



Newsletter November 2023

Table of Contents (When viewing the entire newsletter you can click on the title to go directly to that item)

- [The Prez says...](#)
- [Action Items](#)
- [Environmental Impact](#)
- [News Items](#)
- [Editor's Note](#)

The Prez says ...



We live in a place that is especially beautiful at this time of the year - I hope you are taking time to enjoy it!

Halloween is just around the corner and by then early voting will already be going on. If you want to see what's on your ballot, find your polling place, or otherwise

find out anything about voting, a QR code is available elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are trying to slap this QR code on almost everything we put out. We also urge you to use the national LWV voter information site VOTE411 and we thank Lisa Bretherick in Dutchess and Louise Reavis in Orange for filling the site with information about the candidates in their counties. We also NEED AN ULSTER VOLUNTEER to do the same in that county, so if you are comfortable with computer work, raise your hand!

As an LWV moderator I have been working with two towns on candidate meetings scheduled this week. One just had to be canceled because the candidates from one party have declined to participate. This is so disappointing for the organizers and it is becoming an increasingly big problem across the country. We voters need to tell our local candidates that participating in any credible, well-organized forum is part of their job application. Blowing these off should be as disqualifying as saying "no" to a job interview! At all levels of the League we are talking about what else we can do. The arrogance and lack of transparency involved is just not acceptable and we have to "fire" (vote out) those who think otherwise.

On a much happier note, we thank everyone who helped to make the membership event at Whitecliff Winery, on October 20th, a big success.

First of all, of course, we thank League member Yancy Migliore, for opening up her beautiful business to us and giving us free wine-tastings too! We thank the weather gods too for giving us only a little off-and-on drizzle, not the monsoon that caused us to cancel our first date because of a declared state of emergency! And of course we thank all who brought refreshments and/or contributed to a lively discussion of so many League concerns related to an agricultural business like Yancey's - the environment, economic development, and food insecurity among

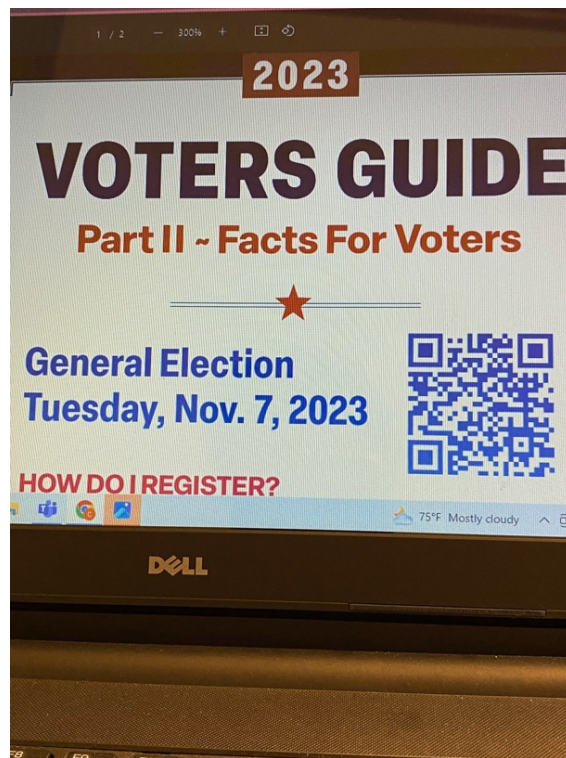
them. Our locality and state play such an important role in food production for the whole world, so we really need good thinking about how to balance these needs which often conflict. Enjoy the pictures from this event shown elsewhere.

Finally, we are not as good at reminding our members to renew their memberships as we should be. Email reminders are going out now, followed shortly by snailmail reminders. After that, we CALL you (oh no!).

Every member is a treasure, even those who "only" pay their dues. You help us do so much for our region, state and country.

Please watch for an email from me with RENEWAL in the subject line. If you don't get one, know that we thank you now for being all paid up! Our members, and our historic and trusted good name, are our greatest assets.

Dare Thompson, President, LWV of the Mid Hudson Region
Home: 36 Reservoir Road, Marlboro, NY 12542
845-236-3074 (preferred) 845-591-3445 (cell)



<https://lwvny.org/voting/>

[CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

Action Items

Get the most out of a Membership and Be Involved with Your Local League!

This section offers reports from ongoing groups and a Calendar to keep us connected:



MEETING DATES & ZOOM LINKS-

November

* All members and interested non-members are welcome at all League meetings unless otherwise indicated.

