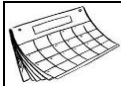


# League of Women Voters of Wood County WV

President: Charmaine Dotson 304-428-1076, [cyde62@suddenlink.net](mailto:cyde62@suddenlink.net)

Local Voter: Kathy Stoltz, 304-295-7880, [ksstoltz@suddenlink.net](mailto:ksstoltz@suddenlink.net)

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



## Mark Your Calendar

Monday, February 10 10:00 LWVWC Board Meeting

Pkbg/Wood County Library

Saturday, February 29 1:30 p.m. Documentary

One Woman, One Vote – see below

Pkbg/Wood County Library Auditorium

Plan ahead - LWVWC Annual Meeting March 17

At Colombo's Restaurant @ 6:00 p.m.



## One Woman, One Vote

Saturday, February 29 at 1:30 p.m.

Pkbg/Wood County Library Auditorium

Free and open to the public

Originally aired on PBS' Frontline, this film documents the many aspects of the 70 year long struggle that led to the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment 100 years ago, one of many struggles to grant all Americans the rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

The film portrays early movement leaders like Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, Carrie Chapman Catt, Anna Howard Shaw, Mary Church Terrell, and Alice Paul.

Along the way there were divisions over race and tactics, militancy vs. education and lobbying. It seems safe to assume that the LWV took the education and lobbying model when it organized to encourage women to exercise their new right and become full participants in democracy.

### Did you know ?

- Before 1920, women already had the right to vote in eight states.
- Passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment enfranchised 26 million American women in time for the 1920 General Election. (US population was just over 106,000,000.)
- Turnout for the November 1920 election was 36% for women and 68% for men. (Obviously, the LWV had work to do!)
- African American women were excluded from voting in many states until passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1962.

# Voter

## January-February 2020

*The Voter is back. Did you miss us in December and January? Let's call it a brief hibernation before a busy election year. President Charmaine Dotson had a setback with complications requiring eye surgery and is currently healing with very limited vision. We all hope all goes well and that she'll soon be clear-eyed and back at the helm. Board members are keeping things going and if you need to contact someone, call or email Vice-president Kathy Stoltz at 304-295-7880 or [ksstoltz@suddenlink.net](mailto:ksstoltz@suddenlink.net)*



## WV Legislature

On February 17 the WV Women's Commission and other groups including the LWVWV will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment at the Capitol.

To date 1720 bills have been introduced. One bill has been passed by both houses. SB 94 allows people with qualifying disabilities to use the same voting system that allows members of the military stationed overseas to vote electronically.

As of 1/24 the House had passed 28 of its bills and the Senate had passed 19. Those interested in bills on a particular subject can search for bills by subject, see which committee(s) they have been referred to, and check committee agendas to see what bills will be taken up at their meetings at <http://www.wvlegislature.gov/>.

A holdover bill from 2019 that local voters may be interested in is HB 4079, not yet taken up by the House Energy Committee. The League joins other groups concerned about water quality in [opposing this bill](#).

According to WV Rivers [www.wvivers.org](http://www.wvivers.org), "Right now, there are about 620 oil & gas storage tanks within zones of critical concern (ZCCs), or the areas directly upstream from public drinking water intakes that would be exempted by HB4079. Of those 620 storage tanks, 153 are deemed "Not Fit for Service", meaning the tanks have not met basic standards and pose a very serious risk to drinking water supplies. **HB4079 would deregulate these tanks**, putting our drinking water at a greater risk for contamination." Local Delegate John Kelly is listed as lead sponsor. Delegates Tom Azinger and Bill Anderson also are sponsors.

HB 4542 is a good bill concerning water quality. It was referred to the Health and Human Resources Committee, of which Delegate Vernon Criss is the only Wood County member.

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Again from [www.wvrivers.org](http://www.wvrivers.org), HB 4542, called the West Virginia Clean Drinking Water Act of 2020 “aims to identify and reduce exposure to a class of chemical toxins known as polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS. These substances are “forever chemicals” and accumulate in the environment. A main source of exposure to PFAS is through contaminated drinking water. The Act takes four important steps:

1. Establishes PFAS water quality criteria to set safe limits on the amount of PFAS chemicals allowed in our water supplies.
2. Sets a statewide maximum contaminant level (“MCL”) on the amount of PFAS allowed in tap water.
3. Requires polluters to report and monitor their use of PFAS.
4. Creates an interagency WV PFAS Action Response Team.”

Given the local concerns in recent years about water quality, you may want to let local representatives know how you feel about these bills even though they have not yet been taken up in committee.

8<sup>th</sup> Bill Anderson phone at Capitol 304- 340-3168  
email: bill.anderson@wvhouse.gov

9<sup>th</sup> Chuck Little phone at Capitol 304-340-3136  
email: chuck.little@wvhouse.gov

10<sup>th</sup> Vernon Criss phone at Capitol 304-340-3202  
email: vernon.criss@wvhouse.gov

Tom Azinger phone at Capitol 304-340-3137  
email: tom.azinger@wvhouse.gov

John Kelly phone at Capitol 304-340-3394  
email: john.kelly@wvhouse.gov

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*Note that a limited number of memberships for **new** members at \$25 for the first year are available. Ask someone to come to the Feb. 29 meeting and join the League.*

The Senate has adopted (20-10-4 absent) and sent to the House a resolution (SCR 4) calling for a constitutional convention to impose term limits on the US Congress. The LWV and many other groups oppose this because of the possibility of a convention doing mischief to other parts of the document. Both Senators Azinger and Boley were among those voting aye.

The House of Delegates passed a bill (HB 4007), dubbed the ‘Born Alive’ bill. It is listed as “relating to providing reasonable medical care to a child born alive during an abortion.” Abortion after 20 weeks is already illegal in WV with rare exceptions, and the only facility in the state providing abortions does not perform them that late in pregnancy. Doctors say no baby could survive at that stage of development. The bill passed 93-5-2. All local delegates voted aye.

### May 12 Primary Election

It’s three months away, but the board is making plans. There will be a LWVWC Voters Guide in the News & Sentinel. This is the final election for Board of Education and judicial offices, so there will be some yet-to-be determined candidate events, too.

The deadline for filing was Sat. 1/25 but the ballot will include filings postmarked by midnight 1/25.

A list is posted on the Secretary of State’s website, at [www.sos.wv.gov](http://www.sos.wv.gov). Once you’ve gone to Candidate Listing, you can use the national/state/district and county options to get Wood County and local city candidates. The Wood County Clerk’s and cities’ websites also likely will list candidates.

As of January 25, thirteen Democrats and three Republicans had filed in WV as candidates for their party’s nomination for US President. Seven Republicans and five Democrats had filed for WV Governor.

*We sadly note the passing of LWVWC member Sam Lamba, husband of long- time member and board member Else. If you saw the obituary recently in the News & Sentinel, you have an idea of the long (101 years) and interesting journey his life was. We missed Sam and Else when they moved to Marietta and later to North Carolina.*



LWV of Wood County  
25 Lynnwood Dr.  
Vienna WV 26105



**Saturday, February 29 1:30 p.m.**  
**One Women, One Vote Documentary**  
**Wood County Library**

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.