



**CANDIDATE
NIGHT**

MAYORAL FORUM

OUR MISSION: Woman's City Club is committed to building a strong Greater Cincinnati community through educating, empowering, and engaging all citizens to participate in promoting the common good.

OUR VISION: We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future.

OUR VALUES: Collaboration — Citizen Empowerment — Lead Constructive Lives — A Thriving City of the Future.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC FORUM

**Candidates for Cincinnati Mayor
Talk about Affordable Housing and Racial Equity**

March 31 at 6:30 pm

**Our Zoom registration for this event is now filled
but you will be able to watch a livecast on Facebook.**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1073592606479105>

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2021 is an exciting year for Cincinnati voters: In November, they will choose a new mayor and a new City Council. Since only two people can run for mayor and six men are running, the City is holding a primary on May 5. The two men with the highest votes will be on the November ballot.

To help voters choose, Woman's City Club, League of Women Voters, Cincinnati Area, and Action Tank are co-convening a non-partisan public forum March 31 featuring the six candidates. The conversation will focus on the longstanding issues of racial equity and affordable housing. In the past year, the local response to the police killing of George Floyd, protests about the lack of affordable housing in new developments and displacement brought these issues to the forefront of policy discussions.

The candidates participating in the forum are: Gavi Begtrup, David Mann, Herman Napoli, Aftab Pureval, Raffel Prophet, and Cecil Thomas.

The event is funded in part by a grant from ArtsWave to Action Tank. An amazing number of organizations are cosponsors:



Woman's City Club welcomes new members. Visit our website, www.womanscityclub.org, to learn more about us and how to join.

~ Sarah Gideonse



WOMAN'S CITY CLUB ZOOMS ALONG!

The last year has brought many challenges to us all, including Woman's City Club. Thank goodness we live in a digital age in which we can connect online for free on Zoom. During the pandemic, we've presented all our informative programs on Zoom, and although we miss meeting in person, there has been a silver lining—attendance at our events has grown vastly. We are reaching many more people.

A pair of informative forums in January and February on the Affordable Housing Crisis attracted nearly 200 registrants each, far more than would typically gather in Geier Hall at the Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church. Not only that, but the recordings of these programs enable us to reach even more people. Last week a recording of our program on the Charter Amendment to Fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund was shared with an officer of the Cincinnati Business Committee.

Under the leadership of Laurie Frank, our Feist Tea celebration adapted to Zoom surprisingly well. With expert technical help from Jeff Dey, attendees enjoyed entertaining videos of past presidents and Feist Tea honorees set to music. Our presenters inspired us with their introductions of this year's honorees, who in turn, offered fresh insights about their feelings about Woman's City Club and the greater community. Nearly 50 attended and participants were able to chat in an online reception after the presentations, creating a sense of warmth and camaraderie.

The National Speaker Forum will also be on Zoom. Although it's been postponed until May 18, uncertainty about how vaccinations will proceed make it risky to attempt an in-person lecture and reception. Author Denise Kiernan will present from her home in Asheville, NC. The donor reception will be different from past years, but the committee is considering ways to enable personal



interaction between Kiernan and our supporters.

All of our success on Zoom raises the question of whether we should continue to use it after the pandemic. While we all look forward to the day when we can gather in person again, the prospect of maintaining and growing our greater audience makes me think we need to continue online offerings in some form. As Woman's City Club Zooms along, it keeps up with the times, as it has for over a century.

~ Beth Sullebarger

GREAT TAX ADVANTAGE FOR GIVING

If you are 70 ½ or older, you are eligible for a great tax break! Since your IRA was not subject to an RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) in 2020, your 2020 YEAR-END BALANCE is higher than it normally would have been if you were required to take a distribution (RMD).

To help lower the taxable RMD for 2021, now is a wonderful time to consider the **WCC Annual Fund** for an early donation. How is it tax advantaged donating from your IRA? Glad you asked!

Your donations directly to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization from your IRA count as part of your RMD BUT ARE NOT CONSIDERED TAXABLE INCOME.

I have personally been employing this strategy for a number of years, and it really helps to reduce my taxes.

IT IS A WIN, WIN FOR YOU AND WOMAN'S CITY CLUB!

~ Marcia Togneri, VP for Finance
Certified Financial Planner, retired



ELEVENTH ANNUAL FEIST TEA



Mary Edith Campbell
First WCC President

The 11th Annual Feist Tea celebration and fundraiser held as a virtual event on Sunday, February 28th, was a lively, interactive, and relaxed celebration of this year's feisty honorees as well as previous honorees, past presidents, and new members.

