

November-
December 2013

*Lighting
the way
since 1915*

November-December
GREEN

TIPS

From
Mary
Gerson



*As the weather turns cooler
and we start to put the summer
clothes toward the back of the
closet and bring out the warmer
things, look for items
to donate to -*

- Dress for Success
 - Valley Interfaith
 - St. Vincent de Paul
 - Mannequin
 - Free Store
 - Good Will
- and many more places.*

*Recycle, and you might
even get a tax deduction!*

~ Mary Gerson

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The Bulletin

Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati



Carter Stewart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, will speak on the "school to prison pipeline" at a public forum presented by Woman's City Club.

The term, "school to prison pipeline," refers to the growing pattern of tracking students out of educational institutions in part because of "zero tolerance" policies that impose severe discipline on students without regard to individual circumstances. Each academic year, millions of public school students are suspended or expelled, often for minor infractions. School-based arrests and referrals to court occur too often. These disciplinary actions impact minority students and students with disabilities disproportionately.

Mr. Carter will address the profound consequences of arrests, detention, and juvenile court appearances on children's mental and physical health, educational success, future employment opportunities, and contacts with the criminal justice system. Audience questions and comments will follow Mr. Carter's talk.

Second WCC Public Forum

**US Attorney
Carter Stewart**

To Speak on

**The School to Prison
Pipeline: A Travesty**

**Tuesday, November 19
7:00 pm**

Location: First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton St at Reading Rd in Avondale

As the Southern District's chief federal law enforcement officer, Mr. Stewart supervises the prosecution of all federal crimes and the litigation of civil matters in which the federal government has an interest. Since January 2012, he has served on the US Attorney General's Advisory Committee (AGAC).

In addition to a law degree from Harvard Law School, Mr. Carter, holds a Master of Arts Degree in Education Policy from Columbia University.



*For more background information
on this issue, search online for
"ACLU school to prison."*

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello again, Woman City Club members and friends,

Time to get out the warm clothes and bring in some wood for the fire, as fall leaves cover the lawns and beg to be raked. Speaking of clothes, please remember to save any professional clothes you may no longer need for our "Dress for Success" clothing drive. Jo-Ann Huff Albers of the Status of Women committee, is spearheading the effort. Please bring any clothes to our meetings and events or to the WCC office. On November 21st, WCC will have a "Shoppers Party" at the Dress for Success location. Watch for details in your weekly update and Bulletin.

In September, WCC Annual Board Retreat was held with 20 Board of Trustee members and committee chairs attending. Pat Timm, a long time WCC supporter, strategic planner, and community development and public policy consultant, facilitated the retreat. Together, we went back to basics, looking at communication internally and externally and board "norms" that include our personal and structural behavior. She encouraged us to present a consistent and strong message to the public. As a

result, the Communications Committee is hard at work updating our logo and vision and mission statement to reflect WCC's 100 years of dedication and service to the Greater Cincinnati region.

In October, Al Gerhardstein spoke on "Privatization of Prisons" at a member meeting, and WCC co-sponsored a CPS Board Candidate Forum on October 23 at the Mayerson Center in keeping with our efforts to educate the community on candidates for office.

In November, we are presenting an exciting program featuring Carter Stewart, U.S. Attorney for the Southwest District of Ohio. Mr. Carter was nominated by President Obama and confirmed in September of 2009. He was appointed by US Attorney Eric Holder to the Attorney General's Advisory Committee (AGAC) in January 2012. He is one of 16 around the country who provide counsel and advice to Attorney General Eric Holder on policy, management and operational issues. Mr. Stewart will speak on "School to Prison Pipeline: a Travesty."



And of course, don't forget the wonderful and fun-filled Feist-Tea event on December 8th, at which we will honor four feisty women: Harriet Kaufman, Sarah Gideonse, Helen O'Neal, and Mary Wells! RSVP's are required but the event is free!

I look forward to seeing all of you at these exciting and educational programs planned in the next few months. Until then, enjoy a beautiful Cincinnati fall!

Susan

CINDY ROWLAND JOINS WCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The WCC board of trustees is pleased to announce the addition to the board of Cindy Rowland, a financial advisor who is active with the Feist-Tea Committee. Cindy replaces Beth Sullebarger, who resigned because a heavy workload in her historical preservation consulting business no longer allows her to assume major volunteer responsibilities.

