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**WDC Weekly Update – Thursday, September 16, 2021**

*WDC Events, News, and Resources*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS - QUICK LINKS

[September 18: WDC All-member, In-person Happy Hour!](#)

[September 24: Nadia Hashimi Discusses the Withdrawal from Afghanistan](#)

[October 14: Conversation with Jaime Harrison, Chair, DNC](#)

### Other Events

[September 16: Redistricting Panel Discussion](#)

[September 19: District 14 Democratic Brunch Club](#)

[September 23: "Are We There Yet?" Progress and Challenges for Women in Politics and Media, 2020 and Beyond](#)

### Take Action!

- [MCW Survey on the Pandemic](#)
- [Help Pass the For The People Act!](#)
- [DTMG Phonebanks](#)
- [Help Keep VA Blue with SSPA](#)
- [Tell Sen. Cardin: Support Filibuster Reform!](#)
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#### WDC Resources

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## UPCOMING WDC EVENTS



### WDC All-member, In-person Happy Hour: Where Fun & Activism Meet!

We will be sending out detailed information about the location, parking, and updated COVID safety measures! As a reminder: To attend, you must be at least two weeks past being fully vaccinated. You will be expected to wear a mask. In addition, please be aware that since we are at capacity and have a waitlist, you cannot bring a guest.

If your plans have changed, and you are no longer able to attend, please email Enid Light at [enid530@aol.com](mailto:enid530@aol.com) by close of business September 16, 2021 to give another member on our waitlist the opportunity to attend this exciting event.

WOMEN'S  
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

SEPT 24TH | 12:30 - 1:30 PM | ZOOM

**WDC PRESENTS**THE US WITHDRAWAL FROM AFGHANISTAN: A RECAP AND LOOK AHEAD  
PLUS A DISCUSSION OF THE NOVEL, *SPARKS LIKE STARS*Featuring  
**Nadia Hashimi**PEDIATRICIAN, BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, MEMBER  
OF THE US AFGHAN WOMEN'S COUNCIL, AFGHAN  
AMERICAN FOUNDATION, & MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY COMMISSION ON HEALTH

WWW.WOMENSDEMOCRATICCLUB.ORG

**Join WDC and Best-Selling Author Nadia Hashimi on September 24th for a Virtual Briefing on the State of Affairs in Afghanistan.**

"America's longest war" may have ended with last month's airlift from the Kabul airport, but the Afghanistan experience will likely shape our political landscape for years to come. Too few of us understand the full history of that war and its antecedents, nor the nuances of our involvement. As we welcome thousands of Afghan immigrants to the US, we need to learn more about the land they left behind and the culture and the trauma they bring with them.

Nadia Hashimi is someone who can help shed some light on these issues. Daughter of Afghan immigrants, pediatrician, one-time Congressional candidate in Maryland's CD6, and now an internationally bestselling author, Hashimi has written six books set in Afghanistan that provide a window into the history, heritage, and traditions of a nation that has resisted foreign invasion repeatedly. Although she was an organizer of Afghan Americans for Biden in the 2020 race, she – like many Americans – questions the way the evacuation was handled. Her most recent historical novel is *Sparks Like Stars*.

Hashimi is a member of the US Afghan Women's Council, the Afghan American Foundation, the Montgomery County Commission on Health, and serves on the boards of several nonprofit organizations. Learn more at [nadiashimibooks.com](https://nadiashimibooks.com).

**Date:** Friday, September 24

**Cost:** Free

[RSVP](#) today to join us for this exciting and informative discussion.

[Register online -- Click Here](#)



**RSVP TODAY**

Join WDC and Democratic National Committee Leadership for a Political Briefing followed by audience Q&A. Get answers to your top concerns at this informative, inspiring event.

**OCT 4TH  
1:00 - 1:30 PM ET  
ZOOM**

**IN CONVERSATION WITH  
Jaime Harrison  
Chair, DNC**



## **In Conversation with Jaime Harrison, Chair, DNC**

**Date:** Monday, October 4

**Time:** 1:00 - 1:30 pm

**Where:** Zoom

**Cost:** Free

Join WDC and DNC Chair Jaime Harrison for an informative and exciting discussion followed by an

[RSVP](#) today!

