

THE VOTER

August 2021

Letter from the President



Dear Leaguers,

The excitement of the election season is upon us as mail in ballots have arrived in mail boxes, candidate forums have been recorded and shared, the Voter Guide has been launched, and our volunteers continue to educate our citizenry about the new changes to the voting process. I hope you all are feeling as proud as I do seeing democracy work at the local level.

Our leadership has just finished up strategic planning and has a solid plan for the year. My hope is to share this with you next month so you can check out where you fit and how you can support us.

Don't forget to cast your ballot for the August Primary on August 24, 2021!

In League,
Linsey

ST. PETERSBURG VOTER GUIDE A CLICK AWAY

We asked community partners what issues they wanted to hear about in the St Pete Primary. Check out PinellasVoterGuide.com to see how candidates for St Pete Mayor and City Council responded to our questions! This year, the guide is powered by Vote411.



PinellasVoterGuide.com



Together We Can Make Democracy Work

[#LocalElectionsMatter](#)



The St Petersburg Primary Election is here!

We're voting on candidates for Mayor and Council Districts 1, 4 and 8.

Election Day is Tuesday, August 24th and voting by mail has already begun. Even though it's a primary, this election could decide the Mayor of our city.

What's more? This is the first election since the passage of SB90, which changed the rules for voting-by-mail. Read on to make sure you have all the

info you need.

Top five things to know:

1. You can vote in the St Pete Primary even if you are not registered with a political party. That's because our city elections are nonpartisan.
2. If you don't vote in the primary, you might not get to vote for Mayor at all! If any of the candidates for Mayor gets more than 50% of the votes in the primary, then that candidate is elected Mayor.
3. Council Districts 2 and 6 will be on the ballot in November, but they are not on the August primary ballot. Since there are only two candidates running in each of these districts, no primary is needed.
4. There is no early voting for this election. You can either vote-by-mail or vote in-person at your polling place on Election Day August 24th.
5. Your mail ballot is postage-paid, so no stamp is needed! Just be sure to get it in the mail as soon as possible to make sure it arrives by August 24th.

[Click here to read more about how the primary works and changes to voting by mail...](#)

COMMUNITY FORUMS JULY 13, 14 INCREASED IMPACT THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

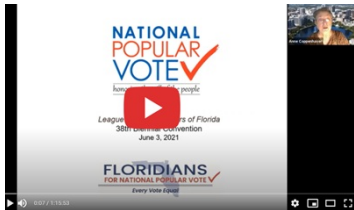


by Robin Davidov, 1st Vice President and Co-Team Lead Voter Services

Leaguers like Maryellen Gordon (pictured on the right) have always known how to pivot, overcoming challenges, like those we faced during the height of the pandemic. With intelligence, unwavering determination and the ability to transform adversity into successful strategies our volunteers have increased our reach and impact in the community.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to a host of volunteers who did the hard work required for LWVSPA to host in-person forums for both the Candidate Mayor and City Council Forums; *Plus*, live streaming on two channels, and online recordings with closed captioning for those unable to attend in person.

The response was overwhelmingly positive! [\(Read More\)](#)



Deciphering the National Popular Vote

Floridians for National Popular Vote District Chair, Suzanne Low, shares a 34-slide PowerPoint presentation of the major issues surrounding the National Popular Vote. Discussion follows with Suzanne, Kathleen Crampton (Chair of Floridians for National Popular Vote) and moderator, Anne Copenhaver. [\(Click Here\)](#)

If you'd like someone to speak to your group about National Popular Vote initiatives in Florida, please contact Deb@CoachMaz.com Learn more at: www.FloridiansforNPV.com

SUSTAINABILITY ACTION TEAM

By Sustainability Team Lead, Laura Crabtree

The problem of nutrient pollution is multifaceted and affect all of Florida's freshwater and marine ecosystems. Learn more about the causes, symptoms and actions you can take to improve our freshwater and marine ecosystems.

[\(Read More\)](#)



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



**THURSDAY,
AUGUST 26
6-7 PM EDT**

**All-Member
General
Meeting**

Our online General Meetings for all members provides updates on League info and offers an opportunity for two-way communication with League and Action Group leaders.

Register in advance for this Zoom meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[Register Today!](#)



**THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 2,
6 -7 PM EDT**

**Orientation for
New & Prospective
League Members**



Get Plugged In to the League's Work!

As one of the most active advocacy and policy education groups in Pinellas County, the League's current issues include voter engagement,

environmental sustainability, gun safety, campaign finance reform, immigration, education, health care access, international relations, and reproductive rights. Come learn about the League's strategies to influence change and how you can join in!

Our New Member Orientation is designed to orient folks who are curious about the League, as well as those who've been members for less than a year. Our hope is that everyone will find what interests them and get involved as expediently as possible.

Register in advance for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[Register Today!](#)

LEAGUE LEGACY - HISTORIC DISCOVERY

By *Voter* Team Member
Loren Corrieri
lorenc4re@tampabay.rr.com

"This year is full of dates with the ballot box," stated LWVSPA Helen Hansel in 1964. During this election year, LWVSPA members produced a non-partisan voters guide, held candidate forums and conducted "Get Out the Vote" campaigns.



That same year the mayor of St. Petersburg proclaimed September as "Women Voters Week" and the book "The Other America" by Michael Harrington was recommended as a "must read!"