The Tea opened with a trip down memory lane—a slide show of past Feist Tea events followed by a photo collection of past presidents dating back to 1915—and a warm welcome to twenty-four new WCC members. Three remarkable and feisty WCC members who embody the club's mission to educate, empower, and engage, were honored during the afternoon's event. Here are some highlights of the tribute to the 2020 honorees: **Deborah Allsop, Carole Donnelly, and Stephanie Stoller.**

DEBORAH ALLSOP

Introduced by Helen O'Neal

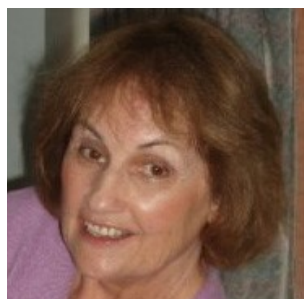
Deborah moved to Cincinnati in 1973 to attend the University of Cincinnati's Graduate School of Community Planning. Deborah's willingness to take risks and her determination to achieve her goals was evident even then: she purchased a one-way ticket with no plans to return to her hometown.

Spending her entire professional career here in Cincinnati, Deborah was first employed by the United Way as a manager in the Allocations Division, working with a variety of agencies involved with senior citizens and children. She is currently the Executive Director of Families Forward (formerly Children Protective Services), a United Way agency that serves children and their families in several Cincinnati Public Schools. This agency provides staff to assist at-risk children primarily through after-school programs as well as offer opportunities for children to attend cultural events.

Deborah's other activities

include being elected to the Wyoming City School Board for more than 17 years. She also served as a representative to the "Oaks" board, a member of the Coordinated Daycare Committee (a forerunner of a number of childcare initiatives), an advocate for affordable accessible quality childcare services, and was appointed to the Pre-School Promise Board by Cincinnati Public Schools. She is an active member on several of her church's committees.

Deborah has received recognition as a Career Woman of Achievement and, most recently, was named as one of the 2019 Enquirer Outstanding Women of the Year.



CAROLE DONNELLY

Introduced by Beverly Thomas

Carole, described by Beverly Thomas as lively, determined, and courageous, reflects WCC's determination to educate, empower, and engage in every aspect of her life. Carole received

her degree in what used to be called Speech Correction, now known as Speech Audiology and Pathology. Relocating to Cincinnati with her husband, she went on to specialize in education for the deaf at the University of Cincinnati and to work at Hamilton County Educational Service Center (HCESC) following receipt of her master's degree.

Carole then went on to earn a PhD in Speech Pathology, supervising Speech and Pathology majors participating in field

experiences in Speech Pathology. Actively involved in speech organizations locally, statewide, and nationally, she also served as president of regional and state Speech Pathology organizations.

Upon retiring from her professional career, she was not one to really "retire," but instead moved on to other areas of passion and focus, including serving on the board at St. Rita's School for the Deaf, serving on the Interfaith Hospitality Network as a board member and as president, and volunteering in visitor services at the Cincinnati Art Museum as well as serving on a committee focusing upon diversity and inclusion at its summer camp. Attracted to the vision of WCC's focus on promoting a just and sustainable community and its dedicated and passionate members, Carole has served on the WCC board, chaired the National Speaker Forum Committee for four years, and currently serves on the Finance Committee.

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ELEVENTH ANNUAL FEIST TEA

STEPHANIE STOLLER

Introduced by Susan Noonan

Stephanie's determination, perseverance, and risk-taking revealed itself at an early age. Graduating from the University of Cincinnati's College of Pharmacy, Stephanie views her career choice as one of the feistiest decisions she has ever made, since she chose a field not common to women at that time. She joined her husband as a pharmacist in running a family apothecary, and together they transitioned from owning a pharmacy to selling supplies to drugstores by mail-order, a business they continue to run today.

In 1973 Stephanie was appointed to Blue Ash City Council and subsequently won elections and served for 44 years. She will tell you that her favorite part was running the mayor's court, having served the city as both vice mayor and mayor. Proud of her role in helping to develop the city of

Blue Ash into what it is today, she continues to advocate for individuals to run for political office or get involved behind the scenes.

Stephanie's other activities include serving on the Blue Ash-Montgomery Symphony board, Planned Parenthood, Cincinnati Association's Executive Committee, Women's Political Caucus, League of Women Voter board, Village Green Garden Club, and of course WCC where she has served on the board, the National Speaker Forum Committee, and the Seasongood Luncheon Committee. When asked what makes her feisty, she replied she has always shown a playful tendency to cause mischief, but in a good way.



On behalf of the Feist Tea Committee, we would like to thank all of you who attended and supported the Tea and the honorees. Your generous donations, in honor of these remarkable women and the mission and vision of the WCC, serve to support the ongoing work, programs, and operations of the Woman's City Club.

