

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.lwvww.org LWVUS www.lwv.org

Voter

October 2016



Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, Oct. 18 7 p.m. Meet the Candidates
For WV Legislature 7 p.m.
Council Chambers, Parkersburg City Bldg.

Sunday, Oct. 23 Voters Guide in Parkersburg News &
Sentinel

Monday, Oct. 24 7 p.m. Meet the Candidates
For Wood County and Parkersburg City
Offices 7 p.m. Council Chambers,
Parkersburg City Bldg.

*Note that the dates for these events were reversed
in the September Voter.*

Wednesday, Oct. 26 Early Voting starts



November 8 ELECTION DAY



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 **Voters Guide** is scheduled to be published in *The Parkersburg News and Sentinel* on Sunday, October 23. If they change the date, we'll notify members by email. The guide will also be posted on www.lwvww.org

**Meet the Candidates for WV Legislature
Tuesday, October 18, 7 pm, Council Chambers
Parkersburg City Building**

**Meet the Candidates for Wood County Commission,
Sheriff, and Clerk and
Parkersburg Mayor and City Council*
Monday, October 24, 7 pm, Council Chambers
Parkersburg City Building**

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

*County candidates will go first in case voters not from Parkersburg want to hear only the county candidates.

ALSO ON THE BALLOT IN WOOD COUNTY School Bond Levy

The Board of Education has placed a \$41,140,000, 15 year bond call on the general election ballot. The Board hopes that passage will draw another \$10 million from the School Building Authority.

Among the projects:

- A new building consolidating Williamstown and Waverly Elementary schools.
- Renovations at Williamstown High School.
- Renovation and expansion of Wood County Technical Center at PSHS.
- Needed roof replacements at county schools

The levy would increase property taxes on a \$100,000 home by \$52.56 a year. Homeowners with the homestead exemption would see an increase of \$35 a year on a \$100,000 home.

Sunday Hunting

Voters will also be asked to vote yes or no on allowing Sunday hunting in Wood County. If approved, hunting would be permitted only on private property and only with the property owner's permission.

Because our regular meeting date in November would fall right after Thanksgiving weekend, and due to our busy schedule in October with candidate events, the board decided not to have a membership meeting in November.

Our Holiday get together will be on December 5 at the home of Jane Burdette. More details later about that.

Will America's Votes Be Counted?

An article from the Brennan Center for Justice at <https://www.brennancenter.org/blog/why-americas-votes-will-be-counted> includes some encouraging information.

Suspicion abounds that somehow our elections are subject to being hijacked by voter fraud, corrupt election officials, hackers, or interference from outside the US.

Read this article for an assessment of where vulnerabilities exist and what safeguards are already in place. No election will be perfect, but we can arm ourselves with facts and advocate for improvements where needed.

Hurrah for the LWV of Florida for being among the organizations that filed suit challenging the governor's decision not to extend Florida's October 11 voter registration deadline after Hurricane Matthew closed many governmental offices, evacuated many from their homes, cut off power, cancelled mail services, and otherwise made it impossible for FL residents to obtain and return the requires paper registration forms by the deadline.

Traditionally, tens of thousands of Floridians have registered during the final week. Ruling on a suit by the Florida Democratic Party, the deadline has been extended to October 18.

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

October 2016 Voter Election Edition

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 Write "dues" on the memo line.



✓ During its 2015 session, the Legislature made a change to WV Code eliminating the option of **voting a straight party ticket** in the General Election (§3-6-2 (g)). This change is in effect for the 2016 General Election.

✓ During its first year of operation in WV, more than 56,000 residents used the **online voter registration (OVR)** application to register to vote or make changes to their registration information. More than half of those were new registrants.

Wood County had the 5th highest number of new registrants among WV's 55 counties.

Online registrations are sent to county clerks for approval and processing.