## OTHER EVENTS

A VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021**  
**7:00 - 8:30 PM**

# REDISTRICTING

## WHY IT IMPACTS YOU

MODERATOR



CHARLOTTE CRUTCHFIELD  
 DEL., MD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The results could potentially:

- Silence the voice of diverse communities
- Dilute voters' ability to select MD representatives of our choosing

**Want to know more?**  
**REGISTER TODAY**

## MEET THE PANELISTS



ARTHUR EDMUNDS  
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION



JHEANELLE WILKINS  
 DEL., MD GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
 CHAIR, REDISTRICTING FOR THE  
 MD LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS



VALERIE ERVIN  
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION



JUDGE ALEXANDER  
 WILLIAMS, JR., RET.  
 MD CITIZENS COMMISSION ON  
 REDISTRICTING

*Open to all MD residents and beyond*

**REGISTER NOW FOR THIS EVENT**

CLINTON A. M. E. ZION CHURCH  
 FAITH & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY  
 REVEREND ALYCE WALKER JOHNSON  
 PASTOR & CHIEF SERVANT



***Jerry Samet***  
***District 14 Democratic Brunch Club***  
**ZOOM MEETING**  
***Sunday, September 19, 2021***  
***12 noon - 1 pm***

***Guest Speaker***  
***John King***  
***Candidate for Democratic***  
***Nomination for Governor***

***Join us to meet this candidate and to hear***  
***his priorities and plans, and his answers to***  
***your questions.***



RSVP to: [brunchclub.md14dems@gmail.com](mailto:brunchclub.md14dems@gmail.com)  
Zoom link will be sent when you RSVP



WOMEN & POLITICS INSTITUTE  
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**VIRTUAL BOOK TOUR**

**JANE HALL**  
**POLITICS AND THE MEDIA**  
INTERSECTIONS AND NEW DIRECTIONS

**PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS AND MEDIA, 2020 AND BEYOND**

Thursday, September 23rd from 6:45-8 p.m. ET

Professor  
**Jane Hall**

Executive Director,  
Women & Politics Institute  
**Betsy Fischer Martin**

Journalist  
**April Ryan**

**WOMEN & POLITICS INSTITUTE**  
SCHOOL of PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**SCHOOL of COMMUNICATION**  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC

## Are We There Yet?':

AU professor **Jane Hall** will discuss her recently published book, *Politics and the Media: Intersections and New Directions*, an examination of "how media and political institutions interact to shape public thinking and debates around social problems, cultural norms, and policies." She will be joined by journalist **April Ryan** and WPI Executive Director **Betsy Fischer Martin**. Co-Sponsored with AU's School of Communication.

**When:** Thursday, September 23, 6:45 pm

**Time:** 6:45-8:00 pm

**Where:** Zoom

**Cost:** Free

Register online [here](#).

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**TAKE ACTION!**

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The Maryland Commission for Women is conducting an online survey to determine the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the women of our state, how they experienced the pandemic, and what is needed

The findings from the survey will be used to help leaders across the state make informed decisions on policies and programs that impact women as we move forward towards the end of the pandemic and into a state of recovery.

We invite women from all walks of life and from every jurisdiction in the state who are at least 18 years old by July 1, 2021, to participate. The questionnaire is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and French and takes less than 15 minutes to complete. All responses will be completely anonymous.

The links to the questionnaires in five languages are below. We hope you will complete the questionnaire and that you will invite all your female family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to do the same. You may also feel free to post the links to the questionnaires on your social media accounts.

Let's be sure Maryland women's voices are heard!

#### **Maryland Women and the COVID-19 Pandemic Survey:**

[English](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Chinese](#)

[Korean](#)

[French](#)



#### **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:

- 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/>

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.



### DTMG Phonebanks on Thursdays & Sundays

DoTheMostGood is launching a new partnership with End Citizens United / Let America Vote to host [Phone Banks For The People](#) on Thursday evenings.

Our country needs the For the People Act (H.R.1/S.1) if we hope to rein in corporate interests, end partisan gerrymandering, ban dark money, and protect our freedom to vote. President Biden has asked for the bill to come to his desk quickly, but we need your help to make it become law!

[Sign up here](#) to join us as we call voters across the country and patch them through to their Senators to strongly urge them to pass the For the People Act. Shifts will begin with a quick training session, and all you'll need is your computer and some headphones.