*Laurie Frank, Chair
Feist Tea Committee*

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE MANY DONATIONS MADE BY THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

Deborah Allsop	Jeff Dey	Amy Katzman	Wendell O'Neal
James Allsop	Michelle Dillingham	Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney	Francie Pepper
Jane Anderson	Carole Donnelly	Sandra Kohn	Roxanne Qualls
Mary Asbury	Carolyn Egan	Nina Lewis	Susan Redman-Rengstorf
Annie Bennett	Laurie Frank	Rhonda Holyfield-Mangieri	Suzanne Richmond
Jaime Bitzenhofer	Sarah Gideonse	Michael Maloney	Alice Schneider
Jill Bley	Louise Gomer Bangel	Kathy Mank	Jean Sepate
Charlotte Brooks	Carole Cutter-Hawkins	Kathryn McCord	Jan Seymour
Janet Buening	Joy Haupt	Sharon McCreary	Stephanie Stoller
Linda Callard	Kathleen Hebbeler	Leslie McNeill	Beth Sullebarger
Dot Christenson	Renee Hevia	Cheryl Meadows	Thelma Thomas
Julie Cionni	Martha Highsmith	LaVerne Mitchell	Marcia Togneri
Ruth Cronenberg	Jo-Ann Huff Albers	Barbara Myers	Janet Walsh
Melissa Currence	Chara Jackson	Susan Noonan	Mary Wells



PERSPECTIVES ON THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO FUND THE CITY'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

IN A VIRTUAL FORUM HOSTED BY WOMAN'S CITY CLUB
ON FEBRUARY 18, LOCAL HOUSING EXPERTS SHARED A GOAL TO EXPAND
AFFORDABLE HOUSING BUT DIFFERED ON HOW TO ACHIEVE IT.

Almost one third of Cincinnatians cannot afford their housing, said WCC president Beth Sullebarger as she briefly reviewed the crisis highlighted in January's WCC forum, "Filling the Gap: Successful Initiatives in Affordable Housing." Two years ago, Cincinnati City Council established an Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF), but it has been unable to identify adequate funding streams. In response, community advocates have placed a charter amendment on the May ballot that would require the City to allocate \$50 million annually to the AHTF.

Peg Fox, Executive Director of Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati (MARCC), described the history of the AHTF committee and the problem of creating an unfunded ordinance. The charter amendment requires funding the AHTF with the city budget and stipulates that all funds be used to create housing affordable to households with income at or below 60% of median household income for Hamilton County. In addition, Fox said, the amendment would create a volunteer-run community oversight board.

The charter amendment supporters want to avoid a temporary solution or inadequate funding of the AHTF, said **Matt Strauss**, Chair of the Endorsement Committee of Cincinnati Action for Housing Now campaign. The initial ordinance intentionally did not mandate a funding source and consequently it has no consistent funding. A big misconception, Strauss said, is that the committee wants the city to carve \$50 million out of the existing budget. Instead, it suggests various funding streams and allows the city to choose the funding source provided it does not raise taxes specifically for the AHTF.

Because the ordinance creating a decision-making body for the AHTF was never passed, Strauss explained, the amendment would create a community oversight board, composed of various agencies and community members, to approve project proposals.



Matt Strauss

He said all workers on this project, which will create up to 500 new or updated units per year, will be paid a livable wage. No more than 5% of funds will be used to administer the fund, and additional benefits include creating a small landlord loan program and allocating funds to cover legal representation in eviction proceedings.

Strauss enumerated multiple safety benefits of building affordable housing. In lower-income neighborhoods it decreases crime and segregation and in higher-income neighborhoods it does not raise the crime rate, he said. It also reduces police and fire runs, creates less burden on housing inspectors, leads to fewer nuisance housing cases in court, and creates better health outcomes.

Dot Christenson, retired Director of the Better Housing League, explained that while she has worked since 1970 for fair and affordable housing, she opposes this amendment because it does not belong in the charter, the city's constitution. The AHTF is a policy statement and a function assigned to a city department, not a fundamental constitutional principle. Also, she believes a specific dollar amount should never be in the charter, as it would be difficult to alter as circumstances change.

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PERSPECTIVES ON THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO FUND THE CITY'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND



Dot Christenson

(continued)

Furthermore, Christenson said, Cincinnati's budget has not been structurally balanced for years and specialized funds such as those suggested by amendment supporters are already used to offset deficits. Mandating \$50 million per year for the trust fund would lead to personnel layoffs or service cuts.

The charter amendment is an unfunded mandate because it forbids raising taxes.

Another concern is that no elected official would be responsible for trust fund operations or appointments to the oversight board, she said. Specifying in the charter which organizations can participate could become problematic if an agency goes out of business. Also, volunteers may be legally prohibited from overseeing civil service workers, and board members could have a conflict of interest if their organizations are applying for funding.

Christenson noted that affordable housing is now a prominent political topic. Hamilton County is finalizing a multi-year affordable housing plan, and federal funding for housing is likely to increase significantly. The City of Cincinnati Consolidated 2020 Annual Action Plan should be updated, and the city needs to bring together corporations, foundations, and nonprofits to address poverty, starting with housing.

Kathy Schwab, retired Executive Director of LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), said federal and local affordable-housing policies can accomplish a lot. The federal Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2019 proposes to increase housing tax credit by 50%. Over the last 10 years, Hamilton County got several mixed- and low-income development deals out of these tax credits. We could double production of affordable housing just with new policy.

