



THE VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TALLAHASSEE

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Tallahassee

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OUR PURPOSE:

To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected government issues

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Decision 2014: Amendments to the Florida Constitution

Are you aware that there are three proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution that will appear on the November ballot? League members helped collect signatures to put Amendment 1 on the ballot. If approved by voters, it would dedicate funds to acquire and restore Florida conservation and recreation lands. Amendment 2 would give Florida residents the right to marijuana for treatment of certain medical diseases and conditions. Placed on the ballot by vote of the Florida Legislature, Amendment 3 would allow for the prospective appointment of judges by an outgoing governor.

If you want to find out more, come to the Hot Topics Luncheon on August 27 where we will present Decision 2014, a power point presentation developed by the League of Women Voters of Florida. The presentation is designed to be used by local Leagues to educate voters about the amendments and includes the official ballot language, background information concerning the current law or Constitutional requirements, pros and cons concerning each amendment, and information concerning support or opposition. In short, everything you will need to know to cast an informed vote on November 4!

Please join us in learning about these proposed changes to the Florida Constitution and get your questions answered.

Date August 27, 2014 Wednesday (FOURTH WEDNESDAY)

Time 11:30 a.m.--1:00 p.m Hot Topic Luncheon
(buffet followed by speaker)

Location Capital City Country Club, 1601 Golf Terrace Drive

Menu Pecan crusted chicken and stuffed manicotti, salad bar,
vegetables, rolls and butter, coffee and tea.

Members - \$17 Nonmembers - \$20

Cost The first three student members to RSVP eat FREE!!

FOR RESERVATIONS

Please RSVP by Saturday morning, August 24.

Because the League must pay for reservations cancelled after Saturday, August 24, those who cancel late should reimburse the

07 Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Big Bend Environmental
Forum

City Hall, 2nd floor

11 Monday 10:30 p.m.

till noon

Big Bend Mental Health
Coalition Candidate Forum,
LeRoy Collins Public Library,
Community Room

12 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Leon County School Board,
Howell Center
2955 West Pensacola Street

12 Tuesday 7:00 p.m.

Bandwagon for Leon County
& state candidates

WFSU Studios
1600 Red Barber Plaza

13 Wednesday 7:00 p.m

Bandwagon for Wakulla &
Gadsden county candidates

WFSU Studios
1600 Red Barber Plaza

17 Sunday 4:00 p.m.

New Member Orientation
Kathy Winn's house
1006 Brookwood Drive

19 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

LWVT Board Meeting
LWVF Office
540 Beverly Court

26 Tuesday all day

FLORIDA PRIMARY

26 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Leon County School Board,
Howell Center
2955 West Pensacola Street

27 Wednesday 11:30 a.m.,
Hot Topics Luncheon, Capital
City Country Club, 1601 Golf
Terrace Drive

27 Wednesday 4:00 p.m.

Tallahassee City Commission
City Hall, 2nd floor

League for the cost of their reservations.

President's Message

Help!

The most important mission of the League is to help our fellow citizens get ready to vote and to provide them with the information they need to make informed choices about the people who represent them and the issues affecting our community. With less than 100 days until the November 4 election, your willingness to volunteer for what we call Voter Service activities can make this vital mission of the League a success.

How You Can Help

Your yard: Can we put a sign in your front yard advertising Vote411Leon.org, our online voter education website?

Food and drinks: Sign up to bring food or drinks to the WFSU-TV station for Bandwagon 2014 or do the same for the Big Bend Environmental Forums. See details on these events elsewhere in the newsletter.

About three hours of your time: We will need volunteers to help out at Bandwagon and to man tables registering and educating voters. If you have no experience doing this, don't worry. We will team you with an experienced League member.

Your voice: Encourage your friends and family members to vote and provide them with information on the candidates and issues. If you are comfortable speaking before a group, you can be a part of our Speaker's Bureau and educate voters on the proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution that will be on the ballot on November 4. Perhaps you can identify organizations that may want a speaker on the amendments.

It's easy to sign up to help. Just call the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee phone number [\(850/309-3005\)](tel:8503093005) and leave a message indicating what you are willing to do, and someone will contact you. And, thanks in advance for making a difference for the voters of Tallahassee/Leon County.