Cindy will bring important skills and interests to this leadership position. She is a Financial Advisor who is passionate about helping families sustain their values and wealth through multiple generations. She has been a part of the financial services industry since 1981 and joined Merrill Lynch in 2012. She is a native of New Hampshire, and treasures her New England roots.

Cindy volunteers at Crossroads Community Church and spends much of her spare time working with others. Cindy also serves on the Advisory Board of the Sales Education Foundation in Dayton, Ohio, a foundation that is dedicated to elevating the sales profession through university education and increasing awareness of its positive impact on our economy and society.

Beth Sullebarger's voice of reason, experience, and historical perspective has contributed greatly to the club. Though relinquishing her roles as Co-Vice President for Program and co-chair of our Centennial Committee, Beth will continue to serve as a member of the Finance and Development Committee.

WOMAN'S CITY CLUB TO HONOR FOUR OF ITS OWN AT FOURTH ANNUAL FEIST TEA SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT 1:30 PM

Woman's City Club cordially invites members, friends, and the public to its Woman's City Club's fourth annual Feist Tea. It will honor Sarah Gideonse, Harriet Kaufman, Helen O'Neal and Mary Wells, four of its longtime members.

The event takes place from 1:30 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, December 8, at the Barrington of Oakley, 4855 Babson Place in Oakley, just off Madison Road.

The program begins at 2:00 PM., and is followed by a reception in the Barrington lobby. Beverages, sweets and tea, as well as wine, will be served.

The history of WCC is peppered with stories of women who can smile and shake their fists while working for—and demanding—change in our community. The mission of the Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati—to secure a more just and livable community for all—is a lofty one. To work toward this goal takes a high degree of feistiness. Let us honor those among us who model this quality and who never give up.

There is no charge for Feist-Tea. However, contributions are welcome to help support the many WCC programs and initiatives.

For additional information you may call the WCC's office at 751-0100 on Mondays or Wednesdays, or call Ruth Cronenberg, the planning committee's facilitator at 891-5163.

Please RSVP:

Reservations for the tea may be made by emailing WCC@womanscityclub.org or by calling the office.

Prior honorees included, in

2012: Jane Anderson, Cassandra Barham, and Alice Schneider; in **2011:** Dot Christenson, Judy Green, Kathy Helmbock, Amy Katzman and Marcella Trice;

and in **2010:** Marianna Bettman, the late Lillian Jones, Francie Pepper, Doreen Quinn, Marian Spencer and Bobbie Sterne.



TELEVISION JOURNALIST CANDY CROWLEY HEADLINES WCC'S NATIONAL SPEAKER EVENT 2014

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014 AT 7:30 PM

Location: Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 1345 Grace Ave., Hyde Park 45208



The Woman's City Club is pleased to announce the selection of Candy Crowley, CNN's award-winning senior political correspondent, as its 2014 National Speaker on the topic "The White House vs. Capitol Hill." The National Speaker event includes Candy Crowley's talk, the popular Q&A period, a VIP reception with the speaker, and once again, a gift basket raffle.

Based in the network's Washington, D.C., bureau, Crowley covers a broad range of stories, including presidential, congressional and gubernatorial races and major legislative developments on Capitol Hill. You may remember her moderation of the Obama - Romney debate last fall. She was the first woman to moderate a presidential debate since ABC's Carole Simpson in 1992. Her career has been characterized by the *Los Angeles Times* as "sophisticated political observation, graceful writing, and determined fairness," and her style characterized as "no-nonsense" and "straight shooter."

Crowley's assignments have taken her to all 50 states and around the world and resulted in many honors. Among them: As a member of the Peabody Award-winning "Best Political Team on Television," she played a pivotal role in CNN's America Votes 2008 coverage. Crowley earned a prestigious Gracie Allen Award in 2009 for coverage of Hillary Clinton's bid for the White House.

The National Speaker Forum is WCC's major fundraising event. Later this fall, WCC will be eliciting co-sponsorship from community organizations. Members and friends will receive invitations to the event, outlining different levels of sponsorships (\$125- \$1250) that include one or more tickets to the reception. Individual tickets at \$35 will be on sale in December.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

WCC Continues to Nurture a Flourishing Culture of Citizen Engagement

Back in the early nineteenth century, in the 1920s, 30s and 40s, women began to redefine their role in civic life, and they set a new agenda to lead a women's movement for social and political reform. As Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh wrote in her history of WCC, *Lighting the Way: 1915 to 1965*, women believed they "shared a cultural conditioning which uniquely suited them for 'housekeeping' in their larger community. Their special nurturing talents, it was thought, made them especially good at building harmonious relationships between conflicting groups and nations."

