

## THE VOTER

November 2020



### *Letter from the President*

Dear Leaguers,

We are now only days away from the election; I hope that if you've had the opportunity to vote that you've done it early or by mail. Pinellas County has already witnessed record turnouts just days into early voting. This year and election have created a palpable mix of feelings in our community and across the nation; fear, hope, excitement, anger, and anxiety.

No matter how you're feeling about November 3rd, I hope that you are proud of your role in making democracy work. Our League members and volunteers have been working tirelessly to register voters, educate our community about candidates and ballot issues, produce and disseminate our award-winning Voter Guide, volunteer as poll monitors, and so much more!

The League has and continues to be an organization that the community turns to for reliable information and strong advocacy on issues at the local, state, and federal level. This is why it is critical that all of us, from leadership to members, call for every vote to be counted in this election and be ambassadors for accurate information.

We don't know what the election will bring, but we do know that the League will be a beacon of truth and hope for our democracy.

*In League,  
Lindsey Grove*





# Election Day!

## Tuesday, November 3rd

### VOTING BY MAIL?



**Make sure you, your family, friends and neighbors drop your mail ballots off at a secure drop-box before 7 p.m. on Election Day!**

Click [HERE](#) to find mail ballot drop-off locations that are open on Sunday, Nov. 1 and Monday, Nov 2. (Note: The Supervisor of Elections Offices are also open for drop-off on Sunday and Monday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

On Election Day (Tuesday, Nov. 3) you can drop your mail ballot off at any of the three Supervisor of Elections Offices between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

- 501 1st Avenue N, St. Petersburg
- 13001 Starkey Road, Largo
- 315 Court Street, Room 117, Clearwater

(On Election Day, you can exchange your mail ballot at your polling place and vote an in-person ballot instead, but you can't just drop your mail ballot off at your Election Day polling place.)

And remember to [TRACK YOUR MAIL BALLOT](#) online to make sure there are no issues with your signature! Any problems with your mail ballot need to be fixed by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5th. Not sure how to read the ballot tracker? Check out this [blog](#) that explains it.

### VOTING IN PERSON?



**Sunday, Nov. 1 is the last day of early voting!** You can go to any early voting location in Pinellas County; they are all open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Find early voting locations and current wait times [HERE](#).

Polls are open on Election Day (Nov. 3) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are in line by 7 p.m., you have a right to vote. Remember to bring one of the **12 acceptable forms of identification!**

Please also note that there may have been changes to your usual polling place due to COVID-19, so click [HERE](#) to double check where your precinct is voting on Election

Am I registered to vote?

What if I have a felony conviction?

What if I moved recently?

How do I vote by mail?

Where is my polling place?

When do the polls close?

Is my polling place accessible?

Day.

**If you have questions or face any problems voting, call the Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE! This hotline works all over the U.S.**

The LWVSPA Election & Voter Protection team is also here to answer your voting questions! Just email us at

**[VotingQuestions@LWVSPA.org](mailto:VotingQuestions@LWVSPA.org)**.

## VOTING IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY?

It's important that you vote in the correct location for your current residence. Find your polling location [HERE](#). And remember, there may have been changes to your usual polling place due to COVID-19, *so be sure to double check where your precinct is voting today!*

**Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are in line by 7 p.m. you have the RIGHT to vote, no matter how long that line is!**

Remember to bring your photo/signature ID. Find the list of acceptable forms of identification [HERE](#). And if you don't have an ID, you can still vote a **provisional ballot!** As long as you are registered and vote in the correct precinct for your current residence, your provisional ballot will count as long as the signature on your provisional ballot matches the signature the Supervisor of Elections has on file for you.

**If you or your friends have questions or face any problems voting, call the Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE!**

## STILL HAVE YOUR MAIL BALLOT?

**Make sure you drop it off before 7 p.m. on election day** at one of the three Supervisor of Elections Offices:

- 501 1st Avenue N, St. Petersburg
- 13001 Starkey Road, Largo
- 315 Court Street, Room 117, Clearwater

Help family, friends and neighbors who can't make it to a mail ballot drop-off location today! You can drop their mail ballot off for them (as long as no payment is exchanged).

And remember: If you need to, you can exchange your mail ballot at your polling place and vote an in-person ballot instead.