November 1st

12:00 PM

LWV Mid-Hudson Membership Committee Meeting

Zoom link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84179974295?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84179974295?pwd=S1U0bEZ5TjFJcWp1UituUEVWcmw5dz09)

[pwd=S1U0bEZ5TjFJcWp1UituUEVWcmw5dz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84179974295?pwd=S1U0bEZ5TjFJcWp1UituUEVWcmw5dz09)

November 7th

Election Day!!!!

November 13th

1:45 PM

LWVMHR Book Club

[Enzo's Restaurant](#)

Kingston

November 16th

5 PM

LWVMHR Board Meeting

Zoom link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87841231146?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87841231146?pwd=dFp5bDdtZFNvWjNMRTkyTVBCRmg3dz09)

[pwd=dFp5bDdtZFNvWjNMRTkyTVBCRmg3dz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87841231146?pwd=dFp5bDdtZFNvWjNMRTkyTVBCRmg3dz09)

November 17th

12:00 PM

Southern Tier Meeting

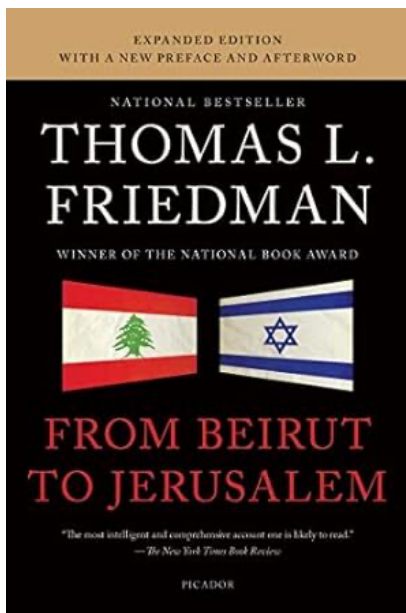
[The Silk Factory](#)

Newburgh

LWVMHR Book Club Meeting

November 13th

1:45pm



"From Beirut To Jerusalem" by Thomas L. Friedman

Written by three time Pulitzer winner journalist and book author, Mr. Friedman brings his experiences of the Middle East to light in this book. As one critic writes" If you are going to read one book on the Middle East this is it"

The date for the next meeting has been changed to November 13th **just for this month.** We'll continue with our regular schedule, for the remaining time of the year, of every third Monday of the month, 1:45 PM, at [Enzo's Ristorante](#) in Kingston.

All members are welcome to join. Bring a friend and discover a new experience with League Members.

As always, we encourage members to borrow the book from the library or purchase from local booksellers.

Daisy Tyler
daisytyler68@hotmail.com

Inaugural Ulster County Jail Voter Registration Report 10/24/2023

After all the important changes in NYS Election Law benefiting incarcerated citizens last year LWVMHR



members took the reins and set out to educate people about those changes for 2023.

Christine Hunter and Cindy Bell went through the jail's volunteer training after applications and paperwork were completed and approved. Officer Lacey, supported by UC Sheriff Juan Figueroa, contacted us last week to let us know it was time for a visit.

Ulster County Board of Elections Commissioner Ashley Torres (D) and Deputy Commissioner Keri Williams (R) joined us as Officer Lacey led us through the six jail units, announcing our presence at each and allowing us to speak with the incarcerated individuals and to help them complete forms and answer questions. It was a wholly satisfying experience and we came away with 16 registrations and 31 absentee ballot applications.

This result was a very pleasant surprise to everyone involved. The total jail census right now is around 200, so this was a significant percentage of newly registered voters as well as those who didn't know they could still vote while incarcerated and needed some assistance to fill out absentee ballot applications.

At the end of our visit, Ashley and Keri took the documents back to the BOE and got to work to make sure everyone gets the appropriate ballot. They will make sure ballots are delivered to the jail in time for voters to check them out, find out more about what's on the ballot and mail them back to the BOE by Election Day. They will also contact UC Tech Support in order to add the UCBOE website to available internet resources for incarcerated individuals.

Christine and I are most thankful for Sheriff Figueroa, Officer Regina Lacey, Colonel James Mullen (Superintendent of Corrections), Officer Craig Williams (CO and Public Information

Officer) for welcoming us and keeping us safe and on track. We are also grateful to Ashley Torres and Keri Williams for helping make this process an amazing success.

We learned a lot about how this all works and next time we'll be sure to bring more registration forms, absentee ballot applications, pens and LWV brochures about voting for the incarcerated. We used every form we had with us!

We all made an extremely effective team and I encourage our Dutchess and Orange County members to reach out to their respective Sheriff's office to set the process in motion for next year and into the future. Christine and I stand ready to help any interested LWVMHR members. We'll be back next year before the presidential primary on April 4, normal June primary, and the general election next November. More Ulster County members are invited to join our team!