This vision of a democratic community that engages equal participation from all elements of society continues today as members of WCC collaborate with a broad group of neighborhood and community organizations to strengthen the civic sector in Cincinnati and expand active citizen participation in city decision-making.

WCC was thus one of the primary civic groups collaborating to form the **Citizen Engagement Action Team (CEAT)** in January, 2013. CEAT is now proud to announce an initiative to build a robust culture of citizen engagement in the governance of our city. The work of CEAT is anchored in Plan Cincinnati, a citizen-driven comprehensive plan adopted by city council in November of 2012.

The first goal of Plan Cincinnati's LIVE section is to "Build a Robust Public Life." To implement this goal, the plan says, we must "Strengthen our magnetic city with energized people."

CEAT's work began as a response to two of Plan Cincinnati's recommended action steps - first, to "research successful community-engagement methods and best practices from across the country;" and second, "to develop a civic engagement strategy to help increase the capacity of the public to participate in the decision-making process."

Using resources provided by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2), CEAT members surveyed and researched fifteen US cities. CEAT discovered a steady trend toward a more participatory process in local governments. Typically, these processes engage community stakeholders early, often, and meaningfully, until they reach a final decision supported by majority consensus. Workshops are held to explore opportunities for increased political empowerment of citizens as partners in the city's deliberative processes. Cities such as New Orleans, Portland, Raleigh, San Jose, Minneapolis and Seattle have taken such steps and can serve as models for Cincinnati.

From this research, CEAT developed a 5-part recommendation for Cincinnati:

1. **Adopt a set of Citizen Engagement principles and policies.**
2. **Develop an infrastructure for elevating citizen engagement as a city value serving both government and community needs.**
3. **Create a Citizen Engagement Academy for leadership training and development.**
4. **Develop a strategy for using social media tools to implement CE policies and connect the resources of citizens with those of the city.**
5. **Develop a system of measures for assessing accountability and recommending sustained improvements.**

To request support for the proposed Citizen Engagement policy and principles, CEAT has met with the city manager and with the candidates who are currently running for mayor and city council. The proposal has already received endorsements from several community councils and civic organizations in the city. CEAT is recommending that the mayor and city council adopt these principles and policies in December after the newly elected officials take office.

~ Jeanne Nightingale,
VP Civic Engagement

ERNA OLAFSON RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS PROFESSIONAL HONOR

During its annual conference in June 2013, the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) honored Erna Olafson, a Woman's City Club member, with the Outstanding Professional Award for her career-long contributions to the field of child maltreatment and her support of APSAC's goals. Dr. Olafson is an Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Pediatrics at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. She is director of the Program on Child Abuse Forensic and Treatment Training within the Childhood Trust and co-director of the federally funded Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. In her spare time, Erna was instrumental in starting WCC's book club! As is evident, she has much to teach and share with us.



WCC Status of Women Action Group Adopts “DRESS FOR SUCCESS” as Action Project RSVP to Attend Shopping Party 11/21/13



The WCC Status of Women Committee has decided to support Dress for Success Cincinnati actively in the coming year. In addition to encouraging WCC members to volunteer, the committee is sponsoring at least one clothing drive and a shopping party at the Dress for Success Boutique on Fourth Street. Dress for Success, with affiliates in the US and abroad, has local outlets at 209 West Fourth St., downtown, and 5838 Hamilton Ave., in College Hill.

The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire and a network of support and career development tools to help them thrive in work and in life. Dress for Success provides each woman with a business suit for job interviews. The Going Places Network by Walmart program offers additional job search coaching and resources. Once employed, the woman may return to Dress for Success for 10 pieces of clothing appropriate for her new position. She also receives an invitation to join the Professional Women's working group, and is eligible to participate in other employment retention programs. Dress for Success serves job-ready women by referral only from more than 90 non-profit referral partners from across its region.

The committee asked people attending the October 15 WCC civic conversation (see p.10) to donate gently used garments to benefit Dress for Success.

