

THE VOTER

September 2021

Letter from the President



Dear Leaguers,

It's September already!

The St. Petersburg Primary was a success -- we had volunteers safely helping voters and witnessed voter turnout numbers over 29%.

I want to thank our incredible Voter Services Team and volunteers for registering voters, producing candidate forums, developing our Voter Guide, coordinating our Poll Monitor program, and educating voters in lots of different ways in the community. Onto November!

We hosted our first General Membership meeting this week and provided advocacy training to members on how to write a successful letter to the editor. Our plan is to provide more training like this to members to strengthen our individual and organizational advocacy capacity. Stay tuned for more training in the future!

In League,
Linsey

CANDIDATE FORUMS

LWVSPA will co-host 2 Candidate Forums; **September 28 for Candidates running for St. Petersburg City Council** and **September 29 for Candidates running for St. Petersburg Mayor**. Candidates will meet at these public forums to discuss the key issues and share their positions and views on matters from affordable housing to public safety and the environment.

Admission is free and open to the public. The public is invited to meet the candidates who are running for City Council seats during a reception from 6-6:45 p.m. followed by the forum from 7-8:30 p.m. at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus University Student Center ballroom. Those in the audience will be able to submit questions to the candidates during the forum.

The election for St. Petersburg City Council is November 2, with ballots to be mailed out on September 30. Voter registration and mail ballot sign-up will be available at the forum.

The City Council forum is organized and sponsored by USF St. Petersburg campus Student Government, USF St. Petersburg campus Center for Civic Engagement, the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area, the St. Petersburg Downtown Business Partnership and LocalShops1.



St. Pete City Council
Districts 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8

Tues, September 28
6:00 pm
USF St. Pete- Student
Center Ballroom
200 6th Ave. S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Registration Required



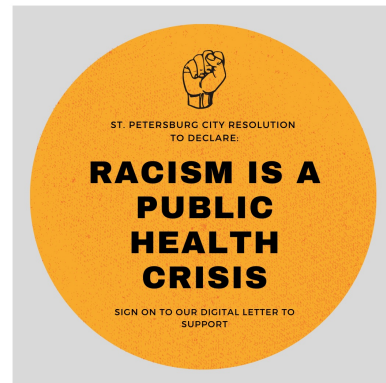
St. Pete Mayor

Wed, September 29
6:00 pm
USF St. Pete- Student
Center Ballroom
200 6th Ave. S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Registration Required

UPDATE FROM SOCIAL JUSTICE TEAM

On August 5th, 2021, the St. Petersburg City Council unanimously passed the Resolution to Declare Racism a Public Health Crisis. **We are the first Florida city to pass such a resolution.** This effort was spearheaded by our Social Justice team and the Black Health Equity Alliance.

Our next goal is to pass a similar resolution at the Pinellas County Commission.



VOTER SERVICES NEWS

Mail Ballots for the St Petersburg Municipal General Election will go out by September 30th and our nonpartisan Voter Guide will be LIVE at PinellasVoterGuide.com by the time you receive your ballot!



Oct 7 11:00 am - Charter Amendments

Virtual presentation on the St. Petersburg charter amendments on the November 2021 ballot by Amy Keith. Sponsored by the Academy of Senior Professionals at Eckerd College (ASPEC) and LWVSPA.

Watch for LWVSPA weekly updates with registration details.



By Maryellen Gordon
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Co-chair, Voter Services Committee Leadership Team

[Click Here](#) to learn about the engaging and impactful work that Voter

Registration Team volunteers have done leading up to the City of St. Petersburg August Primary Elections and the work to be done leading up to and including **National Voter Registration Day on September 28th**.