Kathy Winn
President, League of Women Voters of Tallahassee



September 2 Tuesday
3:00 p.m. Leon County
Commission meeting
County Courthouse,
5th floor

Jim Monroe
John Rimes
Marty Quinn
Thomas Spingler
Angie Raines

Barbara Varchol
Teresse du Bouchet
Sharon Pollock
Lyn Kittle



Board Bytes



(From the minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 28)

Hot Topic luncheons will usually occur on the fourth Wednesday of the month with the Board meeting the night before. There will be exceptions in August, November, December, and April as follows:

<i>Month</i>	<i>Board Meeting date</i>	<i>Hot Topic date</i>
August	19	27
November	18	19
December	9	13
April	14	18

Hot Topic responsibilities for the coming year are:

September:	Climate Change and Sustainability S & A Group
October:	Local Government S & A Group
November:	Health Care S & A Group
December:	President
January:	Public Education S & A Group
February:	Local Government S & A Group
March:	President
April:	Climate Change and Sustainability S & A Group
May:	Public Education S & A Group

Big Bend Environmental Forums 2014

- Sponsored by:* Big Bend Environmental Forum and member organizations and the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee.
- Who is invited:* Candidates for Tallahassee City Commission and Mayor; Florida House of Representatives, Districts 8 and 9.
- When:* Thursday, August 7, for candidates in the above races who are on the Primary Election ballot, refreshments and exhibits at 5:15 p.m., forum

- begins at 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 9, for candidates in the above races who are on the General Election ballot, same time as above.
- Where:* 300 South Adams Street, Tallahassee City Hall, City Commission Chambers, 2nd Floor.
- Description:* Following a meet-and-greet reception with refreshments and exhibits by member organizations, there will be a moderated forum with questions concerning the environment, natural resources, growth management, energy, sustainability and historical preservation.
- Potential audience:* 150 to 200 or more people. This forum has been considered the best attended forum in Leon County. Please come and bring your relatives and friends.
- Need volunteers:* We need League members to help set up the refreshments, serve the food and take everything down. We could also use food contributions in the form of one dish to serve 25 people.

For more information about the Big Bend Environmental Forums contact Janet Findling, Voter Services Co-Chair, [850-942-2291](tel:850-942-2291) (accepts calls till 1:00 a.m.) or janetfindling@comcast.net.

Janet Findling
Voter Services Co-Chair

Bandwagon 2014

- Co-sponsored by:* WFSU-TV, 4FSU (Comcast channel 4) and the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee
- Who is invited:* For Primary Election: All Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla County candidates in contested races for City Commission and Mayor, County Commission, School Board, Florida House of Representatives Districts 8 and 9. Only candidates on the August 26 ballot are invited to speak at the Primary Bandwagon.
- When:* For General Election: All candidates on the November ballot.
For Primary Election: Tuesday and Wednesday, August 12 and 13, on air at 7:00 p.m. till about 8:30 p.m. August 12 will feature Leon County and Florida House candidates. August 13 will have Gadsden and Wakulla county candidates.
- Where:* For General Election: Wednesday, October 8, on air at 7:00 p.m. till about 8:30 p.m.
WFSU-TV Studio, 1600 Red Barber Plaza (off Pottsdamer Street, Tallahassee, FL)
- Description:* Live television program with the atmosphere of an old fashioned event of yesteryear held at the town square with balloons, music, campaign signs and the like. Each candidate is given a 20-second introduction and then will have three minutes of free public air time to make a live speech of substance. When three minutes is up, the microphone is muted and the Capital Chordsmen Barbershop ensemble sings lively, patriotic songs. Candidates are encouraged to bring up to 15 supporters, each carrying one campaign sign. Supporters and signs will likely appear on television, too; their cheers will definitely be heard.
- Potential audience:* Tens of thousands of voters or more will watch Bandwagon 2014 either live or repeated numerous times on 4FSU (Comcast Channel 4), on

WFSU-TV's website www.wfsu.org/bandwagon2014 as well as on the League of Women Voters Online Voter Guide at Vote411Leon.org.

Need volunteers: We need League members, both new and experienced:

To greet the candidates and supporters, guide them to the check-in tables (one for candidates, one for supporters, one for observers and volunteers).

To to set up the food and drinks, serve the refreshments and clean up at the end of the evening.

To assist at the League table.

If you are going to be out of town, you can still help by contacting those who have not sent us biographical info or make a contribution of food or drinks before you leave. We need you at WFSU-TV by 5:30 p.m. You can even enjoy some of our refreshments!