On Thursday, November 21, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. the Committee is sponsoring a shopping party at the 4th Street Boutique for up to 30 WCC members. Diana Hoffman, DFS marketing specialist, will show a video and answer questions about DFS. That will be followed by an opportunity to shop in the boutique that sells women's new and gently used clothing. All proceeds support DFS Cincinnati's services for disadvantaged women. **Please RSVP to CJ Pierce at 9cjp@msn.com or 513-309-0506.**



People who wish more information about Dress for Success and its volunteer opportunities may consult its website, www.dfscincy.org, or contact Debbie Wessler at 513-322-1792 or dwessler@dfscincy.org. C.J. Pierce and Jo-Ann Huff Albers are co-chairs of the WCC Status of Women committee.

WE WON'T GO BACK Rally draws hundreds



On October 2, people representing over 50 women's, labor and other groups rallied at the statehouse in Columbus to protest recent legislation by the state Assembly that limits women's access to healthcare and curtails reproductive rights.

Many WCC members joined women from other local organization on a bus organized by WCC activist Francie Pepper. They were privileged to listen to many state and national leaders for women's rights including Ellie Smeal, President of Feminist Majority Foundation; Terry O'Neill, President of National Organization for Women; Stephanie Kight, President of Planned Parenthood Ohio; Kellie Copeland, President NARAL Pro-Choice; Sara Hutchinson, Catholics for Choice, Domestic Program Director; and Petee Talley, Secretary-Treasurer Ohio AFL-CIO.



The Cincinnati Contingent



WCC BOOK CLUB



Next book for discussion:

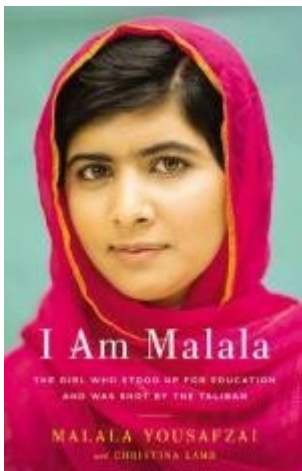
***Lean In*, by Sheryl Sandberg (2013), 172 pages**

***Date and time:* Saturday, January 25, 2014 at 10:00 am**

***Location:* Sarah Gideonse's home, 2570 Madison Rd., Apt. 20. Hyde Park**

Sheryl is the chief operating officer of Facebook and according to *Fortune*, one of the 50 most powerful women in business. When Sandberg's book was published earlier this year, it created a terrific stir, receiving a cover story in *Time*, reviews in countless publications, and both praise and criticism. In the book she examines why women's progress in achieving leadership roles has stalled and explains what she believes are root causes—one, that women unintentionally hold themselves back in their careers. She proposes practical solutions for women, including "sit at the table," seek challenges, take risks, and pursue their own goals with gusto.

Join us January 24 and weigh in on what is sure to be a spirited discussion. *Lean In* is not yet in paperback, but the Public Library has over 60 copies. Be sure to reserve promptly, as there is a waiting list.



Book for discussion this coming spring:

***I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai (2013).**

Date, time and location To Be Announced

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. Last October, when she was 15, she was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala made a miraculous recovery, and she has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

October Book Club discussion: My Beloved World. A small group met at the home of Joy Haupt on a rainy Saturday morning to share their thoughts on Sonia Sotomayor's memoir, *My Beloved World*. All were profoundly affected by the life story of this remarkable woman, a history-maker by virtue of her ethnic background and gender: the first Hispanic and only the third woman to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Sonia Sotomayor was able to turn what might have been adverse conditions: minority status, relative poverty, her father's alcoholism and early death, and childhood (Type I) diabetes, into positives that strengthened her character and her resolve. We noted the positive influence of her large extended family, her exceptional Catholic school education (Cardinal Spellman High School), and her mother's fierce determination to make something of her own life in addition to those of her children. Sonia knew what she wanted from an early age and never wavered in the pursuit of her goals. She has exhibited the capacity to listen to others and to learn what she needs from them. Seemingly immune to all the talk about what it takes for a woman to succeed in a man's world, Sonia appears to rely on the strength of her own inner convictions, and they have not failed her!



CHANGING CO₂URSE: LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO A GLOBAL CRISIS

4th Sunday of Every Month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Location: St John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Alison Auciello

Sunday, November 24. **A Right to Know What's in our Food**

Ohio's organizer for Food & Water Watch, **Alison Auciello**, will lead a discussion on what we can do to label Genetically Modified Foods in Cincinnati. We currently eat genetically engineered (GE) foods and don't know it, and the health risks of GMOs are unclear. Thanksgiving is a good time to become aware about the food we eat.