Please contact Cindy Bell for more information at cindylwv@gmail.com.



*UC BOE Officials Keri Williams, Ashley Torres,
LWVMHR Cindy Bell, Christine Hunter*

Equal Rights Amendment

It's Time!



The New York State League of Women Voters is an active partner in the effort to pass a constitutional amendment adding to existing enumerated protections against discrimination based on race and religion.

This amendment would explicitly prohibit discrimination based on a person's ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex—including their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, reproductive healthcare and autonomy.

Check out this website:

<https://nyequalrights.org/>

Are you interested in joining our LWVMHR ERA task force? If so, contact Cindy Lanzatta at packback56@yahoo.com or Louise Reavis at louise.reavis@gmail.com

We hope to begin meeting regularly to prepare for the campaign in 2024. In the meantime, read the info on the website and watch this space!

Regional Meetup Groups

Southern Tier:
This group is



Silk Factory, Newburgh

made up of members from Orange County, Southern Dutchess County, and Southern Ulster County. All League members are welcome to attend!

Our next regular meeting will be November 17th, noon, at the [Silk Factory](#). All League members & friends are welcome to attend!

League of Women Voters, Mid Hudson Region Launches Electronic Voter Guide for Orange and Dutchess County Races On www.VOTE411.org

VOTE411, the League's electronic voter guide, is now LIVE!

Candidate information

VOTE 411

Learn more about what's going to be on your ballot on **Election Day.**

VOTE411.ORG

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK

is available for all candidates running on November 7. The information includes biographical details and responses to questions posed by the League, as well as links to candidates' social media and campaign websites.

All of this can be accessed online at www.VOTE411.org in an easy-to-use electronic format. New Yorkers can enter their address to compare candidate information and print a customized sample ballot. Candidates who have not yet submitted their information are listed with "Candidate Has Not Responded;" their responses will be posted as soon as the candidates provide the information.

VOTE411 also features information on the two ballot proposals that New York voters will vote on. Citizens are able to read the proposals as they will appear on their ballot and find out what the proposals will enact.

Voters can visit www.VOTE411.org before going to vote early or on Election Day on November 7. More information on where and when you can vote early anywhere in New York State is available at voterlookup.elections.ny.gov .

Locally, you can check the County Websites at orangecountygov.com , elections.dutchessny.gov , or <https://elections.ulstercountyny.gov/sample-ballots-2/>. Early voting for the general election will take place from October 28 through November 5 across the state.

The League is a nonpartisan political membership organization open to men and women that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public

policy through education and advocacy. To learn more about the LWV-Mid Hudson Region, visit lwvmidhudson.org

Special thanks to our VOTE411 League coordinators Louise Reavis (Orange County) and Lisa Bretherick (Dutchess County) for putting this together.

[CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

Environmental Impact

REBORN: FOR THE LOVE OF THRIFTING

Having spent the bulk of this summer and fall cleaning up and cleaning out well-loved homes, I can conclusively say that there is almost no reason to buy anything new again. Treasures great and small, clothing with amazing personality, quality, some with tags still attached) are waiting to be claimed. There are office supplies, vintage costume jewelry, gadgets, art and more.



Thriftling has become fashionable in our world, especially among young people.

After decades of rampant consumerism, goods and bargains abound. It is both fun and environmentally responsible as well as a boon to your bottom line to take advantage of these riches. So much of this would end up in a landfill, just wasted.

I Googled 'thrift shops near me' and got nine excellent suggestions within ten miles and know that a recent estate sale I was involved with netted attendees quality tools, amazing outdoor hiking, fishing and hunting equipment, brand new shoes and holiday tableware & décor for every occasion.

Here are some tips to get you started:

- Make it a personal challenge or a game.
- Have a thrifted holiday or occasion this year and see who can be the most creative within a set budget.
- Shop during off-peak hours
- Visit several stores in a day and plan your route ahead of time. Stop for lunch.
- Go with friends or family – plenty of entertainment with some of those odd old finds
- Try on clothing- dress to make it easy and don't count on label sizes- eyeball it and stick with natural materials whenever possible
- If you don't know what you'll do with it, don't buy it. Leave it for someone else
- Support your local causes with your purchase, ReStore (Habitat for Humanity), Happy Paws (for animal shelter), The Aid Tibet thrift, hospital auxiliaries, church organizations and my favorite- People's Place in Kingston.

Check for more information online in your own neck of the woods.

Happy Thrifting!