## DID THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS CONTACT YOU ABOUT A SIGNATURE ISSUE?

You have until 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5 to fix any issues so that your vote can be counted!!

Need help? Call 866-OUR-VOTE or email [VoterProtection@LWVSPA.org](mailto:VoterProtection@LWVSPA.org).

# POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS

## Thursday November 12 at 4 p.m.



The League and ASPEC are teaming up for a conversation with Steve Contorono, Political Editor of the Tampa Bay Times and Dr. Susan MacManus, professor and author, on the Results of the 2020 Election.

ASPEC invites you to try a membership for a month at a special discount rate. All sessions are currently virtual.  
<https://www.eckerd.edu/aspec/>



## RESOLUTION TO DECLARE RACISM A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

The LWVSPA, in partnership with the Black Health Equity Alliance, the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg, and other community partners has been working diligently to pass a city Resolution to Declare Racism a Public Health Crisis. This week, City Council will vote on the resolution. If passed, St. Petersburg will be the first city in Florida to pass such a resolution. Add your name to the list of supporters!

**SIGN UP**



## CALLING ALL EMERGING LEAGUE LEADERS!

*Do you like interesting and interested people?*

*Are you into engaging, rewarding initiatives?*

*Want to be part of powerful and forward-looking strategies*



### **to build democracy in the St. Pete area?**

The Nominating Committee is currently looking for people who will make up the 2021-2022 LWVSPA Board of Directors.

Board members are fully engaged in fulfilling the LWVSPA mission as they:

- Build leadership skills
- Make things happen for the League and for the greater community
- Set the direction of the LWVSPA
- Expand their commitment to the League
- Raise their individual visibility and influence in St. Petersburg and surrounding communities

If this sounds like something you or someone you know might like to pursue, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Amy Weintraub (email: amyw304@gmail.com) to talk about the opportunity. LWVSPA elections are in April 2021.



## **A SPECIAL ORIENTATION FOR NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS**

**Upcoming LWVSPA Orientation**  
**Tuesday December 8, 2020 at 6:00- 7:00 PM**  
VIDEO CONFERENCE

Click Here to [\*\*RSVP\*\*](#) and to receive a link.

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.

Our new member orientation meetings are specific to the League of Women Voters St. Petersburg Area. If you have worked with LWV organizations in Florida or across the country, attending this meeting can help you understand the work we do locally. It's also a great way to meet other people who are helping the League.



## **5 Benefits of Volunteering with the LWVSPA**

**1.** Volunteering with the League of Women Voters puts you in

great company - join the century long legacy of working for voting rights.

**2.** You'll meet plenty of people that care about the rights of others, just like you. And you'll be inspired, we promise.

**3.** Are you looking for a job? Do you want to change professions? Volunteering is a great way to learn new skills and broaden your network of professional contacts.

**4.** It's good for you - **body and mind.**



**5.** You'll do important and necessary work to better your community.

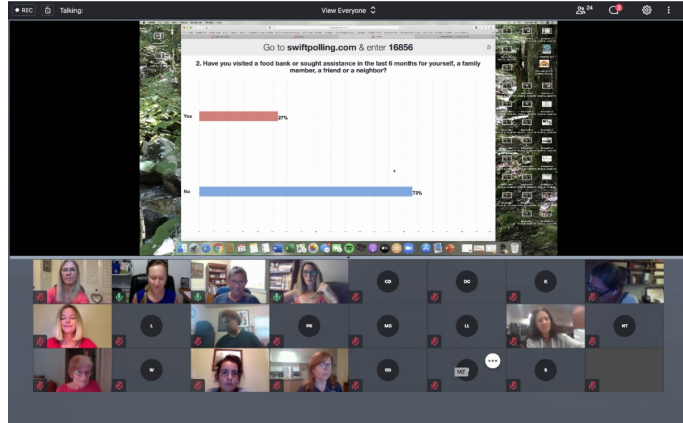
We have socially distanced, short-term, long-term, people facing, and tech related opportunities. Tell us what you would like to do, how much time you'd like to commit and we'll plug you in to the unstoppable force better known as LWVSPA. To learn more about getting involved, email

[volunteer@lwvspa.org](mailto:volunteer@lwvspa.org)



## UPDATE FROM THE FOOD POLITICS TEAM

The Food Politics Action Team hosted its fourth Digital Dining in October. This event was part of an on-going series in which Councilwoman Gina Driscoll joins citizens and the team online, speaks about food access and security in our community, and answers questions as they are asked in real-time.