Locally, citywide tax abatement is the single biggest tool a city can use to incentivize developers to add affordable housing to every development. Affordable housing must be done by public/private partnerships with city money as grant money. Schwab listed several examples including Detroit, where the mayor committed \$5 million from block grant money to affordable housing. This spurred \$250 million in private money going to the preservation of 10,000 existing units and the creation of 2,000 new units.

Schwab concluded that we should not underestimate how we can affect policy change in government, but we cannot depend on the city alone. She said Cincinnati should follow its **Housing Our Future** strategy, which provides a blueprint for the city to use public money to leverage private dollars so the entire region can work together to fund affordable housing.

In responding to each other, the speakers expressed their mutual desire to spur action on affordable housing. Dot Christenson agreed that we cannot leave it up to city to solve the crisis and Matt Strauss said that the charter amendment is not the only way to address the issue. He and Peg Fox explained that the committee selected the charter amendment to force action on the issue after years of inadequate funding and limited action.

David Siders, WCC Vice President of Civic Engagement, concluded the forum by moderating a substantive discussion. The entire forum can be viewed at: [link to video](#).

~ Patty Kelly

This forum was cosponsored by Cincinnati Development Fund, Cincinnati Association, and the League of Women Voters, Cincinnati Area.



Kathy Schwab



WOMAN'S CITY CLUB CALLS FOR CITY ACTION TO END THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CRISIS IN CINCINNATI

The City of Cincinnati is critically lacking in affordable housing, with estimates of the number of affordable units needed ranging as high as 28,000. In recent years, incentives and tax abatements have been given to develop large commercial and high-end residential projects, while little has been done to develop affordable housing that costs 30% or less of household income. A charter amendment to mandate the expenditure of \$50 million annually for affordable housing will be on the May 4, 2021 ballot. City Council is currently considering policies to direct future community development.

Since its founding in 1915, Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati (WCC) has been steadfast in seeking clean, safe housing for all citizens. On March 18, 2021, WCC passed this resolution in support of increasing affordable housing in the City of Cincinnati:

For Cincinnati to become a city that embraces equity and inclusion, it must dedicate both action and funds to the development of affordable housing to ensure that residents of all income levels can find a home or rental unit in each of the City's 52 neighborhoods.

In keeping with its vision of a just and sustainable community, WCC:

- Affirms its own commitment to work through its Social Justice Action Group to provide public forums for discussion and planning; to lobby for City development of affordable housing; and to actively support organizations and initiatives that are building or renovating affordable housing units;



- Urges Cincinnati City Council, the City Manager, and the Mayor to make development of affordable housing a visible priority in 2022; to fully implement the charter amendment if it passes; and to act swiftly to develop affordable housing and additional means to achieve it;
- Urges City Council, the City Manager, the Mayor, and appropriate City departments to review affordable housing [programs and initiatives](#) that have proven successful in cities such as [Columbus, OH](#), [Baltimore, MD](#), and [Minneapolis, MN](#), and to incorporate these best practices into its own community development plans; and
- Further urges City Council to respect consensus-based community council decisions and resolutions regarding affordable housing and development.

~ Beth Sullebarger



INSIGHTS AND INNOVATIONS: CITY, COUNTY, AND SUBURBAN POLICING

APRIL 20, 6:30 pm

[Register here to receive Zoom link](#)



Charmaine McGuffey

POLICE DEPARTMENTS EVERYWHERE CONTINUE TO FACE THE CHALLENGE OF CARRYING OUT THEIR CHARGE TO ASSURE COMMUNITY SAFETY WHILE PROVIDING FAIR AND EQUITABLE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

The community is also asking that more public funds be allocated to addressing the causes of criminal activity—like drug addiction, poverty, mental illness, and unemployment to keep people out of jail. So it's a good time to hear from our local police leadership about the issues they face in law enforcement and their vision for the future.



Rickell Howard Smith

Charmaine McGuffey, the newly elected Hamilton County Sheriff and the first woman in that role, has promised "accountability, transparency and reform."

For Cincinnati Police Chief Eliot Isaacs, 2020 was a tough year, dealing with civic disorder in response to the killing of George Floyd and calls for police defunding.

Rickell Howard Smith is the Executive Director of Urban League's new Center for Social Justice. The center serves as the "regional catalyst for collaborative police reform efforts between communities and police departments in Southwest Ohio."



Eliot Isaacs



A CONVERSATION WITH GABE DAVIS OF THE CINCINNATI CITIZENS COMPLAINT AUTHORITY

MAY 10, 6:30 pm

[Registration information and Zoom link TBA](#)



"We will give our citizens what they deserve, a voice — as well as what they demand — a watch dog."

As a follow-up to last fall's forum on the Collaborative Agreement Refresh, WCC is pleased to present Gabe Davis, the executive director of the Cincinnati Citizens Complaint Authority (CCA), a key component for carrying out the Collaborative Agreement. He is a former assistant prosecuting attorney in Manhattan and worked for several years in Washington prosecuting hate crimes before returning to his home town.

