



October/November 2016

Volume 65 Number 9

President's Message

The League of Women Voters of Broward County is revved up for **Decision 2016: Presidential and General Election on November 8th!**

In Florida we know that **every vote counts** because:

- **Our vote elects the national, state, and local officials who determine public policy**
 - US President/Vice President,
 - US Senator, US House of Representatives,
 - Every Florida State Senator and Florida State House of Representative
 - City and County Officials
- **Our vote decides on the Florida Constitutional Amendments and Local Charter Amendments** that impact our lives for years to come
- And as a “swing state,” **our vote usually decides our national leaders:** only 537 Florida votes separated George Bush and Al Gore in 2000, and President Barack Obama bested Mitt Romney by less than 1% of the Florida vote in 2012



With so much at stake, **League volunteers have been on the front line-- registering, informing and encouraging voters** throughout the county. Holding as many as three events a day in this critical period leading up to the election, our tireless members are:

- Registering and engaging voters to **increase voter turnout**
- Hosting and participating in **candidate debates and forums**
- Speaking on the **ballot Amendments and Initiatives**
- Informing voters on candidates, issues and voting logistics through **Vote411**
- Raising awareness on the critical **Gun Safety** issue
- Communicating breaking and important information through our **website and social media efforts**
- Supporting **Broward Vote! Coalition** partners to reach the broader diverse Broward communities

There's a lot more to do, and **I encourage you to volunteer to help promote the largest ever turnout of informed Broward voters.** Join the League at any of our many activities in the upcoming weeks. And remember to join us at **11:00 am on November 19th** for a **Thank You Brunch** to celebrate our volunteers.

Hard work *does* have its own rewards! See you soon.

Warmest Regards,

Jocelyn Jocelyn Carter-Miller LWVBC President



Candidate Forum

Available online or on TV

The Candidate Forum, taped at BECON-TV (WBEC) is now available any time at <https://eduvision.tv/I?ARAtP> It can also be seen on Dish, Direct TV, and Uverse on Channel 63; or on Comcast on Channel 19

- October 22, 29, and November 5: 3:00 pm
- October 26 and November 2: 7:00 pm
- October 27 and November 3: 4:00 pm

The races covered: FL House Districts 93, 103, 104 and 105; Broward County Commission Districts 3 and 5, and Broward Sheriff.



Have you visited **VOTE411**? If not, then you'll want to scurry on over to www.vote411.org, the premier national website for trusted non-partisan League information. It's a comprehensive one-stop shop to find all the election information you need. Just enter your address to:

- Check your voter status
- Begin the registration process; see registration deadlines
- Find early voting dates, times & locations
- Find election dates
- Contact the Supervisor of Elections to request a mail-in ballot
- Find your polling place & *your* sample ballot
- Find data on candidates in federal, state, county & city elections
- Find information on state, county, city constitutional/charter amendments

Now that's a lot of election stuff, but it's not all. The unique thing about **VOTE411** is that it interacts with *you—the voter*. Compare candidates' positions, choose your candidates, vote on amendments, and text or email *your* sample ballot with *your* choices. Use this as your reference when going to the polls. Or, maybe you like to vote early. Better yet, get a mail-in ballot.

VOTE411 does all the work. No need to know your district numbers. You get information only on the candidates you can vote for---not a bunch of candidates you can't vote for. **VOTE411** is a great way to get informed. **VOTE411** is easy. It's fun. It's cool. It's techy!



Voters Service

We have amazing volunteers who continue to answer the call - no matter how last minutes it is and remain flexible - no matter how many changes are made to the schedule. Each presentation is greatly appreciated and we often receive multiple requests for additional presentations at new venues. The excellent Power - Point and talented speakers are doubling our work load and reach to voters.



The countless hours our volunteers have donated mean that voters are better equipped to cast an informed ballot. The Board invites all volunteers to join us on **November 19th** for a much-deserved *Thankyou Breakfast*. An evite will be sent to each of you (See page 6 for details).

Our **Decision 2016** presentations will conclude on November 7. But until then, there is still so much we can do to help get out the vote.