The purpose is to engage community members and highlight the issues facing our local food systems, with a stakeholder who has the power to help create better food security, access, and options for all of us. ***In our last two events an average of 16% of our attendees have indicated that they have sought food assistance for themselves, family or friends in the last 6 months.***

We've been fortunate to have Julie Rocco, of Foundation for a Healthy St. Pete, join us as well, providing information about St. Petersburg's new and upcoming Food Policy Council. The League is an organizational member of the Council, which was created to act as an independent advisory board to the City Council. The League will have a unique role in facilitating citizen input. The Food Policy Council will provide feedback and recommendations on issues related to food access, equity, and nutrition.

We were also joined by an unexpected guest, Erica Hall, incoming Chair of the Florida Food Policy Council, who offered her expertise and guidance to the team as we navigate and explore food politics issues moving forward.

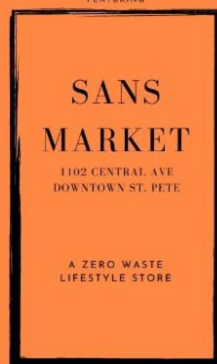
The Food Politics Action Team's mission is to start a conversation about the food culture in St. Petersburg and to educate people about the corrupting influences of big food money on our democracy, our health and the environment.

***If you are interested in this group, contact Co-Chairs Jen Underhill at [jaybirdjerome@gmail.com](mailto:jaybirdjerome@gmail.com) and Dr. Julie Kessel at [jbkessel@verizon.net](mailto:jbkessel@verizon.net).***



"The Sustainability Team encourages everyone to shop at small businesses. Let's all pitch in and help our community through these difficult times!"

Support Small Businesses  
This Holiday Season



10% off your order  
when you use promo code  
**LWVSPA**  
(or tell them the code when shopping inside)

They have curbside service, delivery or shipping anywhere.



## November Committee Meetings

### **Fund Development Committee Meeting**

November 4, 2020 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

**[Google Meet](#)**

### **Media & Publicity Committee**

November 5, 2020 @ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

**[Google Meet](#)**

### **Social Justice Team Meeting**

November 12, 2020 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**[Google Meet](#)**

### **Food Politics Meeting**

November 16, 2020 @ 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

<https://meet.google.com/ioc-atgf-jxb>

**[Google Meet](#)**

### **Immigration Action Group**

November 23, 2020 @ 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

Video Conference

Contact [kcoale@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:kcoale@tampabay.rr.com) for code to join the meeting or questions.

### **Voter Service Committee**

November 24, 2020 @ 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
Conference Call 605-472-5621  
Access Code. 555498

### **Committee on Membership Meeting**

November 25, 2020 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
[Google Meet](#)

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE SUMMIT December 8, 2020**

#### ***What's in Store for National Popular Vote?***

Floridians for National Popular Vote are planning a virtual summit December 8 to strategize and prepare for the 2021 Legislative Session. The National Popular Vote guarantees the winner in all 50 states becomes president. It goes into effect when States have committed 270 electors (the majority of 538). We currently stand at 196. The NPV doesn't require a Constitutional Amendment and can be reversed the same way it is installed.....State by State. Legislators decide how their state directs their electors to vote. The current Winner-Take-All system disenfranchises 3/4 of all voters in 3/4 of all states.

For more information visit [WWW.FloridiansForNPV.com](http://WWW.FloridiansForNPV.com) or contact [Deb@CoachMaz.com](mailto:Deb@CoachMaz.com), T. 727.258.8015 M. 941.350.5723



## ***Membership: Are You Up for Renewal?***

**Join us. Renew your membership. We make a difference.**

*We need your support to continue our work in the community and at state and national levels. Whether you want to be an active member or a supporting member, your dues help advance the League's mission*

#### **We offer five levels of membership :**

Gold for \$250\*  
Silver for \$125\*  
Household for \$78\*  
Individual for \$52  
Student for \$26

\*Includes two members residing at the same address.