The CCA is the civil oversight agency with the legal authority to investigate complaints against Cincinnati Police Department officers, identify patterns in complaints, and issue training and policy recommendations to improve policing and minimize future complaints. The CCA had been underfunded for several years with a large backlog of cases and without a director for several months when Mr. Davis took office last September to reinvigorate the agency as part of the Collaborative Agreement Refresh.

At the time the Cincinnati Enquirer's Sharon Coolidge reported that Mr. Davis pledged the agency would become the "gold standard" in police review.

Mr. Davis will talk about the new energy he has brought to the CCA's leadership, the fundamentals of how it is currently working, and its latest activities. There will be ample time for audience questions and comments.



RECYCLE REUSE REDUCE

NEW!

CINCINNATI RECYCLING & REUSE HUB TURNS TRASH INTO TREASURE

What do you get when you combine a year of quarantine, four feet of snow (followed by gorgeous spring weather), and the usual springtime urge to de-clutter and organize?

You get a mountain of junk that seems to have nowhere to go!



Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub

Eco-conscious Cincinnatians often feel conflicted about throwing things away that might have a use somewhere, or tossing recyclables in the trash that aren't accepted by local facilities for processing.

Even if the items we purge end up at the standard donation centers, their future is uncertain. Warehouses can house only so much stock. Only quality items in good condition will resell. Some stuff just isn't usable anymore. Or is it?

The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub is a nonprofit organization providing a "one stop" drop-off location for items that can be recycled and reused, but that can't go into traditional recycling bins. Learn more about what they accept. Their mission is to revolutionize how people think about "things" and to provide a place where almost anything can be recycled or reused.

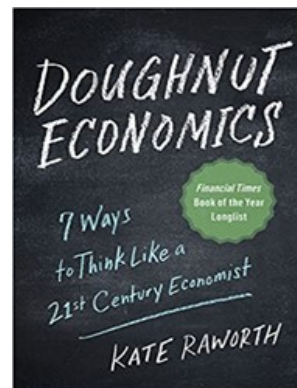
Rain or shine. Residents from all areas of the Tri-State are encouraged to bring their electronic items for recycling. Almost all electronics accepted, including TVs, household appliances (refrigerators, washers, dryers, microwaves, etc.), cell phones, game systems, e-readers, computers and accessories (keyboards, mice, etc.), VCRs, DVD/CD players, fax machines, copiers, satellite components, wires, and more.



TIPS FOR GROWING THE GREEN ECONOMY

- Buy sweatshop free clothing and support fair labor practices.
- Reduce and Reuse: Buy second-hand clothing or organize a clothing swap.
- Buy Fair Trade clothing: Look for artisan cooperatives and Indigenous Designs.
- Look for the UNITE label (Union-made apparel).
- Browse the *National Green Pages* for green, healthy and ethically produced products.
- Read: "Ethical Markets: Growing the Green Economy" by Hazel Anderson.
- Read: "Doughnut Economics" by Kate Raworth.

"I see Raworth as the John Maynard Keynes of the 21st century: By reframing the economy, she allows us to change our view of who we are, where we stand, and what we want to be." (George Monbiot, *The Guardian*)



COMING UP! ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DROP-OFF EVENT! SATURDAY, APRIL 10 at 10 am

Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub
911 Evans St. Cincinnati OH 45204

Tickets are not required, but see our website for more details: www.cincinnatiarecyclingandreusehub.org,
Email cintirecyclingandreusehub@gmail.com, or call 513-538-3798 for more details.



NEW LEGISLATION TO TACKLE PLASTIC POLLUTION

WCC ENDORSES BOLD NEW FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO TACKLE PLASTIC POLLUTION

The Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act will be reintroduced in Congress in 2021. This is the most important piece of federal legislation since the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) was passed in 1976, and enforced starting in 1991. While the RCRA ended open dumping of municipal solid waste and imposed strict regulations for landfills, the Breaking Free bill would impose profound changes in an attempt to rein in the proliferation of plastic waste and its impact on air, land and water resources, as well as on human life.

You can take action in support of the bill by signing our action alert for the [Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act](#). The bills ([H.R. 5845](#) and [S. 3263](#)) currently have 29 co-sponsors in the House and 6 co-sponsors in the Senate. Your help is needed to generate more support. Here's a link looking for endorsements from organizations:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfDgNNcNqhhsXt8fCakccrK9pg3gGcFoaPM8ybjbbdeBH7g/viewform?gxids=7628>

The proposed legislation would phase out unnecessary single-use plastic products, hold corporations accountable for wasteful products, declare a temporary moratorium on new virgin plastic production, reduce wasteful packaging, restrict exports of plastic, ban single use plastic food service items, and reform our broken waste and recycling collection system.

A CALL TO REPEAL HB6!

By repealing HB 6, we can:

- Restore confidence in the ethics of Ohio legislation
- Restore Ohio electric energy efficiency standards
- Restore and enhance Ohio's sustainable energy goals
- End ratepayer-funded subsidies to obsolete, polluting coal plants
- Remove unrealistic permitting and regulation of wind and solar power
- Encourage renewable energy in Ohio to benefit the environment and create new jobs

Call Governor DeWine: 614-644-4357 and tell him to make the repeal of HB 6 a top priority!