During the '60s the League was right in step with national concerns, one of which was housing. They were particularly concerned with substandard housing in St. Pete and advocated with the city building department for a crackdown on the use of faulty heaters and to establish stricter codes. They were partially successful as the heating ordinance was changed, but only for rental housing.

In 1968, the LWVSPA expressed outrage and frustration at the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. They were also concerned about inequality, water pollution, conservation, and education. Sound familiar?

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By *Voter* Team Member
Bonnie Hough



bonnie@banyannonprofitstrategy.com

Meet Cambria, who is joining the LWVSPA team as an intern for this summer and fall.

We're so glad to have you with us, Cambria!

(Read More)

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



The Membership team is launching a new program to formally and publicly recognize a volunteer or volunteers from each team or on the Board who demonstrated exceptional service. This will be done on a monthly basis, so I really need your help to make this work.

I'm going to ask you to identify a volunteer(s) who you would like to recognize for exceptional volunteer work during the month.

We want to know what the volunteer did and why you chose to recognize them. Of course, all volunteers are exceptional, but we want to recognize the ones that really stood out.

Our hope is to offer recognition in the form of a Facebook posting, a column in the Volunteer section of the monthly newsletter, a blurb on the League's website, and a hand-written thank you note.

Like everything in this world this information is time sensitive, so I would need it back by the 25th of each month to be posted the following month.

Please answer the following questions and email your responses to me, Beth Settle at samster1212@hotmail.com.

Team Name or Board:

Team Lead Name:

Name of Event:

Date of Event:

Volunteer's Name:

A short blurb on what he or she did:

How the volunteer's effort advanced the League's mission:

Please attach a photo of volunteer in action (if possible)

Short and sweet. Looking forward to hearing about all the wonderful things our volunteers are doing for the League.

DONATE! GET THE SHIRT



**Donate \$25 to LWVSPA
and get a new LWV polo or custom raglan shirt!**

Donate to LWVSPA Education Fund to support voter empowerment and action teams like Social Justice, Education, and Healthcare. Featuring 2 LWVSPA shirt designs to display your commitment to making democracy work.

[DONATE](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

August 24 – St. Petersburg Primary Election and St. Pete Beach Special Election

August 26 - General Meeting

October - General Meeting

October 4 – Deadline to register for Municipal General Elections

November 2 – Municipal General Elections

December - Holiday Party

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome New Members!

Please join the Membership Committee in welcoming these new Leaguers who joined in the last month:

**Pamela Dunlap
Clarence Fox
Catherine McGarry**

Time to renew, Seasoned Members!

August 2021

Bill Ackerman
Valerie Ackerman
Ama Appiah
Terry Bazzone
Ruth Bentley
Catherine Blackburn
Trish Brewer
Beverly Cohen
Judith Comeau
Lauren Constantino
Christina Cowell
Barbara Donohue
Janice Drinkwine
Amy Durand
MerriBeth Farnham
Sydney Frasca
Sue Ellen Glover
Donna Grace
Stacey Hughe
Nancy Hunter

Susan Kaineg
June Kicklighter Peterman
Rebecca Lyons
Kathy McCabe
Kelly McCabe
Angel McCormick
Catherine Michels
Mary Olson
Eddie Pringle
Ann Rascoe
Terry Rimer
Dana Robertson
Paula Shea
Amanda Singleton
Tracey Smith
Robin Storch
Nancy Tait
Kathryn VanderMolen
Kathy Wagner
Lola Ward

July 2021

Janet Adams
Mary Ches Applewhite
Kristin Beck
Ingrid Bredenberg
Rebecca Davis
Paige DePagter
Lisa Flaherty
Teresa Francis
Geraldine Gray
Lisset Hanewicz
Barbara Hartwell
Cherita James
Amy Keith
Kristin Kern

Margaret Kowski
Holly Lazo
Beth Lurie
Marti Moorefield
Devon Murray
Sandra Owens
Barbara Pierce
Alexis Quintal
Carlyn Scott
Christa Shoaf
Martha Sifnas
Betty Ward
Kari Weddle
Angela Williams

June 2021

Orlando Acosta
Jacqueline Azis
Nina Bailey
Julia Barlow
Melissa Barlow
Nina Berkheiser
Amy Brownlee
Susan Burr
Judson Cahill
Gregory Carlin
Laurie Clement
Lawrence Clermont
Mary Crear
Rebecca Deming
Amanda Dodge
Amy DuPont
Marianne Ferrari
Linda Fife
Lisa Gudath
Amanda Hagood
Harry Harvey
Kris Hoagland

Nicole Huau
Beate Hughes-Brown
Sharon Jackson
Jessica Jacobs
Stacey Jurewicz
Sarah Love
Kerri Maphis
Amanda Maple
Linda Metzkow
Tamika Mitchem
Christy Nelson
Gerni Oster
Shari Oster
Alexandra Panos
Nancy Parker
Ann Pelishek
Julie Plata
Tami Reed
Jackie Sanchez
Cynthia Sinclair
Alison Warner

[Renew / Join Now](#)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- [July Calendar of Events/Meetings](#)
- [Meet our Board](#)
- [Explore Issues](#)
- [Check Out our Blog Archives](#)
- [Engage!](#)



League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area

[Email](#) | [Website](#)

Telephone: 727-295-5255



The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.