

## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Humanist society to tackle free speech

"Free Speech: Should There be Limits?" is the topic of a panel discussion to be held at the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island on Sunday, June 21 at 11 am.

The Ethical Society is located at 38 Old Country Road in Garden City (at the western end of Old Country Road, between Mineola Boulevard and Herricks Road).

In the wake of the Charlie Hebdo shootings in France earlier this year, as well as other attacks on the media in all forms, including online, the question has come up about whether there should be limits on the right to free speech—and who sets those limits? If we limit cartoons, as offensive as they may be to some, what's next? Is suppression of first amendment rights ever justifiable? When? Should the media be more sensitive to the cultural issues that may offend others? Should people on social media, e.g., Twitter/Facebook, be allowed to say whatever they want? Where's the line between free speech and hate speech?

The panelists are health writer Liz Seegert, philosopher David Sprintzen and ethicist Arthur Do-

brin.

Seegert has spent more than 30 years reporting and writing about health and other topics for print, digital, and broadcast media. Her primary beats currently encompass aging, women's health, chronic disease and health policy. She is a co-producer of HealthStyles, on WBAI-FM, NYC and a Senior Fellow, Center for Health, Media & Policy, Hunter College.

Seegert's work has appeared in numerous national and local media, including Consumer Reports, The Los Angeles Times, Women Magazine, and New America Media. She has a bachelor's degree in Broadcast Journalism from Boston University and a Master's in Social Policy, from Empire State College, State University of New York. She is a member of the Boards of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island and of the Journalism and Women Symposium (JAWS), a national organization that supports the professional empowerment and personal growth of women in journalism.

Sprintzen is the founder and served as the co-chair of the Long Island Progressive Coalition, an

organization that for 36 years has advocated for affordable housing and health care, decent and well-paying jobs, ecologically sustainable economic development, social and racial justice, and a more effective democracy. Sprintzen is professor emeritus of Philosophy at Long Island University. He is the author of four books, including "Critique of Western Philoso-

phy and Social Theory" and "Camus: A Critical Examination." He is also a long-time member of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island.

Dobrin is leader emeritus of the Ethical Humanist Society, where he served for 33 years, and professor emeritus at Hofstra University. He presently teaches courses in business and media

ethics at Hofstra and blogs for Psychology Today. He is the author of 22 books, including "Ethics for Everyone" and "The Lost Art of Happiness and Teaching Right From Wrong." He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya.

There is no charge for this event and reservations are not required. For information, call (516) 741-7304.

## SCHIMEL HONORED AT DINNER

Assemblywoman Michelle Schimel was recently honored at the Social Justice Leadership Award Dinner presented by The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island. The award "honors individuals who have dedicated their lives to the betterment of humankind." Schimel, who is currently serving her fifth term in the New York State Assembly for the 16th Assembly District, was recognized "for her passion on the issues that affect New York, particularly the prevention of gun violence and protecting the environment." Schimel is pictured being congratulated by Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly Earlene Hooper.



## Wang selected to lead Shock Society

Dr. Ping Wang, investigator at The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research and vice chair for research in the North Shore-LIJ Department of Surgery, has been selected as president-elect of the Shock Society.

Dr. Wang will serve as president-elect through part of 2016, at which time he will become president through part of 2017.

The 38th Annual Conference on Shock will be held June 6-9 in Denver, CO.

"I am extremely honored to be elected president of the Shock Society," said Dr. Wang. "As president, I will strive to integrate bench-and-bedside research activities and nurture a platform to strengthen physician-scientist collaborations."

Dr. Wang oversees the Center for Translational Research at the Feinstein Institute and serves as vice chair of the health system's Department of Surgery.

By leading these two areas in science and medicine, he has experience in bridging these two sectors with technology and drug development to meet clinical and patient needs.

Dr. Wang has actively participated in the Shock Society for 25 years.

Most recently, he was scientific program chair of the 2013 Annual Conference on Shock and continues to serve on the SHOCK Journal Editorial Board.

The key mission of the Shock Society is to promote dynamic interactions between basic science investigators and clinicians in trauma, hemorrhage and sepsis research.



Dr. Ping Wang



From left, Councilwoman Lee Seeman, Supervisor Judi Bosworth and Councilwoman Dina De Giorio at a recent My Brother's Keeper summit.

## Town plans informational meeting

Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Judi Bosworth and the Town Board are inviting all interested adults to attend an informational meeting on June 24 at 3:30 p.m. at Town Hall to learn more about mentoring opportunities available through the North Hempstead My Brother's Keeper Challenge.

The Town of North Hempstead recently submitted a Local Action Plan to Washington as part of the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Challenge, an initiative from President Barack Obama, which focuses on efforts to elimi-

nate opportunity gaps, barriers, and challenges facing youth in the community and to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential.

Bosworth said the Town's Action Plan intends to address the Town's goals of ensuring all youth graduate from high school, complete post-secondary education or training and are employed.

The Action Plan includes a strong mentoring program that will start in ninth grade and will allow students to explore different careers throughout high

school, participate in a speakers' series about careers and engage in internships.

"It is my hope that interested people will answer our call for mentors," Bosworth said. "By sharing their time, knowledge and experiences, they can truly change a student's life."

Those interested in attending the informational meeting must RSVP by calling 311.

North Hempstead Town Hall is located at 220 Plandome Road in Manhasset.

For more information call 311.