We will see excerpts from *The World According to Monsanto* to learn how through intimate links between Monsanto and government agencies, the US adopted GE foods and crops without proper testing, without consumer labeling and in spite of serious questions hanging over their safety. Not coincidentally, Monsanto supplies 90 percent of the GE seeds used by the US market.

Sunday, December 22. **Screening of A Place at the Table.**

This is a film starring Jeff Bridges. A provocative film about the growing problem of hunger in America. 50 million Americans – 1 in 4 children – don't know where their next meal is coming from. This film tells the powerful stories of three such Americans, who maintain their dignity even as they struggle just to eat in a riveting journey that will change forever how you think about hunger, malnutrition, and obesity. It doesn't have to be this way. This is a call to fix our broken food system.



Sunday, January 26, 2014. **Saving the Planet ... With Your Fork!**

Did you know that someone riding a bicycle following the Standard American Diet does more environmental harm than a vegetarian driving a Hummer? Or that Cincinnatians eating meat just one day a week less would accomplish greater greenhouse gas reduction than virtually anything else we can do short of Duke Energy ceasing to use coal altogether?



Local artist, curator, critic, and first amendment and environmental activist, **William Messer**, will discuss the environmental impacts of meat consumption. We will view a short animated documentary *The True Cost of Hamburgers* as well as clips from *Making the Connection*, a British film that presents the benefits of a plant-based diet. Bill Messer serves on the City of Cincinnati's Environmental Advisory Council, Green Umbrella's Local Food Action Team and has chaired the Food Task Team of the original Green Cincinnati Plan. He wrote the Plan's initial food recommendation, making Cincinnati the world's first city (among many, now) to recommend reduced meat consumption to deter climate change.

CHANGING CO₂URSE SERIES COSPONSORS:

Woman's City Club ~ Environmental Action Group

League of Women Voters

Sierra Club

The Environmental Community Organization (ECO)

St John's UU Green Sanctuary Partners



INNOVATIONS IN AGRICULTURE: WHAT CHANGES MUST WE MAKE TO SURVIVE ON THIS PLANET?

On October 27, Woman's City Club joined the Green Sanctuary Partners of St John's UU Church, the League of Women Voters, and the Sierra Club to present the *eighth* in a monthly series of community conversations where we imagine together the future of life on Earth as we move from a fossil fuel economy to a more sustainable life style. Climate Change is viewed less as a problem than as an opportunity to build a more resilient world.

October's Program – Innovations in Agriculture – was the first in an ongoing series devoted to American agricultural policies and practices. Dr. Kathleen Smythe, professor and Senior Administrative Fellow for Sustainability and the Environmental Imagination at Xavier U, presented a history of agriculture as the single most important development in human history, but arguably one of the most disruptive to our environment.

Kathleen focused on two ways that people are beginning to create new agriculture systems that mimic Nature's processes rather than destroying them. In Kansas, Wes Jackson, a sustainability visionary is working on creating perennial polyculture crops that mimic the prairie grasses. We watched clips from The Media Working Group's *Coming to Ground*, a documentary about Kentucky agriculture and its responses to regulatory and climate change as well as globalization. Told through the voices of Kentucky farmers, agricultural thinkers, and policy makers, this is a story of how Kentucky agriculture survived catastrophic change to create a new farm culture and the foundation of a new local food system.



So far in this series – Changing CO₂urse – we have been looking at ways we can respond locally to what we see as a global crisis. We've learned about the Transition Town movement, Cincinnati's Union Cooperative Initiatives, local soil and water conservation, and ways we can reduce the use of plastic bags in Cincinnati. In November, we will look at Genetically Modified Foods and what we can do to label food products that contain GMOs. In December, we will screen the documentary, *A Place at the Table*, a film about the growing problem of hunger and food insecurity. And in January we will look at the impacts of the meat industry on environmental and human health.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

MOVING CINCINNATI PAST PLASTIC SHOULD WE SUPPORT A FEE ON SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS?

Plastic bags are everywhere. They follow most purchases we make from groceries to take out. Yet few people are aware that our plastic habit creates massive toxic pollution. In one year, American families dispose of 100 billion plastic shopping bags requiring at 12 million barrels of oil in their manufacture. An estimated 500 billion to 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide—over one million plastic bags per minute.

