



# THE VOTER

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF TALLAHASSEE

Tallahassee

Volume 26 Number 6

February 2017

### 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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05 Tallahassee Marathon,  
7:30 a.m. Myers Park

06 Health Care S & A  
Group 3:00 p.m. at 1006  
Brookwood Dr. and again at  
7:00 p.m. at Panera Bread at  
101 N. Blirstone Rd.

07 Tuesday 3:00 p.m.  
Leon County Commission  
County Courthouse 5th floor

07 Local Gov't S & A Group

### State Attorney and Public Defender

Their jobs require them to be adversaries. Can they ever be friends?



Jack Campbell

They both say they want the same thing: justice. But is it the same "justice"?

What is necessary for the public defender to do an appropriate job in terms of staff and caseload?



Lady Justice

What is "restorative justice"? Does it work?

Is the state attorney interested only in convictions?

What will you do differently from your predecessor and what will you do the same?

Come to the February Hot Topic **dinner** and learn the answers to these questions and more as we meet our new State Attorney, Jack Campbell, and our new Public Defender, Andy Thomas.



Andy Thomas

Date	February 22, 2017
Time	<b>5:30 p.m.--7:30 p.m.</b>
Location	<b>Capital City Country Club 1601 Golf Terrace Drive</b>
Menu	Chicken piccata, mushroom ravioli, Greek

7:00 p.m. 2974 Bayshore Drive

09 Annual Tallahassee Town Hall 5:30 p.m., City & County Commissioners, St John's Episcopal Church, 211 N. Monroe Street

11 Communications Committee meeting 2:00 p.m., 1307 North Monroe St.

14 Thursday 6:00 p.m., Leon County School Board, Howell Center, 3955 W. Pensacola Street

16 Climate Change & Sustainability S & A Group 10:30 a.m., 615 Paul Russell Rd.

16 Tavern Talk 5:30--7:30 p.m., Backwoods Bistro, 401 E. Tennessee Street

21 Tuesday 6:00--7:30 p.m., LWVT Board Meeting, United Church in Tallahassee, 1834 Mahan Drive

22 Wednesday 5:30 p.m., LWVT Hot Topics, Capital City Country Club, 1601 Golf Terrace Drive

22 Wednesday 4:00 p.m., City Commission Meeting, City Hall 2nd Floor

23 Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Tallahassee Ethics Board Meeting, City Hall 2nd Floor

23 Speed Date Your Local Leaders 5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m., Village Square, St John's Episcopal Church, 211 N. Monroe Street

23 Thank You Ion event at The Moon, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. Get tickets online or at Moon - \$20

25 Tuesday 3:00 p.m., Leon County Commission, County Courthouse 5th floor

28 Tuesday 6:00 p.m., Leon County School Board, Howell Center, 3955 W. Pensacola Street

salad, rosemary new potatoes, French green beans, bread, butter, and mini cannolis.

**Wine will be available for \$5 cash per glass -- no credit or debit cards accepted.**

Cost Members - \$20 Nonmembers - \$23

The first three student members to RSVP eat FREE!

FOR RESERVATIONS please call 309-3005 and leave a message or email [LWVTallahassee@gmail.com](mailto:LWVTallahassee@gmail.com).

Because the League must pay for reservations cancelled after Saturday, February 18, those who cancel late must reimburse the League for the cost of their reservations or find someone to take their places at the Hot Topic.

### President's Message



At least 20 League members attended the Women's March on January 21st. It was amazing, uplifting and exhilarating! At least until the rain really began to fall. Lots of women and men, young and older, some with their children in tow, advocated for women's health, the

Affordable Care Act, immigrants and climate change. The march was peaceful and there were no hecklers that I saw.

In case you weren't at the most recent Hot Topic luncheon, one of our members provided information on follow-up activities to the March. Evidently, there is a move afoot to form a non-profit corporation eligible to lobby called Women's March Florida. There is a Tallahassee/Panhandle Chapter which has a Facebook page and you can join this Closed Facebook page titled "Women's March Florida -

Tallahassee/Panhandle Chapter" to help organize online. I think we should support this "peaceful movement fighting for democracy, unity, freedom, equality, truth, and JUSTICE FOR ALL."

A mobilization meeting is being held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on February 4th, at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 2015 Fleishman Road.