- Ask every voter (friends, family, grocery line, hairdresser, workplace) how they plan to vote: by mail, early or day of? This is a strategy recommended by **Nonprofit VOTE**.
- Remind those waiting to vote on Nov. 8th to check their new Voter Registration cards and verify their precinct location.
- Remind voters to fill out the entire **mail-in-ballot** (important amendments/county issues are at the bottom of the ballot) and **sign the outside envelope**. Encourage them to mail it in plenty of time to reach the SOE office, or turn it in at one of several mail-in-ballot drop off sites.
- Familiarize yourselves with **VOTE411**, the 4 Amendments, the Merit Retention process for Supreme Court/District Court of Appeals Judges, early voting and ballot drop-off sites. Explain that the sitting governor appoints replacements (from a list provided by committee) for court positions left unfilled by those Judges not retained.

Voter Speaking and Registration Events (Volunteers Needed) (Decision 2016 - speaking event)

- **Oct 24: Decision 2016**, 7:30 pm, **St. Andrew Church**, 9950 NW 29th Street, Coral Springs
- **Oct 25: Decision 2016**, 12:00 pm, **Children's Service Council Staff**, 6600 W. Commercial Blvd, Lauderhill
- **Oct 26: Decision 2016**, 6:30-8:30 pm, **Parkland Library**, 6600 University Dr., Parkland
- **Oct 28: Lauderhill Candidate Forum**, 7:00-9:00 pm, St. George Park, 3501 NW 8th St., Lauderhill
- **Oct 31: Decision 2016**, 1:00 pm, **Hadassah**, Century Village, Deerfield Beach
- **Nov 1: Decision 2016**, 11:00 am, **Pine Island Ridge Hadassah**, PIR Country Club, 9400 Pine Ridge Dr., Davie
- **Nov 1: Decision 2016**, 7:00 pm, **Griffin Community Association**, P.J. Meli Aquatic Park, 2901 SW 52nd St., Dania Beach
- **Nov 4: Decision 2016**, 7:30 pm, **Coral Springs/Parkland Dem. Club**, Cypress Hall 1300, Coral Springs
- **Nov 4 and Nov 8: Supervisor of Elections Regional Sites – volunteer and help fundraise for the LWVBC.**
 - Questions? Call Joanne: 954-370-4920



Check Our Website (Lwvbcfl.org) for last minute additions and changes.

Contact **Voters Service Chair**: Laura Simon (johnsimon@bellsouth.net) or 954-430-5234

COMMIT TO VOTE ELECTION

Early Voting

- Oct. 24 through Nov 6 at 21 locations around Broward.
Polls open 7 am to 7 pm

Vote By Mail

- If you still need a ballot, call 954-357-7055 or use website: www.browardsoe.org



VOTE Election Day

- At your precinct, November 8. Polls open 7 am to 7 pm; bring an approved ID with your picture and signature.

Film Examines Gun Safety Issues

Over thirty people attended the LWVBC's showing of the film, *Making a Killing* on September 14 at the River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Davie.

The Broward County LWV's **Gun Safety committee** continues to educate and advocate in Broward County to prevent gun violence. Contact **Bradette Jepsen** at bradette@earthlink.net to join the LWVBC gun safety committee and be a part of this important initiative.



Renew Your League Membership

It's time to get out your checkbooks and renew your league membership.

- **Individual:** \$50
- **Family:** \$75
- **Susan B. Anthony:** \$100

Send your check to LWVBC, PO. Box 15952, Plantation, FL 33318-5952

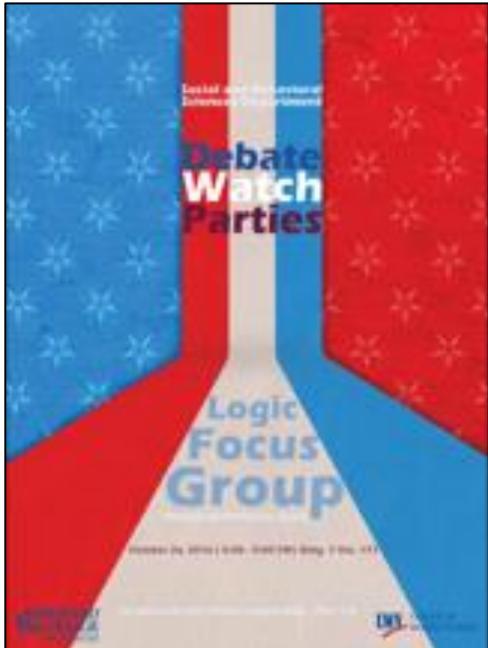


We Need Your Help!