DTMG is continuing to host phonebanks to pass the For The People Act on the Common Cause platform every [Sunday from 12-2pm](#) as long as needed. [Sign up here!](#) These are patch-thru calls: you call friendly voters in a pivotal state, explain what's at stake in S1, and ask if you can patch them through to their Senator to deliver this urgent message.



We have a legislature to keep blue (Virginia) as well as legislation to pass (e.g., For The People Act) to ensure that future elections are fair. And now we have a schedule of actions to help us all plan in advance. Our September actions are below. Please sign up for all of these on our [on-line calendar page](#). Please sign up early - that makes it so much easier for us (and you) to plan. Training and figurative hand-holding are always included.

**Saturday 9/18, 10:00 am:** Canvass for Delegate Dan Helmer (Fairfax Station)

**Sunday 9/19, 2:00-4:00 pm:** Phonebank for Delegate Josh Cole

**Wednesday 9/22, 6:00-8:00 pm:** Phonebank to AZ voters for the For The People Act

**Saturday 9/25, 10:00 am:** Canvass for Delegate Josh Cole (Stafford)

**Tuesday 9/28, 6:30-8:00pm:** Phonebank for Delegate Alex Askew

**Wednesday 9/29, 6:00-8:00 pm:** Phonebank to AZ voters for the For The People Act

**Thursday 9/30, 7:00-8:15 pm:** Conversation and Fundraiser (via Zoom) for Delegate Wendy Gooditis and Debra Gardner, with special guest, our own awesome Delegate Lorig Charkoudian

A word about letters -- Thank you to those who have helped us to write over 9,000 letters encouraging Virginians to vote. If you have time to write one more set of 20 letters by our 9/15 deadline, please sign up [here](#). Letter writers, please think about giving phonebanking or canvassing a whirl now -- we will train you, accompany you, and be six feet from your side.

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### 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](#).

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### Help for Afghanistan

For those who are watching the news unfold in Afghanistan with anguish, as I am - especially what Taliban rule means for the future of women - here are a few links to organizations that are trying to help:

- [Women for Women International](https://www.womenforwomen.org/) - <https://www.womenforwomen.org/>
- [Women for Afghan Women](https://womenforafghanwomen.org/) - <https://womenforafghanwomen.org/>
- [International Rescue Committee](https://www.rescue.org) - <https://www.rescue.org>

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### Democratic Clubs



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 [MCDP \(Montgomery County Democratic Party\)](#) 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.

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### Phonebank with New Jersey Democrats

Saturday, September 18, 2021, 12 -2:30 pm

via Zoom Meeting

Maryland volunteers join forces with NJ Forward 2021 for a Day of Action!

New Jersey has a chance to reelect a Democratic Governor for the first time in over 40 years, and is one of two states able to set the tone for our critical midterm elections next year.

Join us to protect crucial blue seats, support Democrats up and down the ballot, and help move New Jersey forward.

Training provided at the start of the event; please be sure to bring your computer!  
Please register [here](#).

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### Canvass with Virginia Democrats

Saturday, September 25, 2021, 10 am - 1 pm & 1 - 4 pm

Arlington, Virginia

Open to all Maryland Democrats.

Join VA Democrats to help hold the recent gains we've made there! We will be reaching out to Democratic voters who must be mobilized prior to their State elections later this year. Virginia is going to be the first competitive statewide election in the Biden presidency and we want to make sure that we are not only holding the line, but also expanding the electorate.

Canvasses in Arlington begin at 10 am and 1 pm.

Sign-up for one or both shifts each day to receive your specific launch location.

Please register [here](#).

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## Calendars

### Calendars

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

## 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: Covid Vaccine Booster Shots--HHS has announced a plan to begin offering COVID-19 booster shots in the fall.](#)
  - [Apply to Serve! Montgomery County Boards, Committees, & Commissions](#)
  - [2022 Candidate Information and Resources](#)
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## WDC Resources

### WDC Social Media & Email

Contact us [here](#).

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[Join Our Members Only](#)

[Facebook Group](#)

YouTube

Speakers & Events

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WDC has gone **GREEN** by using electronic communications.

Please continue to receive WDC event notices and news and do not unsubscribe.

Replies to this update will be sent to

[wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org](mailto:wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org)

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Calendars:

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