Plastic does not biodegrade. Each bit of plastic ever manufactured still exists in our environment. So much plastic has found its way into the oceans that some places have more plastic than plankton. Over 267 species of marine wildlife have suffered from entanglement or ingestion of plastic debris. This harms the rest of the food chain, and in fact many harmful chemicals found in plastic end up in the human blood stream.

Not only are single-use plastic bags detrimental to our environment and health, they also cost the City of Cincinnati money in costly clean-up efforts. They find their way into trees, gutters, streams, parks, and the landfill. Rumpke reports spending \$100,000 annually on the removal of plastic bags from their equipment.

What can we do to solve this problem?

Two UC students have taken on the challenge. Myra Morehart and Johnna Jackson have initiated a grassroots campaign called *Cincinnati Past Plastic* that has been adopted by the Cincinnati Sierra Club as an official action campaign.

Passionate about creating positive change in their community, Kyra and Johnna showed the award-winning documentary **BAG IT! Is Your Life Too Plastic?** at the September 22 event for WCC's **Changing CO₂urse** series.



Through such education efforts and awareness actions, Myra and Johnna are working to create a network of advocates ready to lobby for the cause. Their ultimate goal is to introduce legislation in City Council to implement a five-cent fee on single-use bags. This will greatly reduce the city's plastic waste and rank us among a growing network of cities worldwide taking similar progressive steps to create a greener world.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

A BUSY FALL: CITY CONVERSATIONS AND PUBLIC FORUMS

WORKING TO SECURE A MORE JUST AND LIVABLE CITY

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First of the City Conversations: Rev. Paula Jackson speaks on the many ways of serving the immigrant population



Jeff Dey, Ruth Cronenberg, Rev. Paula, and Mary Wells

It was a small crowd due to competing election 2013 events, but for those who attended it was eye opening and moving. Many of the immigrants that Reverend Paula Jackson deals with are in much more dire straits than the young "dreamers" we have met before. Many emigrated from an area in Northern Guatemala and neighboring Mexico - desperately poor and not even particularly fluent in Spanish, as the indigenous native American language is their primary tongue.

Rev. Paula's church, Church of Our Saviour, is a few blocks from the WCC office but most of the Latinos come from Price Hill. They come because the church provides transportation which closer churches don't. Church of Our Saviour serves meals every Sunday for no charge.

Rev. Paula talked about the current immigration reform bill languishing in the US House of Representatives and says she supports it despite its glaring imperfections. (Most glaring for her is the requirement that candidates for citizenship have incomes above the poverty line. Ironical, no, when their lack of documentation is what has kept them poor?) She has spent quite a bit of time at House Speaker John Boehner's office urging his support, but to date has not met him, just his staff. She urged us to join the demonstrations. ~ Marty Harrington

Style & Steps for OTS

A Benefit for Off The Streets

A Cincinnati Union Bethel program that helps women move from prostitution toward safety, recovery, and community reintegration.

Wednesday, November 13

6:30-9:00 pm

Location: Macy's Fountain Place, 505 Vine St.

For more information and to register, visit
www.cinunionbethel.org

First Forum Maloney and Auffrey report on Demographic Trends in Cincinnati: Familiar, Surprising and Worrisome



Auffrey and Maloney with President Susan Noonan

An eager audience in mid-October came to hear scholars Michael Maloney and Christopher Auffrey share the results of their recently published fifth edition of *The Social Areas of Cincinnati* and to learn about significant trends from 1970 to 2007-2009. The social areas are four groups of census tracts ranked on an index of Social Economic Status (SES) that includes income, education, housing overcrowding, family structure, and occupation. One trend is the increase in poverty in Cincinnati, from 12.8 percent in 1970 to 20 percent in 2009. (In 2011, it had increased to 30 percent, in part a consequence of the recession.)

During this period the unemployment rate has doubled or almost doubled in all social areas. The African-American population has increased 11.2 percent, and is more likely to live in middle class neighborhoods, several of which have become more integrated. However, there continues to be a disproportional concentration of African Americans in lower SES neighborhoods.

Many neighborhoods have both substantially lower and higher SES ranks than in 1970. Family structure has changed dramatically; the proportion of children living in two-parent families has dropped in all social areas: In 1970 the proportion ranged from 71% to 83%. In 2009, it ranged from 22.9% to 69%.