*Janet Findling
Voter Services Co-Chair*

Speakers Bureau

The League of Women Voters of Florida has developed a powerpoint presentation concerning the three proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution that voters will see on the ballot on November 4. The presentation gives a basic introduction to the election cycle, the races and voter information available from the State League as well as information on each amendment and notes for the speaker. If you feel comfortable speaking before groups, the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee could use your help in making presentations concerning the amendments to interested organizations between now and the November 4 election. Contact Kathy Winn at 850/766-2612 or kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com or Janet Findling at 850/942-2291 or janetfindling@comcast.net. A powerpoint presentation on the Water and Land Legacy Amendment (now Amendment 1, Water and Land Conservation) is also available on the State League website (www.TheFloridaVoter.org).

*Kathy Winn
Janet Findling*

About Vote411Leon.org

To help voters gain easy access to information they need to make a more informed choice on election day, volunteer members of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee have created this impartial, nonpartisan online guide available at Vote411Leon.org.

"Whether it's 2 a.m., 2 weeks or 20 minutes before you go to vote, Vote411Leon.org has the Election Information You Need."

All candidates running in Leon county, including judges, are included; the General Election voter guide coming soon to Vote411Leon.org will also contain pros and cons on the constitutional amendments; these constitutional ballot initiatives will appear on your November 6th General Election ballot.

Because Vote411Leon.org is impartial and nonpartisan, you will feel good about emailing all the voters you know to tell them about Vote411Leon.org -- colleagues, friends, and family members will all appreciate knowing that this valuable online election tool is available to them.

Please send the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee your comments and ideas for how our Voter Guide

Committee can make our Vote411Leon.org online voter guide better and easier to use. Please to send janetfindling@comcast.net or call (850) 942-2291.

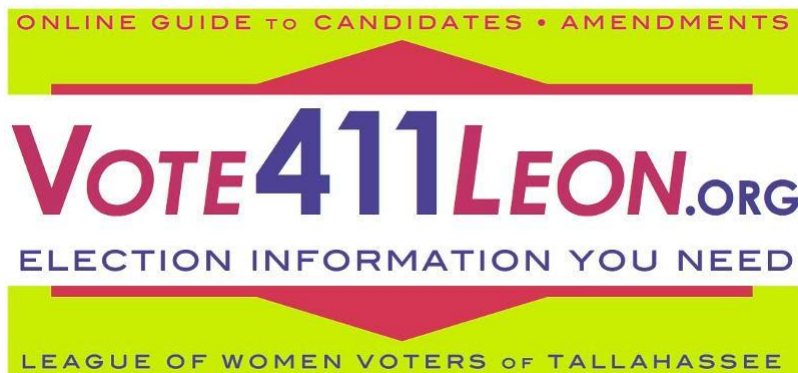
More About Vote411Leon.org

From Vote411Leon.org, voters can link to see "What's on my ballot?", learn "Where do I vote?", and "What's my district?" Voters can find their polling place, learn when and how to cast a ballot, and read how to contact the Supervisor of Elections for immediate assistance on election day, such as to report or resolve questions or problems with voting.

Each candidate's page includes:

- * brief job description and salary for office sought
- * candidate's biography
- * candidate's campaign contact information with live link to their campaign website
- * responses to questions revealing candidate's priorities and values on issues of immediate public concern
- * link to view candidate's campaign contributions
- * link to candidate's 3 minute video messages (recorded at WFSU's Bandwagon on August 1st & 2nd)
- * link to Tallahassee Bar judicial polls results (for judicial candidates only)

Vote411Leon.org will continually be updated with the latest, accurate information.



Candidate Forum Sponsored by Big Bend Mental Health Coalition

The Big Bend Mental Health Coalition is sponsoring a Candidate Forum on Monday, August 11 from 10:30 a.m. until noon in the Community Room of the LeRoy Collins Public Library. The forum will be an opportunity to hear candidates' perspectives on behavioral issues in our community, including their support for additional funding and other decisions required for improving services, such as the restoration of the Leon County Mental Health Court, as well as the establishment of a Veterans' Treatment Court docket.

Kathy Winn

My League Story

I'm Mary Oneida Carey Monroe. My husband Jim and I are residents of Westminster Oaks, an active living retirement community. We are proud parents of Marty and James, and our grandson, Brian. Marty is a busy member of LWVT. I joined several years ago.

Delaware is my home state, the first to ratify the Constitution. As a child I hugged the Liberty Bell and put my fingers into the famous crack in the bell. My grandmother Elizabeth Hart Carey was the first woman in her

town to vote. I think this enables me to stand up and be a proud American and vote.