Cindy Bell

[CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

News Items



Nora Scherer, Daisy Tyler, Deborah Marr

LWVMHR PRESENT AT NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

We would be remiss if we didn't mention that the LWVMHR was well represented at the ceremonies in Ulster County, in September, when they welcomed 47 new citizens at SUNY Ulster!



SUNY Ulster Naturalization Ceremony

LWVMHR at the SUNY Orange Middletown Wellness Fair

Thanks to Leslie Simons & Ann Toner for representing the League! Leslie said, "While we had hoped for more foot traffic we made some great connections and we're able to drop off six new registrations at the Goshen BOE."



SUNY Orange Middletown



Whitecliff Winery Fall Get-together is Success!

Rain did not impede the wonderful event for our Mid-Hudson Region League Fall meeting on October 20th. Thanks to League member and winery owner,

Yancey Migliore, members enjoyed wine tasting, conversation and lots of laughs. Thanks to Board members there were yummy snacks and desserts. It was very nice to spend time together and get to know each other better!



Whitecliff Winery Owner, Yancey Migliore, welcomes fellow League members



Dorothy Kelly, Mary Missere, Leslie Simons

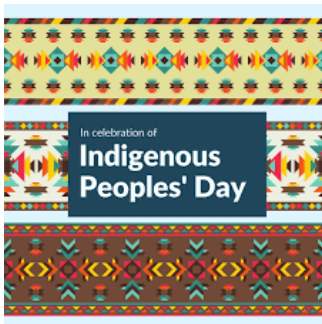


Cindy Bell and Ann Toner



President Dare Thompson and Jean McGarry

Indigenous People's Day



This holiday was created to honor the people, history and cultures of those who lived in North America long before it was discovered by the Europeans. It is celebrated instead of, or on the same day as Columbus Day each year.

Popular public knowledge of Indigenous People's Day is relatively recent, though the concept had been promoted since the early 1900s.

Reverend Red Fox James, (presumed) Blackfeet Nation member had campaigned for a national holiday and set out on horseback to visit every governor in the United States and returned to meet with President Woodrow Wilson in 1914 with endorsements from 24 governors' support.

The holiday never really took off until Dr. Arthur Caswell Parker, of the Seneca Nation and director of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Science, convinced the Boy Scouts of America that a day for First Americans should be observed and so it was from 1912-1915, when the president of the American Indian Association declared " American Indian Day". New York was among the first to adopt it in 1916.

The UN International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas declared October 12th the "International Day of Solidarity with the Indigenous People of the Americas" and proposed it as a national holiday.

South Dakota became the first state to declare Native Americans Day as a state holiday in 1990, fully replacing Columbus Day.

Indigenous Peoples' Day remains a nonfederal holiday, though a growing list of state and local governments now acknowledge it

or some other version of it which is meaningful to their population or geographic area.

We live within the Lenape Nation, including from northern New Jersey to the Vermont border north. This month is a good time to look at this ancient culture anew.

Our frequent partners, the [YWCA of Ulster County](#), has taken this opportunity to celebrate all people honoring Indigenous Peoples' Month with their "End Racism Now" campaign, which goes on until mid-December.

Cindy Bell

League Gets Shout Out in Washington Post Article

By Danielle Allen

Contributing columnist Washington Post

October 19, 2023



"One of my recent columns offered a list of FAQs about democracy renovation — and a poll. I was eager to learn more about what democracy issues matter most to you and how you allocate time and energies in advancing the cause of democracy.

Often, we political scientists think that people get connected to civic life through membership in specific associations. Of course, as Robert Putnam taught us three decades ago, many traditional associational opportunities fell away throughout the late 20th century. But I can tell you that one organization shines through in these results: Seven respondents named the League of Women Voters as the forum for their civic participation. No other

organization showed up more than once."

Love Halloween?

More and more Americans do, and according to the National Retail Foundation, we are expected to spend \$12.2 billion on our celebrating this year, with a good chunk of those dollars being spent on costumes, decorations, treats and other items that often involve plastic and often end quickly in a landfill.



The latest newsletter from the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency offers a variety of ways to “green” your ‘ween! Check it out at <https://ucrra.org/go-green-this-halloween/>



We also have an archive of videos done by our local LWV Mid-Hudson on YouTube! You can access them [here](#).

[CLICK HERE TO RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

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 info@lwvmidhudson.org. Thanks.
Next Newsletter deadline is November 21st.

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

info@lwvmidhudson.org

lwvmidhudson.org

©2023 LWV Mid-Hudson | PO Box 3564, Kingston NY 12402

[Web Version](#) [Forward](#) [Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by [Mad Mimi](#)®
A GoDaddy® company