To learn more about Maloney and Auffrey's findings, their conclusions and recommendations, you can find the full report at www.socialareasofcincinnati.org/.

Second of the City Conversations: PRIVATE PRISONS FOR PROFIT ... And NOT-FOR-PROFIT

A rapt audience participated in a fascinating City Conversation on Ohio's adult and youth prisons, led by award-winning civil rights attorney Alphonse Gerhardstein on October 15.



Over the past four decades, imprisonment in the United States has increased explosively, spurred by criminal laws that put more people in prison for longer sentences. At the same time, the nation has seen the rise of for-profit prison companies, which too often have little incentive to rehabilitate and treat prisoners, train competent staff or indeed provide adequate staffing. They benefit from keeping people locked up. But, Gerhardstein argued, public prisons are also too often problematic with similar issues. Both can become schools for criminals and addicts. Some recent reforms to help "returning citizens" show promise.

To show another, actually hopeful face of private prisons, Al brought with him Kevin Lynch of Lighthouse Youth Services who described its private *not for profit* "prison," Paint Creek, a model of a supportive and effective program. Paint Creek is a residential rehabilitation center for male adolescents ages 15-18, at admission, who have been adjudicated delinquent for crimes that would be considered a felony one or two for an adult offender.

When we asked "what can we do," Kevin made the following suggestions:

Go to lunch: Lighthouse sponsors Community Lunches every month where staff, clients and the community share a meal and honor struggles and celebrate accomplishments.

Mentor: Lighthouse can use volunteers to do group mentoring on a topic that they may have skill in such as money management, self-presentation/ promotion, health/insurance/ system, taxes, etc....

Help with a Job! Lighthouse seeks out businesses willing to hire one or two of our young men, provide training, and mentor them.

Have Fun! Volunteer ideas and resources to promote pro-social opportunities for the young men.

People should feel free to contact Kevin with any ideas or questions at 513-487-7117.

Two Collaborative Forums Presented Innovative Ways of Evaluating Candidates

Woman's City Club was a co-sponsor of two well attended candidate events with innovative structures that involved the audience, gave candidates an opportunity to showcase their skills and knowledge, and helped voters decide who among the many candidates deserved their votes.

In September, the Rookwood Group used an interactive design to let candidates demonstrate their skill in listening and working together. The purpose was to help voters pick which candidates vying to lead the city are most likely to be effective serving on Council in the new four-year term environment. Audience members shared their perspectives on neighborhood development, working in small groups with candidates.



The event was covered by the press. Find the article in UC's *News Record* by going to www.newsrecord.org and searching on "city council candidate forum." The *Cincinnati Enquirer* article is at cincinnati.com/blogs/politics/2013/09/24/at-council-candidate-forum-residents-do-some-of-the-talking/

In October, Parents for Public Schools joined with several civic organizations, including WCC, to present an opportunity for the nine candidates for the Cincinnati Public



Schools board of education to respond to questions both from the organizers, the moderator and the audience. Newscaster and historian Dan Hurley, a splendid moderator, asked each candidate different questions submitted by audience members and masterfully juggled requests for additional response time.



INTRODUCING A NEW GENERATION TO WCC

The Woman's City Club has joined forces with the League of Women Voters to launch a one-year joint membership for young women and men 18 to 35 years old. Introducing a new generation of members to the work of our venerable organizations will help sustain both clubs' future with a surge of fresh young energy. In return, the new young members will benefit from nearly two centuries of experience as

represented by both clubs, broader opportunities for peer and intergenerational networking, access to community leaders, a chance to study and develop a point of view on city issues, and a solid platform upon which to become active participants in civic affairs.

The new ACT ONE members have been chosen based on essay submissions from a diversity of active young professionals, students and interns, social workers, assistants to council members, all who are deeply committed and already involved in securing a more just and livable community and influencing public policy.

Working collaboratively, the planners from the Membership committees of both organizations – Melissa Currence, Susan Steele, Mary Wells, Joy Haupt, and Jeanne Nightingale–have invited ACT ONE members to convene on Wednesday evening, November 6 at 6:30 pm in the Geier Room to share concerns and organize new projects and programs around these concerns. WCC and LVW are assigning “partners” to our new members so that we can share our experiences and aspirations on a personal level and side by side translate our dreams into action. We welcome volunteers from both organizations to become partners in this exciting new initiative.