*Kathy Winn, President*

*League of Women Voters of Tallahassee*



Tallahassee Women's March  
Photo by Erin Edwards

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## Health Care Study and Action Group

At the State League's recent Kickoff 2017 event on January 28, League members from around the State interested in health care met to discuss the plans to repeal and replace Obamacare. Cecile Scoon of the Bay County League led the discussion and indicated that the League's actions around this issue would focus on educating the public about the potential impact of these efforts. Due to the complexity of Obamacare, it will probably take months to develop legislation and years to actually implement significant changes. Statistics concerning the impact of repeal to Florida and other states have been developed and will be shared with League members when available. An excellent source to visit to examine the issue is the Kaiser Family Foundation website at [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org). On January 23, Dr. Ken Brummel-Smith of the FSU College of Medicine gave a presentation on this issue to the Democratic Club of North Florida. If you are interested in looking at the power point presentation he used during that speech, please contact Kathy Winn at [kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com](mailto:kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com).



At the local level, the Leon County Community Health Assessment continues and the first meeting to develop the Community Health Improvement Plan, which will address problems identified in the assessment, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8 at 9:00 a.m. in the health department clinic located at 872 West Orange Avenue. Any League member can feel free to attend. League members may also be interested in attending a conference on "Patients As Consumers" sponsored by the FSU Center for Innovative Collaboration in Medicine and Law. It is scheduled for Monday, February 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the FSU Alumni Center, 1030 W. Tennessee Street. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.

*Kathy Winn, Chair  
Health Care Study and Action*

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## Climate Change and Sustainability Study and Action Group

### Solar Farm Expansion



We may have the occasional overcast day, but there are clear skies ahead for Tallahassee's energy production! We're thrilled that the City Commission voted unanimously to TRIPLE the amount of power generated by its first solar farm by expanding it from a 20 MW to a 60 MW facility. Thank you to our Commissioners, City of Tallahassee - Your Own Utilities, Sustainable Tallahassee, ReThink Energy Florida, and other citizens who showed their support for community solar!

**Tallahassee Marathon, Sunday, February 5, 2017**

**Suffragists cheer runners once again!**

LWVT again has a primo location to present our water table to tired runners. The course has changed a bit so this year it is mile 14 not 16 as before. So the runners will be by our station a little earlier, predicted to be 8:30 to 8:40 for the very earliest runners. By that time we will have everything ready, water, filled

cups, Gatorade, snacks, music, suffragists, Susan B. Anthony, perhaps Uncle Sam and Lady Liberty. Our Burma Shave signs/slogans are being professionally printed this year. We will have those lining the road as the runners reach us.

I have 3 more long black skirts of various sizes. They are available for loan or to keep. Remember the typical dress in the winter is long dark skirts and dark jackets with a flash of white lace at the neck. A dark hat is good; a straight across brim is great. All these things can be found in your closet or at a thrift store. This is not a contest; just have fun with costuming. Check the Internet for pictures of suffragists of the time if you like. The suffragists sashes will be available at the race.

If you are not into dressing up it is perfectly OK to come in comfortable clothes. Just have fun, cheer on the runners, and we may win big prize money again! And it's a great way to get to know some some fellow Leaguers. Thanks for volunteering.

### **Save the Dates**

Save the dates of March 10 and 24 (only half days). LWVT is co-sponsoring a short course on solar photovoltaic with the UF/IFAS Leon County Extension Office. The course will examine all aspects of solar electricity for home and business. It will examine suitability, cost, production, utility bill analysis, financing, solar co-operatives and more. The goal is an educated consumer.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability Group will be at the UF/IFAS Leon County Extension Office at 615 Paul Russell Road on Thursday, February 16, at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will include a solar tour of this net zero facility.

### **Recycling Hints**

- Load recycle bins with extra newspapers, cardboard cartons (fold flat first), vegetable/soup cans, glass bottles, plastic bottles, and aluminum trays.
- Save cancelled stamps for the Audubon Society.
- Save and take plastic bags you do not reuse to recycle bins at grocery stores.
- Better yet, bring your own bag to the grocery store and drugstores. Using a cloth bag could save 12 million barrels of oil and 14 million trees!
- Thank stores who do not automatically provide plastic bags.
- Take magazines to the hospitals and nursing homes.
- Take all manner of stuff to The Sharing Tree, a resource and reuse center primarily for teachers. They will accept calendars, magazines, greeting cards (anything with pictures), fabric, thread, beads, buttons, yarn, paint, crayons, pencils, etc.

