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Action Items



LWVMHR Book Club meetings north and south

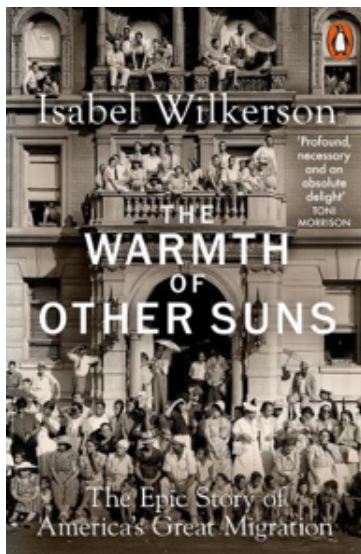
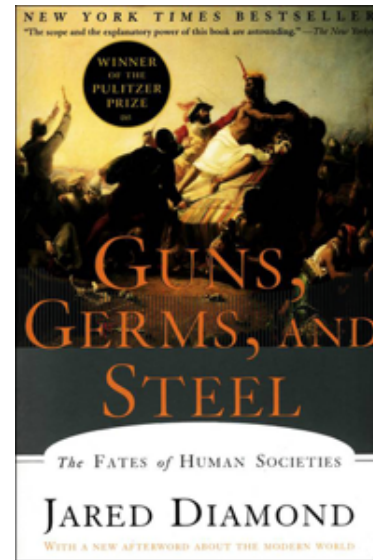
Meet other League members and share your thoughts on important subjects. We have a luncheon meeting in Kingston and a new

“Happy Hour” get-together in Newburgh - come to one or both. Bring a friend! Haven’t read the book? No problem - the discussion will be spirited either way!

We encourage members to seek out the book selections through the library system or purchase from local book sellers. If you’d like to patronize the Barking Goose Bookstore, you can order at barkinggoosebookbar@gmail.com

Tuesday, October 12th, 1:45pm
at Enzo's Restaurant, 207 Boices Lane,
Kingston. Join Daisy Tyler and members
for a discussion about "Guns, Germs, and
Steel" by Jared Diamond.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and a
national bestseller: the global account of
the rise of civilization that is also a
stunning refutation of ideas of human
development based on race.



Wednesday, October 27th, 5:30pm
at Barking Goose Bar & Café,
16 North Plank Rd., Newburgh. Join Cindy
Lanzetta and League members for a
Happy Hour discussion about "The Warmth
of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson. In this
epic, beautifully written masterwork,
Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel
Wilkerson chronicles one of the great
untold stories of American history: the
decades-long migration of black citizens

who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of
a better life.

Do you have a website skill to
share? We are looking for a
member who can post items to
our website once a month.
Meeting minutes, calendar, news
and event items and photos. If
you can download ready-made



information once a month, we're looking for you! We will pick up the cost of membership and be really and truly grateful. Simple training will be provided if necessary.

Another member who can help create and post content to Instagram with state, national and local information (provided to you) is also needed.

Not sure how to do it, but have the time and are comfortable with your friend the computer? No problem, we'll teach you.

This is a great way to make a huge difference without even leaving your easy chair. Be the first to know what's happening. For more information, contact the League email and we'll talk.



New York State Redistricting

The New York State Independent Redistricting Commission has released two sets of proposed district maps for the New York State Senate, Assembly, and representation in the U.S.

House of Representatives. Both maps present significant changes in representation for all three legislative bodies, for our Mid-Hudson Valley region. The NYS League has produced a handy overlay of these maps, and the current district lines, [here](#)

The next step in the redistricting process is a second set of hearings all around New York State. They are looking for input as to how these new boundaries affect our communities. The schedule and signups are linked below. Our Mid-Hudson Region's hearing would be the one in White Plains on Monday, November 8 at 3:00 pm.

[Check this out](#)

These hearings are streamed on the NYIRC website. They are informative and interesting and well worth tuning into. If you feel you can represent a community of interest, please consider signing up to testify. The NYS State has training materials that will help you make an effective presentation.

LWVMHR Member, Karen Holloway, recently used these resources to put together a presentation for Dutchess County residents. To view it, please go to [Here](#)

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[The Prez says...](#)

Prez Says
October 2021

Welcome to the fall election season! It's all local this year and there are 5 statewide items on the ballot as well as whatever county or town issues will be there in your neighborhood. The Voter Guides are out and ready to be distributed with comprehensive information about the state proposals. Pros and cons of each position are listed, allowing people to make up their own minds about how to cast their votes. The League does take positions on these issues, but you won't find that in the Voter Guides. We will be posting information about the state issues on Facebook over the next



few weeks, along with a very simple reason why for each. For a copy of the Voters Guide pamphlet, send an email to the LWVMHR and one will be provided to you. Let us know if you'd like a few extra for your town hall or post office. Find more information on the state ballot proposals, click on [Voting - League of Women Voters NYS](#) where you'll find a video titled Public Education Forum.

Redistricting should be happening in every county this year. Check your county's status on the LWVNY website and see the proposed maps according to the not-so-independent NYS Redistricting Commission's separate party-centric drawing. They are quite different and not at all what we should expect from a process the voters asked for. Take the opportunity to express your views at one of the public comment forums available or send an email to them at [this site](#).