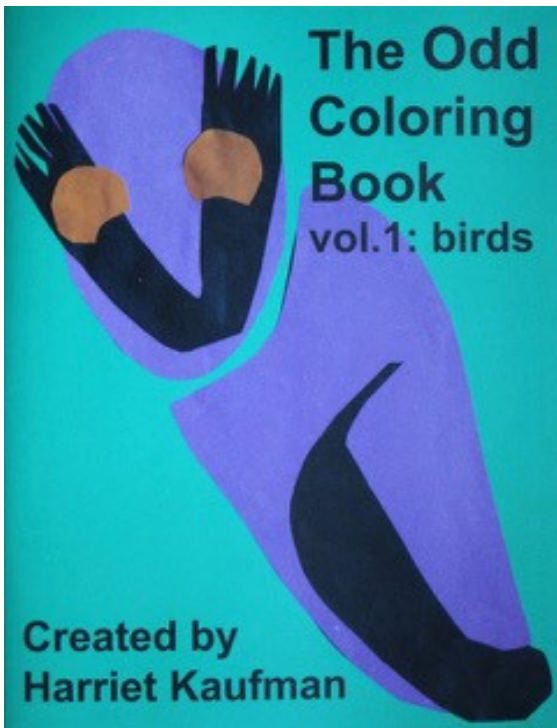
<https://ohiocapitaljournal.com/2021/02/24/critics-take-aim-at-hb-6-coal-subsidies/>



~ Jeanne Nightingale, Chair
Environmental Action Group



MEMBER PUBLICATIONS



HARRIET KAUFMAN'S THE ODD COLORING BOOK IS PRINTED AND READY FOR SALE!

An accomplished sculptor and sought-out photographer, Harriet began experimenting with collage while staying home this past year during the pandemic. She “created unusual shapes, combined unusual colors, and used space and form in unusual ways.” She often used birds as models, and the collages made people smile.

With the encouragement and support of friends, Harriet transformed 32 collages into outlines and created *The Odd Coloring Book*. The bright cover shows an original collage whose outline version is included. In addition to the pleasure children and indeed people of all ages will derive from it, the simplicity of the outline drawings can be an art tool for people suffering from dementia and other disorders.

Sales will be divided equally between the WCC and Making Sense of Language Arts (MSLA), a multi-sensory tutoring program for kindergarteners. Developed by Linda Wihl, MSLA is an effective program for kids who are having difficulty learning to read. WCC sponsored the program in two elementary schools, providing funding and tutors. MSLA is now being converted from a one-on-one in-person tutoring program into online distance learning tools.

TESTIMONIALS TELL THE STORY:

My first thought when I saw the large shapes of the birds was that they would be a great art tool for people with dementia/Alzheimer's. Having been involved with Alzheimer's Memories in The Making - art done by people with Alzheimer's - for years, I know this will work.

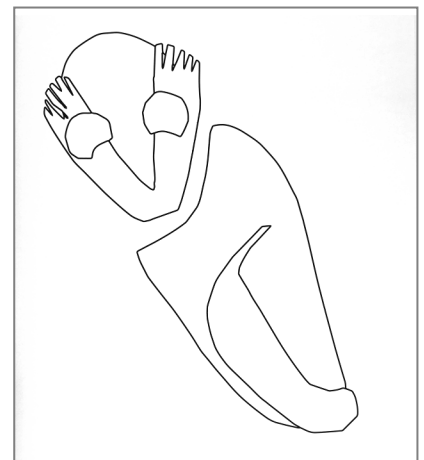
Susan B. Noonan, Activist, Cincinnati, Ohio

I am interested in seeing what happens when an old woman (me), who loves bright colors, is given the opportunity to fill in the lines of such lively and lovely fellows which you created.

Elizabeth Sroka, Hamburg, Germany

What a wonderful array of feathered friends with personalities to match...this coloring book is for everyone!

Eileen Cooper Reed, Community Elder, Cincinnati, Ohio



Priced at \$10, the book can be ordered online from the WCC website, <http://womanscityclub.org> (media page) with a \$4 surcharge for shipping and tax, or you can come by the office with a check for \$10. Office hours are M/W/F, 10 am to 2 pm.



WCC BOARD MEMBER PROFILE

Our board member Sharon McCreary is a proud native of Cincinnati, Ohio. She is also proud to have been an educator for almost 50 years, hired by Rossman Turpeau on April 4, 1972, shortly after graduating from Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio. She had attended Woodward High School and graduated during another time of monumental change in the United States, 1968. Sharon also received a Master's Degree in Reading and certification in Montessori Education. In 2001, she received an Educational Administration certification.