MEMBER ONLY EVENT



Let's Chat Sep 14, 2021 06:00 PM

St. Petersburg City of the Arts with John Collins, the recently retired executive director of the St. Petersburg Arts Alliance, will be our guest for September. ***This is a members only event. Registration required.***

Membership Chair, Amy Weintraub, will pepper John with prepared questions about the economic impact the Arts have had and continue to have on St. Petersburg. Participants will feed more questions via chat. Zoom features will be put to use to make this hour of conversation as interactive as possible, including the use of breakout "rooms" for small group discussion, as well as the use of the poll feature for trivia questions and opinion sharing.

Register Today!

LEAGUE LEGACY

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

This is the last in a series of articles created using hardcopy newsletters and files found in the St. Petersburg League offices.

It has been fun looking back and realizing how far we have come along as an organization. ([Read more](#))



Corinne Freeman is one, among many, community leaders who have made important contributions to the St. Petersburg Area League.

In 1971 Corrinne served as our chapter president. In 1977 she became the first female mayor of St. Petersburg. ([Read More](#))

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By **VOTER Team Member Bonnie Hough**
bonnie@banyannonprofitstrategy.com

Meet League member **Betsy Wells!** Betsy works on the Voter Registration action team and this past summer, Betsy represented the LWVSPA at the LWVFL Convention. Today she is sharing with us a little bit about what drives her passion for the League's work, and her experience as a first-time delegate. You won't want to miss Betsy's moving stories of her work with voter registration - **[Read the full spotlight on Betsy here!](#)**



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



SEPTEMBER HONOREES

Beth Settle at
samster1212@hotmail.com,
Radical Gratitude Squad, LWVSPA
Membership Committee



Joan Thurmund, nominated by nominated by Gina Burchenal and Nita Carroll, Co-Chairs, Volunteer Services
[\(Read More\)](#)



Jill Underhill, Nominated by Amy Weintraub, Membership Team Lead
[\(Read More\)](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

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:

Carolyn Lane
Allison Miller
Nicholas Fiorentino
Chloe Bethune
Lisa Childress
Shayna Nunez-Lefrak
Paulette Jones



Orientation for New & Prospective Members Sep 2, 2021 06:00 PM

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 to receive Zoom login info.

[Register](#)

Time to renew, Seasoned Members!

September 2021

Ashley Agard
Meryl Blackman
LeRoy Dunn
Janet Ferguson
Kathleen Garrity
Andrea Graham
Diana Hammer
Lynn Waddell Harvey
Katherine Herrin
Sandy Kern
Lisa Kirchner
Karen Lieberman
Anysia McDowall
Patti Myers
Laura Myerson
Bruce Nissen

Cara Olson
Kim Paget
Miriam Pardoll
Bethany Peabody
Alison Quinn
Gwendolyn Reese
Julia Rissler
Cara Serra
Sara Smith
Stephanie Stuefer
Jessica Tomlinson
Michelle Unterberger
Maria Celia Villac
Claire Wray
Sheree Wysocki

August 2021

Bill Ackerman
Valerie Ackerman
Terry Bazzone
Ruth Bentley
Catherine Blackburn
Trish Brewer
Beverly Cohen
Judith Comeau
Lauren Constantino

June Kicklighter Peterman
Kathy McCabe
Kelly McCabe
Angel McCormick
Catherine Michels
Mary Olson
Eddie Pringle
Ann Rascoe
Dana Robertson

Christina Cowell
Amy Durand
Sue Ellen Glover
Donna Grace
Stacey Hughes
Susan Kaineg

Paula Shea
Amanda Singleton
Tracey Smith
Robin Storch
Kathryn VanderMolen
Lola Ward

July 2021

Janet Adams
Kristin Beck
Ingrid Bredenberg
Rebecca Davis
Paige DePagter
Lisa Flaherty
Teresa Francis
Geraldine Gray
Barbara Hartwell
Cherita James
Kristin Kern
Margaret Kowski

Holly Lazo
Beth Lurie
Devon Murray
Sandra Owens
Barbara Pierce
Alexis Quintal
Carlyn Scott
Christa Shoaf
Betty Ward
Kari Weddle
Angela Williams

[Renew / Join Now](#)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

- [September 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.