# League of

Women Voters

Of Wood County WV

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LWVWV [www.lwvwv.org](http://www.lwvwv.org) LWVUS [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, Jan. 24 Movie **Gasland Part II** – see below

Monday, Feb. 9 LWVWC Board Meeting 12 noon

1360 Market St., Bring your lunch.

Monday, Feb. 25 Membership meeting – Legislative Update

**GASLAND, Part II**

A MOVIE ABOUT FRACKING

A follow-up to the original Gasland movie, Gasland II will be shown on **Saturday, January 24** at 1:00 p.m. in the Summers Auditorium of the Wood County Library.

Note the Saturday daytime showing. Due to uncertain weather this time of year, the board decided to schedule a daytime movie meeting for January.

From<http://www.gaslandthemovie.com>:

***GASLAND PART II****, which premiered at the 2013 Tribeca Film Festival, shows how the stakes have been raised on all sides in one of the most important environmental issues facing our nation today. The film argues that the gas industry’s portrayal of natural gas as a clean and safe alternative to oil is a myth and that fracked wells inevitably leak over time, contaminating water and air, hurting families, and endangering the earth’s climate with the potent greenhouse gas, methane. In addition the film looks at how the powerful oil and gas industries are in Fox's words "contaminating our democracy".and what happens in communities when there isn’t enough of it. The film features Erin Brockovich and respected water experts. It proposes ways that disaster can be averted if we address the problems now.*

Your friends, guests, and the public are welcome to join us for Gasland II. Please help spread the word. (See dues special for new members on page 2.)

Voter January 2015

**PUBLIC LIBRARY FINANCING CONSENSUS**

Adopted 11-8-14 by LWVWV

The LWVWV believes that public libraries are essential in communities for both children and adults. Therefore, the primary sources of funding for West Virginia’s public libraries should be tax based. This tax-based funding should be adequate, predictable and sustainable.

The LWVWV believes that there should be a basic state funding level for WV public libraries, based on the population of the area served by the library.

The LWVWV believes that additional local tax-based funds should be provided from those agencies which authorize libraries; that is, County Commissions, municipalities and/or County Boards of Education.

Further Guidelines

Other state options the LWVWV supports are:

* Adjust the local share of the school aid formula to fund public libraries in each county.
* Designate a state tax or percentage of a tax for public libraries.

The following local funding options are acceptable:

* Require these local governing authorities to contribute a given percentage of local property taxes for libraries, as required in existing “special local laws.”
* Increase the property tax rate with the resulting revenue going to libraries.
* Require Boards of Education to include a defined level of funding for libraries in the county in excess levy elections.
* Permit Boards of Education, County Commissions and municipalities to impose an additional levy on property for libraries.

The LWVWV does not support a constitutional amendment to allow public libraries to form tax districts and ask voters to assess themselves to support libraries.

The LWVWV does not support library user fees at the state or local level.

The LWVWV believes public libraries may form county-wide or multi-county systems.

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A note on the Library Consensus:

With input from the local Leagues, the library consensus was adopted as a state League position by the LWVWV Board at its November meeting.

You may have seen the recent press release in *The Parkersburg News* and the follow-up editorial on Jan. 12. The press release and the consensus state that the listed funding sources listed are *options* acceptable to the League. The editorial may have left the impression that the League was favoring enacting all of those revenue sources rather than finding them as acceptable options. Note also that the consensus guidelines mention funding plans we find unacceptable.

**Women’s Day at the Legislature**

The WV Women’s commission is sponsoring two days of education and advocacy for women and girls on February 11 and 12. The agenda includes advocacy training and visits to the Legislature.

For more information contact Sara Price-Fortney at [sara.n.price@wv.gov](mailto:sara.n.price@wv.gov) or 304-558-0070. Or see <http://eventful.com/charleston_wv/events/womens-day-legislature-/E0-001-061078278-8> Registration closes February 9, 2014.

**Dues special for new members**: Invite friends to join the League. New members who join January – March get a discount and their membership lasts throug16. Special for **new members**: $30 individual, $50 Household.



LWV of Wood County

25 Lynnwood Dr.

Vienna WV 26105

Movie: Gasland Part II

Saturday, January 24

1 p.m. Wood County Library

Membership in the LWV is open to all citizens of

voting age. To join the LWVWC, send a check

payable to LWVWC for $40 ($60 for 2 people at

one address) to the LWVWC Treasurer, 1 Fox Hill Dr.,

Parkersburg WV 26104 Write “dues” on the memo line.

## LWVWV LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Each member of the WV Legislature has received a letter informing them of the LWVWV’s priority issues for 2015.

* The LWVWV strongly opposes voter ID laws and other measures that unduly restrict eligible voters’ ability to exercise their right to vote.
* The LWVWV supports strong rules that will protect all West Virginians from chemical spills and other hazards to our drinking water sources.
* The LWVWV supports measures that would assure adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for West Virginia libraries.
* The LWVWV supports increasing taxes on tobacco products in order to improve the health of West Virginians.

Keep up with the Legislature on *The Legislature Today* nightly on WV public television and radio starting Mon., January 19, live on radio and TV at 6:30 p.m., repeated on TV at 11:30 p.m. and at 6:30 a.m. the following morning on radio.

Check the legislature’s website for Committee lists, contact information for all House and Senate members, bill status and more. [www.legis.state.wv.us/](http://www.legis.state.wv.us/). An updated Wood County government officials roster will be available soon and sent to members with the February *Voter*.

Check [www.wvcag.org](http://www.wvcag.org) for updates from Citizen Action Group’s lobbyists at the Capitol.