Sharon has been an active volunteer:

- A membership activity with the Gems and Academy of Delta Sigma Theta in a Black History Quiz Bowl
- Work with the young men in the E.M.B.O.D.I. program (Empowering Males to Build Opportunities for Developing Independence). She was involved with their Agility Academic Camp to sharpen boys ages 13-17, in math, vocabulary and narrative writing for the ACT test.
- Several projects with the Cincinnati Chapter of Chums, Inc., whose motto is "Listen to the Children....enhance their lives." This last pandemic year they have worked with Bethany House supplying families with personal needs. Sharon has served as the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for several years. Chums has given over \$15,000.00 to area graduating high school seniors during that time, a huge feat for a small group of women.
- In the past, she has worked with the Kennedy Heights Community Council, with The Caring Place pantry, and with Juneteenth with Lydia Morgan.

Sharon says she stands on the shoulders of so many women and men that have supported her in her life. She is the oldest of a family of ten children. When she was 14, her mother died of breast cancer and their father raised

them. She says that her mother's death has been the biggest reason she has joined women's organizations that draw attention to issues of women's healthcare, like breast cancer, pregnancy and postpartum syndrome. **"WE HAVE COME A LONG WAYS, LADIES!!"**



Her hobbies include studying about African American history, going to museums, walking, gardening, being a good Auntie, and enjoying gospel music. Like many of us she misses the Playhouse, the Ensemble, and Music Hall. But soon, she hopes....

Sharon joined WCC five years ago, invited by her "dear friend Beverly Thomas, who is my Life Angel." She helps Beverly with reading the application essays for the Education Awards. She has enjoyed the National Speaker forum series and our annual Feist Teas.

She has a few ideas about how WCC could make a difference in the Cincinnati community: stay current and increase the membership of young people, both male and female. "New members are the life blood of all organizations." She is "exceptionally excited about the Marian Spencer statue and feels it both makes a statement about the commitment of WCC to honor Mrs. Spencer and carries out "WCC's mission as a change agent/making a difference in the Queen City."

"I am honored to be a part of Woman's City Club and hope that I can serve with purpose as I see so many of the past and current members doing."



JOIN THE CONVERSATION

THE 1619 PROJECT

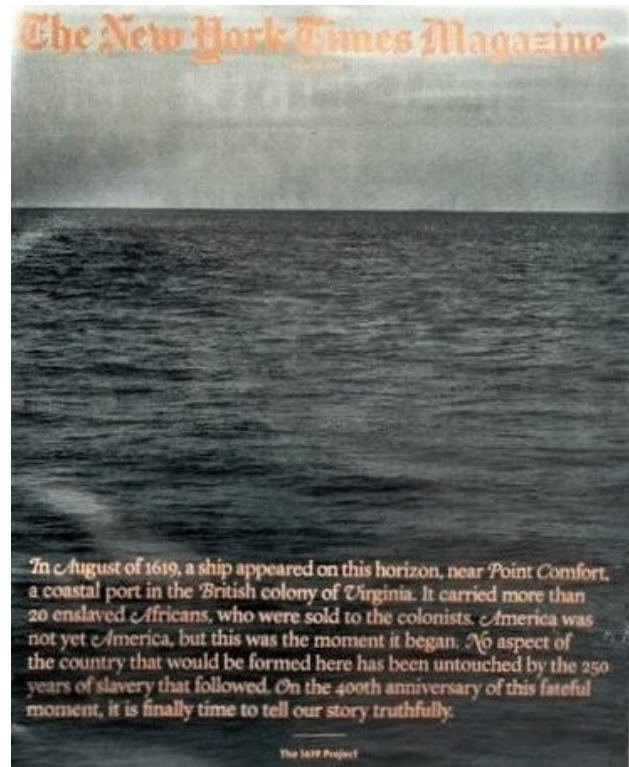
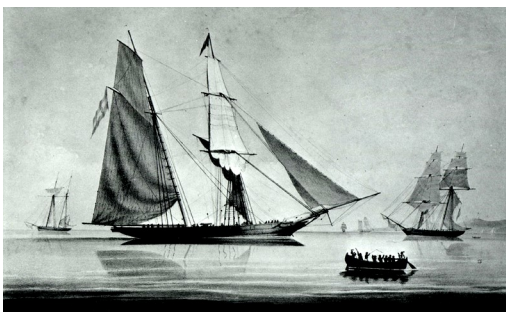
**by Nikole Hannah-Jones of the *New York Times*
and multiple authors**

The 1619 Project is a long-form journalism project of *The New York Times* that “aims to reframe our country’s history by placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of Black Americans at the very center of the United States’ national narrative.” The project was first published by their *Magazine* in August 2019 for the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the first enslaved Africans in England’s Virginia colony. It later became available as a podcast.

In addition to the introductory essay by Hannah-Jones that provides an intellectual framework, the project offers several essays about aspects of contemporary life that have their roots in slavery and 17 literary works by contemporary Black writers that bring to life key moments in American history.

The project sparked criticism and debate among prominent historians and political commentators. If curious, take a deep dive here to read about the criticism and the [Times’ response](#).

Initially refusing to make corrections, the opening essay even winning the Pulitzer Prize for Hannah-Jones, *The Times* issued a “clarification” in March 2020,



modifying a passage sparking the most disagreement. The Wikipedia article on the Project goes further in describing the controversies.