WCC HOSTS LUNCH AT VENICE ON VINE TO GATHER DONATIONS FOR ROTHENBERG ACADEMY



Several times a year, Ruth Cronenberg and Marge Davis invite WCC members and friends to lunch at Venice on Vine, a job training restaurant in Over-the-Rhine (on Vine before Vine was cool!) Participants are encouraged to bring along a contribution to support a named worthy cause.

On a warm day in September this year, we gathered to eat the wonderful lunch-time food and bring items for Rothenberg Academy, where WCC also sponsors a literacy tutoring program for kindergartners. The items requested were school supplies and uniforms and we were, as usual, generous!

CURRENT WCC BOARD & OFFICERS

Susan Noonan (President)
Stephanie Stoller (Secretary)
Nancy Lu Walters (Treasurer)
Jeanne Nightingale (VP Civic Engagement)
Lori Nuckolls (VP Program)
Barbara Elleman (VP Administration)

Joni Baker
Janet Buening
Ruth Cronenberg
Marge Davis
Carole Donnelly

Sarah Gideonse
Cheryl Meadows
Helen O'Neal
Mary Owens
Cindy Rowland ~ See page 2

SAVE-THE- DATE

The Woman's City Club

Cordially Invites You to Our

**ANNUAL
"FEIST-TEA" TEA**



Mark your calendar

December 8, 2013

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Join us in Celebrating four Feisty Women!

**At The Barrington of Oakley
Cincinnati, Ohio**

Contact information: Ruth Cronenberg
Woman's City Club: 513-751-0100
wcc@WomansCityClub.org
Website: WomansCityClub.org

Fundraiser: 501 c (3)



Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati

103 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Phone: 513-751-0100

Fax: 513-751-0100

wcc@womanscityclub.org

www.womanscityclub.org

The mission of the Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati is to secure a more just and livable community for all. WCC programs educate, encourage, and equip citizens to play an active role in civic affairs. Committed to promoting diversity and inclusiveness, the organization reaches out to collaborate with other community organizations in the city and work toward shared goals. See www.womanscityclub.org for more information.

Calendar of WCC Events

Wednesday 11-06-13

Act One Organizing Meeting

6:30 pm

Location: The Geier Room, Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 Wm H Taft.

See page 11

Wednesday 11-13-13

Style & Steps ~ Benefit for Off The Streets

6:30-9:00 pm

Location: Macy's downtown. See page 9

Tuesday 11-19-13

Public Forum US Attorney Carter Stewart: "The School-to-Prison Pipeline"

7:00 pm

Location: First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton St

See page 1

Thursday 11-21-13

Dress For Success Shopping Party at the 4th Street Boutique

5:30-7:00 pm

Location: 209 West Fourth St., downtown

See page 5

Sunday 11-24-13

Changing CO₂urseries: A Right To Know What's In Our Food ~ With Alison Auciello

7:00-9:00 pm

Location: St John's UU Church, 320 Resor Ave.

See page 7

Sunday 12-8-13

FEIST-TEA Celebrating Feisty Women

1:30 - 5:00 pm

Location: The Barrington of Oakley

See page 3

Sunday 12-22-13

Changing CO₂urseries: Screening of A Place at the Table

7:00-9:00 pm

Location: St John's UU Church, 320 Resor Ave.

See page 7

Saturday 1-24-14

WCC Book Club: Leaning In

10:00 am

Location: 2570 Madison Rd., Apt. 20. Hyde Park

See page 6

Sunday 01-26-14

Changing CO₂urseries: Saving the Planet ... With Your Fork!

7:00-9:00 pm

Location: St John's UU Church, 320 Resor Ave.

See page 7

Thursday 03-13-14

National Speaker 2014: Candy Crowley

7:30 pm

Location: Hyde Park United Methodist Church, 1345 Grace Ave., Hyde Park 45208

See page 3

This e-Bulletin, together with emailed Weekly Updates, our Facebook page and our website at www.womanscityclub.org, keeps our membership connected.

The next issue of the Bulletin will appear in January, 2014. The deadline for copy will be December 28, 2013 (word limit 250 words).



Sarah Gideonse, Managing Editor
Jeanne Nightingale, Assistant Editor
Marty Harrington, Layout Editor



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Facebook

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