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WDC Weekly Update – Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Events, Advocacy, Community Events

From the President

Events Update

- [May 31, Congressman John Sarbanes, "For The People Act: Voter Suppression, Dark Money and the Filibuster"](#)
- [June 30, WDC Annual Membership Meeting and Elections with Congressman Raskin](#)

Take Action

- [Help Pass the For The People Act!](#)
- [Tell Sen. Cardin: Support Filibuster Reform!](#)
- [Take Action with Silver Spring Progressive Action to Keep Pennsylvania Blue!](#)
- [Harriet Tubman Petition](#)

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Greetings, WDC friends!

Can it be? As we ease into a cautious re-opening-- even the cicadas are celebrating! Amid this relief WDC is keeping an eye on local, state, and federal politics.

It's great to see the Biden team make determined progress to support vulnerable communities, address climate change, fill federal vacancies, and protect civil rights. Join our next two speakers to discuss this and more!

- May 31 **Congressman John Sarbanes** joins us to discuss his visionary HR1/S1 ***For The People Act***.
- June 30 **Congressman Jamie Raskin** will headline our Annual Meeting, during which we'll also elect the new WDC Executive Committee. Take a look at the outstanding [slate of candidates](#). All WDC members are invited to vote. Join or renew [here](#)!

But Republicans are closing ranks against the ***For The People Act***. They are blocking the formation of a January 6 commission, with Maryland's sole Republican member of Congress Andy Harris voting **No** on the commission. Happily, there are already four Democrats lined up for the chance to flip his seat.

Another alarming development for women is the Supreme Court decision to take up the Mississippi ban on abortion after 15 weeks. This case could be the vehicle by which the conservative Justices eviscerate the Constitutional right enunciated in ***Roe v Wade*** and related cases. In Arizona the clown-car audit of the 2020 ballots may be a chilling preview of anti-democratic efforts in 2022. As we mark the one year anniversary of George Floyd's murder we can celebrate important reforms in criminal justice and policing, but progress is uneven and largely untested—and the remaining work can seem daunting.

As always, WDC will be working to engage, inform, and effect change. We are committed to supporting policies around women and their families: bringing you speakers and expert panels, facilitating engagement, and enabling democracy through practical steps like voter registration, campaign finance reform, and public financing for candidates.

The only way forward is to engage; to be hopeful--but impatient. Come be part of this important and satisfying work!

Democratically yours,
Diana Conway, President






 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND
 WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Congressman John Sarbanes
Monday, May 31, 1 pm
*For The People Act: Voter Suppression,
 Dark Money and the Filibuster*

RSVP
bit.ly/wdc-may-31-sarbanes

"For The People Act: Voter Suppression, Dark Money, and the Filibuster"

Monday, May 31, 1:00 pm

Join us to hear from **Congressman John Sarbanes** how this bill will expand voting rights, change campaign finance laws to reduce the influence of money in politics, limit partisan gerrymandering, and create new ethics rules for federal officeholders.

RSVP [here](https://bit.ly/wdc-may-31-sarbanes).

Maryland Congressman John Sarbanes will likely make his most significant mark on history if his massive voting rights bill becomes law. The U.S. House has twice passed HR 1, the For the People Act. This anti-corruption and voting rights reform bill remains the Democrats' top legislative priority, but it faces an uphill battle in the Senate.

HR 1 is an omnibus reform package that would combat voter suppression; end partisan gerrymandering; increase the power of small donors; impose new ethics requirements on Congress, the Supreme Court, and the President; and help secure the very endurance of our American democracy.

Mr. Sarbanes, a lifelong Marylander, represents Maryland's 3rd Congressional District. He serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, where he is the Vice Chair of the House Subcommittee on Health, and a member of the House Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change. He also sits on the House Committee on Oversight and its Government Operations subcommittee. He has worked tirelessly to bring Covid relief to Maryland families during the current crisis.

RSVP Here to Receive Zoom Link On Event Day

Wednesday, June 30, 7 pm

WDC ANNUAL MEETING

Vote on the Proposed Slate of Officers
for 2021-2023
President: Leslie Milano
First Vice President: Laura Stewart
Second Vice President: Lorna Forde
Third Vice President: JoAnne Koravos
Secretary: Martha Morris
Treasurer: Mary Lou Fox





MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, MARYLAND
WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

June 30, 2021
Guest Speaker
Rep. Jamie Raskin

Register Here
[WomensDemocraticClub.org](https://www.WomensDemocraticClub.org)

Join Us for an Evening of Political Conversation and to Elect WDC officers for 2021-2023 With Guest Speaker Congressman Jamie Raskin

Wednesday, June 30, 7 pm

[RSVP Here](#)

2021-2023 WDC Slate of Officers

The WDC Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for 2021-2023. All current members present at the June 30 annual membership meeting may vote on the slate. If you are not a member and would like to become a member [click here](#). If you are unsure of your membership status contact [Enid Light](#) or [Lisa Fuller](#), Membership Co-chairs. Members may nominate additional candidates from the floor. Read more about our nominees [here](#).

President: Leslie Milano

First Vice President: Laura Stewart

Second Vice President: Lorna Forde

Third Vice President: JoAnne Koravos

Secretary: Martha Morris

Treasurer: Mary Lou Fox

RSVP Here to Receive Zoom Link On Event Day

Take Action!



Help Pass the *For The People Act*!

Republicans have introduced at least 361 bills with restrictive provisions in 47 states. The one that passed in Florida last week is just the latest one to be voted through. We must stop these efforts in their tracks -- and the For the People Act will do just that.