Being a member of the League means that through the educational programs I will be better informed to promote the ideals of our democracy such as equal rights, economic opportunity for all, and access to quality education and health services, to name a few.

Story gathered by Martha Stewart



Local Government Study and Action Group

Local Government S & A Group has New Leadership

One piece of big news for our group is that we have a new leader. Ruth O'Donnell wanted to take on other responsibilities and left us with a mighty big void. Not that Ruth could ever be replaced, but I think we've found the right person to fill that void. Joan Kanan has agreed to take over the reins. She is a relatively new member of LWVT but has already proved herself invaluable to the Local Government S & A Group. What I know about Joan is that she was a Leaguer in another city and she has a lot of experience in dealing with local governments. She's also a talented artist and a jazz fan. We'll ask her for her League story so we can find out more about her.

Local Government Candidate Forum

Our other big news is that we organized and presented a very successful local government candidate forum. The forum took place on Wednesday, July 23, at the LeRoy Collins Public Library. We featured Tallahassee City Commission and Leon County Commission candidates who have opponents. Participating County Commission candidates were Nick Maddox, Curtis Baynes and Weser Ra Ka Khufu. Candidates for Mayor of Tallahassee were Andrew Gillum, Zach Richardson and Larry Hendricks. Candidates for City Commissioner were Diana Oropallo, Curtis Richardson, David Bubba Riddle, Nancy Miller and Steve Stewart.

We had approximately 100 people attend the forum, with great press coverage before and after the forum. There were eight community partners who contributed in various ways such as publicizing the forum, submitting questions to be asked of the candidates, making cash donations, and donating a good deal of labor. Our very valuable partners were the Village Square, Tallahassee Women Lawyers, Capital Section of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association, Council of Neighborhood Associations, Zonta Club of Tallahassee, Common Cause Florida, Sustainable Tallahassee, and Fit-to-Eat Catering.

Another thing I have to mention: The tasks required to hold a forum are numerous and varied. I have a list and it is long. The Local Government Group did not present this forum by themselves. There were no less than 39 volunteers who made this forum happen and I am so very thankful for their willingness to help. It's very gratifying to be part of an organization whose members can turn a potentially difficult job into an easy one. Thanks again, folks.



City Commission candidates -- Andrew Gillum, Larry Hendricks, Diana Oropallo, Curtis Richardson, David Riddle, Nancy Miller, Steve Stewart



Moderator Marjorie Turnbull



President Kathy Winn



County Commission Candidates -- Curtis Baynes, Nick Maddox, Weser Ra Ka Khufu



Moderator Carol Weissert

Check out lwtallahassee.org for more pictures by Erin Edwards and [facebook.com/LWVTallahassee](https://www.facebook.com/LWVTallahassee) for pictures by Marty Monroe.

Linda Davis

Explaining the Susan B. Anthony Membership

This membership level includes dues and a donation to the Board of Directors Fund. The rate for an individual is \$100.00, which covers the membership dues of \$60.00 and a \$40.00 donation. The household rate is \$150.00, which includes the household dues of \$90.00, plus \$40.00 donation for the first member of the household and \$20.00 for the second member.

The Board of Directors Fund is made up of various donations (Susan B. Anthony, member donations, memorials and others, such as a gift from a nonmember). This pot of gold is restricted to projects that have been voted on and approved by the Board.

A huge THANK YOU to the following current Susan B. Anthony members:

Barney and Laura Cook, Doris Partridge, Peter and Sally Butzin, Erin Edwards, Marty Monroe and John Rimes, Linda Davis, Dot and Jim Skofronik, Mimi Jones and Bill Brubaker, Mary Anne Price, April Salter, Elsie Crowell, Gaynell Waldo, Christy Crotty, Janet Findling, Jim Wylie, Sheri McInvale, Sally Combs, Peggy Moore, Tom Chase, Stan Peacock, Betty Steffens, Kitte and Jimmy Carter, Ruth O'Donnell, Jim and Oneida Monroe, Peggy Ramsey, Rebecca Sager, Carmen Nelson, Marilyn Wills, Natholyn Harris, Alan Williams, Linda Stalvey, Carol and Bill Weissert, Mildred Stephenfield, Marjorie Turnbull, Liz and Ed Holifield and Nancy Linnan.

Peggy Ramsey

VOTER DEADLINE

The next Voter will be the September Voter. The deadline for submission of material is Saturday, August 30th. Please e-mail your material to lgdavis75@gmail.com.

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