husband attests to it daily. I can't help it. I like learning and trees have become my purpose. I am no arborist and I am not a landscaper but I've tried to assimilate any and every little piece of tree information I can. I miss a lot too which is why I beg people to be observant of our trees...private or public. Check your own property and let us know if you notice something off. Notice our trees' symmetrical or asymmetrical structure, their leaves, their curvy, crooked, straight or cracked branches, their lumpy "arthritic" or "girdling" (strangulation!) roots. The list goes on but it doesn't take a rocket scientist to know if a tree is in trouble.

Yes, a number of tree diseases are here. We have seen it with the brutal Southern Pine Beetle destruction in Napeague and off Swamp Road. Dutch Elm Disease always worries us with our ancient ladies that grace our beautiful lanes and main streets. Thankfully the Village and the LVIS use "vitamins" and "tree chemo" to keep DED at bay, at least for as long as we can. The ash tree population is spiraling down due to the Emerald Ash Borer that basically cleaned out entire ash tree forests in the Midwest, mid-Atlantic states and now the Northeast. One of the latest "biggies" is Beech Leaf Disease which came on with a vengeance. Mike Gaines of CW Arborists has been instrumental in looking for ways to combat this and

honestly does his own experiments to diagnose the life of nematodes! Just over three years ago did we East Enders learn about Beech Leaf. Entire woods of beech trees are jeopardized. Scientists are feverishly working on a remedy but it's costly and not proven to be totally effective. Yet. Fingers crossed. Lately we have seen articles about the Spotted Lantern Fly, a beautiful insect known as a "hitchhiker" for its ability to grab rides on vehicles and then feast on its favorite meals such as fruit trees and grapes.

We all need to be VERY aware that trees are very much like you and me. They age. They break. They get sick and sometimes, no matter what we do to help...pruning, giving organic treatments and chemical injections, aerating roots, watering (there's never enough rain for many trees), they don't make it. And that's why our street trees present a problem under these conditions. We don't want people to get smacked by a dead branch or get hit by a fallen tree while walking down a sidewalk or driving down a street. The Village of East Hampton will never take down a tree without a complete assessment by experts and a discussion with the LVIS. We hate losing our trees but diseased or aged out species cannot be dismissed.

So I'm giving everyone a heads up. You're going to see some very significant trees being taken down. The LVIS mission is to replace them and we will. The trees know when their time is up. In East Hampton Village the trees put faith in us, especially when they lose a friend. A new youngster will come along but we will never forget the soldier who stood there for years and brought us serenity and beauty.

The trees speak. We must stay alert and be sensitive with what we need to do for them and for us.

*Olivia Brooks, LVIS Tree Committee chair  
East Hampton Star, Guestwords, October 26th, 2023*



# *Town's 375th Anniversary Parade*



*Photo: Durell Godfrey*



*Photo: Durell Godfrey*



*Photo: Lauren Betesh*





*Photo Durell Godfrey*



*Photo: Lauren Betesh*





*Photos: Durell Godfrey*





*Photo: Lauren Betesh*



*Photo: Durell Godfrey*



*Photo: Lauren Betesh*



# Notes from the Board

## Bylaws Amendment

At the October 3rd, 2023 Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved an amendment to the LVIS Bylaws recommended by the Membership Committee As prescribed in Article IX Amendments: Bylaws may be amended or revised at any regular monthly meeting by a majority vote of members, with a quorum present and voting, provided the proposed amendment or revision shall have been presented in writing to all members thirty days prior to the meeting.

A vote on this revision will be held on November 13th at the regular Membership Meeting.

Deleted language is crossed through. New language is underlined and italicized. (Page 9 of Yearbook)

### Article I MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1. Classes of Membership

##### A. Provisional Members

To be eligible for Provisional Membership any lady must:

1. Be at least eighteen years of age;
2. Apply in writing to the Membership Committee for provisional status and then volunteer for LVIS working activities for at least ~~two years~~ one year before being considered for Full Membership

##### B. Full Members

To be eligible for Full Membership any lady must:

3. Have served for at least ~~two years~~ one year as a Provisional Member before applying for Full Membership

## Finance Chair

Maureen Bluedorn has resigned as Finance Chair and former chair Andrea Cooper has graciously agreed to serve in an interim capacity.

## Annual Appeal Letter

The Development Committee, chaired by Julie Sakelariadis, has completed the 2024 Appeal Letter and it is off to the printers.

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has chosen Aimee Dallob as its chair and the Board has appointed board member Priscilla Turner as the board liaison. Serving on the committee are Ami Ayre, Jane Dillon, Ellen McPartland, Marcie Reed and Wendy Serkin.

## New Board Member

Director Larrilee Jemiola has resigned from the Board and Olivia Brooks has agreed to serve out her remaining term.



# Thank You Special Events Committee



*Photos: Durell Godfrey*



























Photos: Danielle Beckmann



LVIS THRIFT SHOP 

Vote for LVIS Now

<https://dansbotb.com/>



**VOTING  
IS NOW OPEN**

ENDS 12/31

HELP CHOOSE THE BEST BUSINESSES OF THE EAST END

**#bestofthebest**