Finally, I would ask all members to take a moment to think of something they can do to fulfill the League's mission to educate and promote citizen involvement in their community. Send an email, make a call, join a community event, learn more about what's new in your neighborhood. You might stop by one of the event's we're moderating this year in Orange County (sponsored by the library- 6 events), Amenia, Pine Plains or Saugerties. Want to learn to moderate? Attend one of these just to check it out. Or you can tune in to one of the online informational events listed in the Program section of this newsletter. We make them for you! Check with your local news outlet or send us an email to find out more.

Celebrate Election Season! Drop us a line at the League email to let us know how you've made a difference near your home. If you have a photo to share, please send it along. We may feature it in our next newsletter!

“If we each do a little, we can accomplish a lot.”

In League,
Cindy Bell

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News Items



left to right: Kate Hymes, Zara St. Croix, Leslie Simons

New York State Voter Guides

Check out the Voter Guide information available on the State website:

[Voter Guide 1](#)

[Voter Guide 2](#)

“Health Reform & Social Justice: Opportunities for Reducing Inequity and Addressing Health Disparities”.



**Wednesday October 6
from 9:00pm -11:00pm**

This forum, co-hosted by many Leagues including the LWV-MidHudson Region, aims to educate voters about our current healthcare model and how it impacts local care access,

affordability, quality and equity. Our guest speaker provides insights into how health reform can improve each of these to optimize community health and wellness. The LWVDA supports the National League healthcare positions in support of an affordable, accessible, quality, and equitable health care system, critical for the health, safety and economic security of all communities. Becoming an informed voter is fundamental to ensuring the engagement needed to effect meaningful reform. The future of our community health and healthcare systems will rely upon votes cast by those with a better understanding of current needs and resources and our opportunities to enact needed change.

Register [here](#)

LWVMHR programs

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:



The MidHudson League has committed to a full slate of moderating for in person candidate forums in the TriCounty area and will not be able to staff any additional requests. However, we invite our members who are interested in being trained in moderating or time-keeping to contact [Maura Omeara](#) about shadowing an upcoming forum so more of us are trained for next year.

The League has made the difficult decision to suspend in-person events for the remainder of the year, however we will host a few important sessions by Zoom. The next one will be "Election 2021: Everything You Need to Know about Voting this Year" which will be held virtually on Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021 at 7pm. The link to join is: [here](#)

We will have a panel of Commissioners of Elections from BOTH

PARTIES join us from Ulster County. If you are engaged in Voter Registration or Get Out The Vote efforts, this will be particularly important for you. We will cover dates/times/locations for early voting and Election Day, the absentee ballot process, ballot security and back of the ballot propositions.

What's On Your Ballot? Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, at 2:00 pm (via [zoom](#))

This election day, a number of local positions as well as important referenda, will be on your ballot.



From same day voter registration to environmental rights, measures that the League has pushed for have finally come before the public for a vote! Join us, and Jennifer Wilson (Deputy Director of LWVNY), as we explain the referenda and the league's positions on them. We will also be reviewing the referenda the league does not have positions on and the local offices on the ballot, providing background so that you can make an educated decision. Inform your vote.

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Environmental Impact - a series by Cindy Bell

TEXTILES

We all wear clothes but spend little time thinking about the processes that

go into their creation. Design, manufacture and marketing rarely state how clothing is made. This month, I have good news and bad news. First, the bad news.



One-fifth of the world's industrial water pollution is caused by the 20,000 chemicals (many of which are carcinogenic) used in creating and treating fabric. In China alone, 36 tons of soot are forced into the air every year by coal-fired manufacturing facilities. Fertilizer from cotton farms pollutes all manner of water sources, from our wells and reservoirs to streams, rivers and eventually the oceans.

Microfiber makes its way into fish, animals, birds and humans alike. 17 million tons of textiles annually find their way to landfills, with more going to waste-to-energy plants (incinerators).

According to textile recyclers, 95% of clothing is suitable for recycling or reuse, 45% for apparel, 30% for industrial cloths or rags and 20% of to be used in new products featuring recycled fibers, yet 85% is still being sent to landfills. The average lifespan of a piece of clothing is 5.4 years. Extending that by as little as three months results in a significant 5-10% reduction in carbon, water and waste savings.

That's all the bad news I can handle, so now the good news. There are a number of fabrics available to choose from that reduce our risk of being poisoned by our underwear as well as lessening the burden of industrial stressors on the planet. A further positive effect to consider is that responsible purchases support the textile workers carry a lower risk of negative health impacts due to chemicals, pesticides and airborne particulates. I've listed the fabrics below in order of lowest to highest impact.

Wool (sustainably raised)

Tencel/Lyocell (plant-sourced)

Linen (flax)
Hemp
Recycled Cotton
Organic Cotton
Silk
Canvas (organic)

Viscose/Rayon
Modal
Cotton
Bamboo
Polyester
Spandex/Elastane/Lycra
Nylon
Acrylic

The items in the second column are the biggest offenders shedding microfibers, not biodegradable and utilizing more chemicals in processing.

Conscious shopping, garment care, reuse and repair is not only a good idea--it is fashionable!

Cindy Bell

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Editor's Note:

We want you to know that we welcome your feedback with regard to anything you read in this newsletter, or items that you

would like to see. We're here for you and would like to hear from you. Contact lwvmidhudson@gmail.com. Thanks.

Also note: this and previous issues of our newsletter are available for viewing on our website lwvmidhudson.org.

lwvmidhudson@gmail.com

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