

League of Women Voters Of Wood County WV

President: Charmaine Dotson 304-428-1076, cdye62@suddenlink.net
Local Voter: Kathy Stoltz, 304-295-7880, ksstoltz@suddenlink.net
LWVWV www.lwvwwv.org LWVUS www.lwv.org

Voter

September 2016



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, **Sept. 26 6 p.m.** Membership Meeting
Vienna Library
See below

To Begin the World Over Again: The Life of Thomas Paine

In noting that Sept. 25 begins Banned Book Week, the Vienna Library is airing this film of a one-man play about Thomas Paine, a radical propagandist and voice of the common man during the American Revolution. Paine played an important role in rallying support among the colonists for independence from England. Among his writings were *Common Sense*, *The Age of Reason*, and *Rights of Man*.

Instead of a separate meeting for League members in September, you are invited to join other members in attending this film. It is open to the public.

Among the comments about the play that became this film:

- *It was great because it's very contemporary...it's all very relevant to what we're going through right now in our government and our society.*
- *It's such a powerful show, and what it says about the clash of civil liberties and the threat to civil liberties that we're experiencing right now, it's an echo of what Thomas Paine was talking about back then.*
- *It made me want to live my own life better.*

6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26 at the Vienna Library
23rd St. & River Rd. (Turn toward the river at Wendy's.
There is additional parking around the corner
on the River Rd. side of the library.)

HELP WANTED:

We will need a few "helpers" at each of the candidate events listed in the next column. If you are willing, please call or email, Kathy Stoltz, 304-295-7880, ksstoltz@suddenlink.net.

More Dates to add to your calendar, 3 Meet the Candidate Events

- **Sept. 27** National Voter Registration Day
League members will participate in a Voter Registration event at the Vienna Public Library
- **October 11** LWVWC will hold a Meet the Candidate for candidates for Vienna city offices at 7 p.m. in the Community Building in Jackson Park
- **October 18** LWVWC will hold a Meet the Candidate for candidates for candidates for Wood County offices and Parkersburg city offices at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Parkersburg City Building
- **October 24** LWVWC will hold a Meet the Candidate for candidates for the West Virginia Legislature at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Parkersburg City Building

Please help us spread the word about the candidate events. Tell your friends, post on Facebook, tell your neighbors, your book club, your Sunday school class, and email reminders.

Lydia Cobranchi is hard at work assembling the **Voters Guide** for publication in *The Parkersburg News and Sentinel* shortly before the election. We don't have an exact date yet, but will let you know next month.

Note these election-related dates:

October 18 is the last day to register to vote or make changes to registration in person at the Court House, by mail, or online.

October 26 – to November 5 Early voting at the Judge Black Annex

November 1-5 Early voting at satellite locations: Vienna City Building, Williamstown City Building, Lubeck Fire Dept., Mineral Wells Fire Dept.

Wood County Voters can vote at any early voting site regardless of where in the county they reside.

November 8 Election Day

For voting questions contact the Wood County Clerk at <http://www.woodcountywv.com/page/page14.php> or call 304-424-1850

The LWVUS joined several dozen other organizations as a non-partisan Election Protection coalition in a letter to the chairpersons of the national political parties asking them to oppose any efforts claiming to protect against voting fraud that in fact do nothing but discourage eligible voters from voting.

As we keep repeating, a person attempting to vote fraudulently on Election Day almost never happens.

Facts about Women Officeholders:

In 2016, there are 104 women who serve in the U.S. Congress (or 19.4% of the 535 seats). Twenty women serve in the Senate (or 20% of the 100 seats) and 84 women serve in the House of Representatives (or 19.3% of the 435 seats). The number of women that serve in statewide executive elective posts is 76 (or 24.4% of the 312 seats), while the proportion of women in state legislatures is 24.6%.

Research shows, though, that women have a disproportionately more difficult time getting into the “pipeline” to run for office—and once, in office, do face challenges of getting into higher office. Many of these challenges are financial.

(SOURCE: CAWP, <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/current-numbers>)

► In case someone asks - The WV Legislature did pass a voter ID bill this year. It is **not** in effect until 2018. While the LWV opposes voter ID requirements, WV’s law provides many forms of acceptable ID, making it less likely to bar anyone from voting than the more restrictive laws that recently have been struck down in other states. .

► LWV Membership change: LWV bylaws that previously specified that voting membership in the LWV was limited to US citizens. This requirement was eliminated by vote at the LWVUS convention in June. Now all members at least 16 years of age are voting members.

As before “Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policy of the LWVUS shall be eligible for membership.”

► Note that a **school bond levy** will be on the Nov. 8 ballot, in the amount of \$41,140,000 for: *The demolition as needed of existing facilities, land acquisition costs, construction, erection, furnishing and equipping of new schools and site improvement, expansion, renovation, improvement, repair, furnishing and equipping of certain existing schools and facilities in Wood County school district.* The full order is available at: <http://www.woodcountywv.com/page/page206.php>



LWV™ LWV of Wood County
25 Lynnwood Dr.
Vienna WV 26105

Sept. 26 Movie
The Life of Thomas Paine

September 2016 Voter

Membership in the LWV is open to all. To join the LWVWC, send a check payable to LWVWC for \$45 (plus \$25 for each additional member at the same address) to the LWVWC Treasurer, 1 Fox Hill Dr., Parkersburg WV 26104