The book club, which now meets via zoom, invites all members to the conversation. Friends may attend depending on space availability. To RSVP, receive the zoom link and to ask questions, email:

Sarah.gideonse@womanscityclub.org

Podcast or print form; watch for information about how to access them in future weekly Updates.



NATIONAL SPEAKER



As this pandemic continues, WCC has decided for safety's sake and logistics to do a virtual presentation of our postponed national speaker forum featuring **DENISE KIERNAN**. The Woman's City Club appreciates the understanding of its members and friends. We are determined to meet the continuing Covid-19 challenges with grace and determination. The time and date of Denise Kiernan's speech remains the same via webinar

Ms. Kieran has enhanced her original topic to incorporate her new book, *We Gather Together*, about the widow who championed Thanksgiving as a holiday. Her new topic is:

***Generations of Grace: Inspiring Women
Who Shaped American History***

Tickets will transfer automatically to a virtual presentation and the price/donation will remain the same.

Memorial Hall will send an email to tickets buyers with the following options.

- Memorial Hall will automatically transfer your tickets to the virtual presentation, or
- Memorial Hall will refund your money

Ticket buyers, look for your email from Memorial Hall. Before the presentation, you will receive a link to the webinar.

Woman's City Club will send an email to cosponsoring organizations with similar options.

After April 4, Woman's City Club will send out more information about buying tickets for the virtual presentation for those of you who do not yet have tickets.

~ Alice Schneider

THE MARIAN A. SPENCER STATUE

**THE MARIAN SPENCER
STATUE IS NOW COMPLETE.**

The last step in the preparation and the construction of the statue was finalized in January. It has been patinaed and waxed and is ready to install.

Installation is being planned for April when the weather is more temperate and the dedication ceremony will take place during the summer. Both dates will be announced.



HELP GROW THE WCC SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION GROUP

OUR NEW SJAG NEEDS YOU!

We are seeking assistance with web development, social media skills, event planning, and your commitment to equity and justice for all. The Social Justice Action group of WCC addresses inequities due to systemic poverty, racism, and classism.

The action group will present forums and resources to educate and empower WCC members and the public on the resulting issues that create barriers to people in our communities who are disproportionately impacted.

***If one part of the community cannot thrive,
we all cannot thrive.***

If you are interested, please contact WCC VP of Civic Engagement David Siders at bsiders@gmail.com



103 William Howard Taft Road Cincinnati OH 45219

wcc@womanscityclub.org

tel: 513-751-0100

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Beth Sullebarger, *President* (2020-2021)
Helen O'Neal, *VP Administration* (2018-2023)
David Siders, *VP Civic Engagement* (2019-2021)
Cathy B. Bailey, *VP Membership* (2021—2022)
Jeff Dey, *VP Programs* (2016-2022)
Marcia Togneri, *Treasurer* (2020-2021)
Anne Buening, *Secretary* (2017-2023)
Janet Buening, *Past President* (2019-2022)

BOARD MEMBERS

Marge Davis (2019-2021)
Michelle Dillingham (2020-2023)
Amy Katzman (2016-2022)
Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney (2019-2021)
Sharon McCreary (2020-2023)
Hera Reines (2018-2021)
Jan Seymour (2020-2022)
Beverly Thomas (2017-2023)

CALENDAR OF WCC EVENTS

Wednesday, March 31, 6:30 pm

Candidate Night: Cincinnati Mayoral Forum

Tuesday, April 20, 6:30 pm

April Forum: Insights and Innovations: City, County and Suburban Policing

Monday, May 10, 6:30 pm

May Forum: A Conversation with Gabe Davis of the Cincinnati Citizens Complaint Authority

Tuesday, May 18, 7 pm

National Speaker Forum with Denise Kiernan via zoom



WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the latest schedule of WCC meetings, please check our calendar at womanscityclub.org.

Monday, March 22, 7:00 pm: WCC Board Meeting

[Board meets every other month on fourth Mondays.]

Tuesday, March 30, 6:00 pm: Communications Committee

[Committee meets most months on final Tuesdays.]

Monday, April 5, 1:00 pm: National Speaker Committee

Wednesday, April 7, 5:30 pm: Membership Committee

[Committee meets monthly on first Wednesdays.]

Monday, April 12, 6:30 pm: Program Committee

[Committee meets monthly on second Mondays.]

Monday, April 26, 6:30 pm: WCC Executive Committee

[Committee meets every other month on fourth Mondays.]

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

For an updated list of City Council sessions and committee meetings, go to the City website at cincinnati-oh.gov/council/

The monthly *Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network, and our community. Our next issue will appear in early May. Deadline for submissions and committee reports is April 15. Please submit all material as they are ready to Sarah Gideonse at sarahgideonse@womanscityclub.org



Like Woman's City Club Cincinnati on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and commentary.



Like us on Twitter
[@womanscityclub](https://twitter.com/womanscityclub)