[Renew / Join Now](#)

**Note that LWVSPA keeps only about \$7 (!) of your basic dues paid at the Individual (\$52) or Household (\$78) levels. The rest goes to LWV-FL and LWV-US. Your local League has to raise almost all of its funds with voluntary contributions.**

**If you join at our Gold level (\$250) or Silver level (\$125), all the extra dues stay with our local League and we will recognize your generosity at our Annual Meeting.**



You can also offer your financial support by upgrading your membership, offering an additional monthly, quarterly or annual donation, and encouraging others to do the same.

**Consider including the League in your estate planning.** Your gifts allow us to continue our education, advocacy and leadership programs to forward our mission in Making Democracy Work in the St. Petersburg area. If you would like to discuss an estate planning contribution or other gift, please **contact our office.**

The following memberships are up for renewal during this 4-month span. We invite you to **renew today!**

### **November 2020**

Laura Angelides  
Faith Bedford  
Caroline Bloodworth  
Dorothy Cappadona  
Edie Daly  
Sue DeLong  
Jane Fanning  
Aleta Fisher  
Karen Flannery  
Bonnie Freeman  
Stephan Freeman  
Valerie Ginn  
Maryellen Gordon  
Sally Grumbles  
Judy Hall  
Michael Hanrahan  
Mary Hanrahan  
Sara Heerens  
Jacqueline Hubbard  
Suzanne Hutto  
Gretchen Johnson  
Debra Justus  
Hilary Lehman  
Jana Maples  
Kalleen Marquise

Michelle Mazuros  
Jack McCullough  
Ruth McCullough  
Raegan Miller  
Betty Morgenstein  
Kathleen Phelan  
Barbara Poore  
Erin Rashbaum  
Kitty Rawson  
Mary Ann Renfrow  
Vollie Riskin  
Sara Robertson  
Cathy Rome  
Jan Salsich  
Emily Sedgwick  
Marty Shapiro  
Christine Sprowl  
Elithia Stanfield  
Nancy Stein  
Kate Steinway  
Karen Torrisi  
Susan Vincent  
Robin Warren  
Eleanor Wirth  
Paul Zolan

### **October 2020**

Faith Alford  
Kelsey Anderson  
Robin Conneaney  
Caitlin Crowley  
Robin Fergenson  
Kathy Forde  
Joanne Friedland  
Kimberly Gillespie  
Corey Givens Jr.  
Linnea Goodwin

Jenna Hart  
M. Diane Hodson  
Jessica Jones  
Rita Knorr  
Rhyia Miller  
Marilyn Pocius  
Sue Price  
Wendy Snyder  
Jane Weagle  
Wendy Wesley

### **September 2020**

Sylvia Babus  
Meryl Blackman  
Justine Blake  
Derya Dolan  
Michael Finnerty  
Rene Flowers  
Jan Hager  
Jessica Hagewood  
Jordan Johnson

Dina May  
Anysia McDowall  
Gerald McPherson  
Rebecca Nero  
Stephanie Owens  
Baron Reichenbach  
Maria Celia Villac  
Sarah Willford  
Laurel Zimmer



# 2020-2021 League Leadership

## OFFICERS

President: Linsey Grove  
First Vice President: Robin Davidov  
Second Vice President: Amy Keith  
Secretary: Ken Wrede  
Treasurer: Gina Gallo

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ama Appiah  
Nita Carroll  
Ann Dieterle  
Beate Marston

[Visit our website](#) for more information about our local leaders.

[Click here](#) for more information about our education and advocacy groups.

## EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, COMMITTEE LEADS

Voter Service: Robin Davidov, Maryellen Gordon, Caitlin Constantine, Amy Keith  
Gun Safety: On hiatus  
Immigration: Karen Coale  
Reproductive Rights: On hiatus  
Census: Gina Gallo  
Food Politics: Julie Kessel, Jen Underhill, Wendy Wesley  
Sustainability: Laura Crabtree  
National Popular Vote: Deb Mazzaferro, Marty Shapiro  
International Relations: Judy McSwine  
Social Justice: Linsey Grove, Stacey Kroto  
Media/Publicity: TBD  
Membership: Amy Weintraub  
Nominating: Amy Weintraub  
Office Administrator: Julia Sharp



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.**