*Dot Skofronik*  
*Chair, Climate Change & Sustainability Study & Action Group*  
*222-8544 or dsjs@embarqmail.com*

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## The Village Square

*E pluribus unum > out of many, one*



There is a lot going on at the Village Square that might interest our members. Here are some of the coming events:

### **God Squad: Islam and Western Democracy with Dr. Parvez Ahmed Friday, February 3, 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.**

Given the deeply concerning escalation of events in the last week -- polarized rhetoric having moved into real consequences in the world -- this challenging conversation needs to happen. We can't think of anyone better to have a real conversation than the God Squad. We'll be zeroing in on how faith traditions might inform our discussion and help it transcend angry politics. It will take place at Temple Israel on Mahan Drive

If you trace our societal divisions back to one of their many sources one strand of that separation seems to arrive at this question: Is Islam compatible with Western democracy? For those who most often ask that question, they look to the difficulty establishing successful democracy in Islamic countries as well as the rising tide of Islamic fundamentalism whose central tenet is the perceived clash between Islamic and Western values. Until now, American leaders both sides of the aisle have worked to separate the faith of 1.6 billion worldwide from those few who would use it to commit acts of hatred and violence in its name. For those who oppose current policy, they fear it accelerates the clash that extremists seek. It's long past time to take an unflinching look at the issues at the heart of this worldwide roiling divisiveness, from diverse faith perspectives.

We hope you'll join facilitator Rabbi Jack Romberg and our special guest Dr. Parvez Ahmed, along with the rest of The Squad, for this important conversation about the strains that exist between Islam and the West. If you've been lucky enough to hear Dr. Ahmed, you'll know why you need to attend. The program is free - lunch is available for \$10 with a reservation or at the door. You may also bring a brown bag lunch.

### **Our Town: Annual Tallahassee Town Hall with Commissioners Thursday, February 9, 5:30 p.m.**

Our annual town hall pairs commissioners from the City of Tallahassee and Leon County for a constructive (and neighborly) cross-governmental discussion about where we are, where we're going and what the challenges out there on the horizon might be. The event will be facilitated by Tallahassee Democrat Publisher Skip Foster and powered by Leadership Tallahassee. Bring your favorite take-out and a neighbor or two. The program is free to attend.

### **Dream On: An Unflinching Conversation on Race + Popcorn Monday, February 13, 7:00 p.m.**

Join us at Monday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m. for the continuation of our "Race to the Movies" series at All Saints Cinema (inside the old Amtrak station at 918 Railroad Avenue) with the film "Dream On." In this timely and important film, political comedian John Fugelsang retraces the journey of Alexis de Tocqueville in this age of economic inequality and struggle. The screening is offered free of charge, but a reservation is required as seating is limited. Watch the film trailer [here](#). Next up in March is "He Got

Game."

**Our Town: Speed Date Your Local Leaders**  
**Thursday, February 23, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

At a time when good civic conversations are either hostile or nonexistent, it's probably past time for a little local matchmaking. Single or married, this unique annual program gives citizens the unusual opportunity to "Speed Date Your Local Leaders," enjoying pizza and chatting informally with the people who lead our community. Leaders rotate from table to table, offering each group of participants an opportunity to ask questions or offer ideas. Free to attend and space is limited.

If you are interested in any of these events, you can [find out more and sign up here.](#)

*Submitted by Steve Urse*

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**February is African American History Month**

**National Museum of African American History and Culture**



National Museum of African American History and Culture

The National Museum of African American History and Culture is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. It was established by Act of Congress in 2003, following decades of efforts to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans. To date, the Museum has collected more than 36,000 artifacts and nearly 100,000 individuals have become charter members. The Museum opened to the public on September 24, 2016, as the 19th and newest museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

From the [African American History Month](#) web site and the [National Museum of African American History and Culture](#) web site.

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Nancy Donovan  
Linda Lee  
Francesca Melichar  
Gretchen Waldo

Jeanne O'Kon  
Denise Spivey  
Alexandria Washington  
Melissa and Max Woehle  
Katherine and Reynold Caleen  
Barbara and Mark Licht



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**Voter Deadline**

The next Voter will be the March Voter. The deadline for submission of material is February 24. Please e-mail your material to [lgdavis75@gmail.com](mailto:lgdavis75@gmail.com).

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