The For the People Act (HR1/S1) will safeguard voting rights, mandate independent redistricting commissions, increase transparency in campaign financing, and more! It's passed the House -- now we need to get it through the Senate, which will likely include ending or modifying the filibuster. You can help by calling constituents of key Senators and asking them to tell those Senators to let this bill have a vote on the Senate floor. Sign up now!

- **TONIGHT!** To make calls with Silver Spring Progressive Action, click here: <https://www.mobilize.us/commoncause/event/378005/>
- To make calls with DoTheMostGood, click here: <https://www.mobilize.us/commoncause/event/380035/>
- Or choose any of the For The People Act phonebanks listed on the Common Cause Mobilize home page at <https://www.mobilize.us/commoncause/>

DoTheMostGood works through this Common Cause platform every Sunday, 12:00-2:00 pm, as long as needed, organized by WDC Board member (and DTMG Exec Director) Barbara Noveau. DTMG leaders will train you so you can equip the voters you call to talk to their senator, using up-to-the-minute talking points from Common Cause.

Tell Sen. Cardin: Support Filibuster Reform!

While Maryland Senator Ben Cardin is a sponsor of the For the People Act, he has not committed to supporting the reform or elimination of the filibuster—the relic that needs to be out of the way if the For the People Act is to succeed. Constituents have the loudest voice—just a simple message from you, for example: "Senator Cardin, as a constituent, I welcome your support of the For the People Act. However, the filibuster looms as a fatal obstacle. I urge you to support elimination or reform of the filibuster to help this crucial bill pass the Senate."

To contact Senator Cardin:

Phone -- **this is the most effective!** -- 202-224-4524

Email -- use this [form](#).



“This is simply not how the Constitution works.” -- Judge Matthew Brann, dismissing one of Trump’s lawsuits in PA to stop certification of election results.

Winning in 2022 starts today! Keeping the House and Senate blue will be a challenge in 2022, but not an insurmountable challenge. Pennsylvania is a big Senate prize, with an R Senator retiring and some exciting D challengers on the horizon.

First step - get voters registered! Let's help the PA Dems get this done. The PA Dems have sent voter registration forms to hundreds of thousands of not-yet-registered, likely Democratic, Pennsylvanians. Studies suggest that a telephone call at this time will increase the percentage of people who send back the form - so that's our job! **We'll be calling likely D Pennsylvanians and encouraging them to fill out and send in their voter registration form. Our first calling session will be this Thursday night May 27. [Sign up here!](#)** Training provided. Don't miss this chance to make a difference in a key state!

The bill to create a bipartisan commission to investigate the January 6 Capitol riot should arrive in the Senate this week. All 50 D Senators are on board, so the bill will pass, IF it gets a vote. But will the R's filibuster it? If they do, perhaps Senator Manchin will start to question whether he has any R partners for the bipartisanship that he seeks. So it's a good time to keep up the pressure for the For The People Act (HR1/S1)! Choose one of these:

Send a text or email to 5 friends, asking them to call their Senators in support of HR1/S1. We'll give you the template -- [click here!](#) Friends in AZ, WV, DE, and NH are especially golden (but everyone can be helpful in keeping the pressure up within the halls of the Senate).

Call voters in WV and NH on Tuesday night 5/25 - [sign up here!](#) Sen. Manchin needs to continue to hear from his constituents. Sen. Hassan has a tough re-election fight in 2022, and she needs to hear that her constituents will support her fight for democratic principles. Training provided!

This is likely our last all-Zoom week. We hope to start in-person gatherings on a small scale starting in June (and keep Zoom gatherings as well). Write back if you'd like to host! And stay tuned as normalcy returns. Contact Dori at SSPA@ssprogressiveaction.org for more information!



960 have signed. Let's get to 1,000!

First name
Last name
Email

Sign the petition to put Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill. [Click here to get started!](#)

Dem Clubs



Montgomery County Democratic Party

The MCDCC Calendar includes numerous additional meetings and events.

Events Calendar, [click here](#).

As County and state Democratic candidates begin campaigning in earnest for the 2022 elections (yes, already), WDC will continue its tradition of staying out of the fray until each race has a Democratic nominee following primary elections.

We urge you to get informed on the field of candidates for these critical municipal, county, and state elected offices. The [@MCDCC Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee](#) has a terrific and comprehensive listing of events featuring candidates for Democratic nomination. These include free events like panels and Democratic Club meetings, as well as fundraisers. Please share the list and get ready for the June 28, 2022, primary!

Calendars

Calendars

[WDC](#) • [Community](#) • [WNDC](#) • [MCDP](#) • [MDDEMS](#)

WDC Social Media

YouTube! [Click here](#).

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Community Resources



The Montgomery County COVID-19 Rent Relief Program provides short-term rental assistance to eligible households who have experienced lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused them to fall behind on their rent. The program is managed by the County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) with funding from the U.S. Department of the Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

While funds are available, the program will provide up to \$12,000 to eligible households to pay for back rent owed and/or pay for up to three months of future rent. For households below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), additional financial help may be available. Funds awarded will take into account any other local, state, or federal assistance received to pay rent.

Apply [here](#).

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- [CDC: What You Can Do Once You Have Been Fully Vaccinated](#)
 - [Apply to Serve! Montgomery County Boards, Committees, & Commissions](#)
 - [2022 Candidate Information and Resources](#)
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wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org

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