Everyone loves a Party! Please volunteer to help plan our **Volunteer Breakfast** on November 19, our **Holiday Party** on December 3, our **Annual Meeting Luncheon** in April, and the **Florida League of Women Voters State Convention** which will be held in Broward County in June.

- Contact **Donna Meyers** at 954-600-4563 or bmeyers461@aol.com

Hot Topic



Join us on **October 26** to watch the *Senate Debate* between **Marco Rubio** and **Patrick Murphy**. Co-sponsored by **Broward College** and **LWVBC**, the Focus Group is organized by the **Social and Behavioral Science Department** and hosted by League member and Broward College Professor, **Nora Ayala**.

Where: Broward College Central Campus
Bldg. 7, Rm 177

When: October 26; 5:00-9:00 pm



Spread the Word on Social Media

The League is all about educating and reaching voters, and social media can be a great tool. But this effort needs your help. Here are three key things you can do to support the **League of Women Voters of Broward County** on social media.

- **Like** the **LWVBC** page on **Facebook**. You can find the Facebook page right on the front of the League's website, <http://www.lwvbcfl.org/>. When you see a Facebook post from the League about which you are enthusiastic, don't just "like" it, also share it.
- When you **share** a post, your friends and family will also see it, and that helps increase our visibility. It also is a factor in Facebook's formula in determining how prominent to make our posts. (Not everybody who follows our page sees every post.)
- If you are on **Twitter**, follow the League **@lwvbcfl** and **retweet** things you like. You can also find our Twitter feed on the League's website.

Join Us for a *Thank You Brunch*: November 19

Any organization is only as effective as its membership. This election cycle, our members

- partnered with a coalition of like-minded organizations to reach voters
- created a get-out-the-vote task force
- produced engaging presentation programs
- moderated candidate forums
- promoted and populated **VOTE411.org**
- used social media to target younger voters
- updated and registered voters
- distributed election materials
- volunteered to staff SOE Regional sites.



Broward League of Women Voters members have accomplished a Herculean task covering every corner of the county enabling voters to make informed choices this election season. **You are so appreciated!**

Please join the Board of Directors at 11:00 am on November 19 at the League Office to accept our thanks, to socialize with fellow league members, and to share a late morning breakfast.

Holiday Wine and Cheese Party: December 3



Join fellow LWVBC members for our annual **Holiday Party** at the beautiful intracoastal home of **Harriet Mathis**. The date is **December 3** (Saturday) from **6:30-8:30 pm**. **3070 NE 39th Street Fort Lauderdale, FL**



Over 100 Events and Still Going Strong!

This election season, League members registered voters, moderated forums, delivered election presentations, distributed League materials, and volunteered at Supervisor of Elections Regional sites - donating hundreds of hours in order to **Make Democracy Work.**





Committee Reports

	Education Margery Marcus rma470000@aol.com	<p>Janie has been updating Decision 2016 as more specific information about the amendments and tax referendums become available. Margery is collaborating with AAUW Weston President and LWV member Kalama Anandam to upload Decision 2016 to YouTube. It will feature music and a voice-over. A link to accessing the YouTube site was sent to Coalition members and posted on the LWVBC website. Additionally, Margery made a presentation to American History classes at Atlantic Technical College High School in mid-September. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-8AcL6Lhmg&sns=em</p>
	Voters Service Laura Simon johnsimon@bellsouth.net	<p>Voter Registration Events: Volunteers needed for remaining events before November 8 election date.</p>
	Vote411 Jane Gross Jane144@att.net	<p>Visit www.vote411.org for candidate, race, and amendment information.</p>
	Speakers Bureau Carol Smith cssmith@att.net	<p>Speakers Bureau: Decision 2016 is continuously updated to reflect the latest information on voting, amendments, and local county and charter questions. Be informed – there are many issues on the November ballot. Find out what's on your ballot.</p>
	Gun Safety Bradette Jepsen bradette@earthlink.net	<p>The Broward County LWV's gun safety committee continues to educate and advocate in Broward County to prevent gun violence. Contact Bradette Jepsen at bradette@earthlink.net to join the LWVBC gun safety committee and be a part of this important initiative.</p>
	Membership Data Base Scherry Donato scherryd1@gmail.com	<p>Welcome New Members</p> <p>Carol Frei Rudolph Frei Elizabeth Cobb</p> <p>LWVBC current total membership is 127.</p>



MARK your CALENDAR

Friday November 4	Supervisor of Election Regional Sites League of Women Voters volunteers staff SOE regional sites (fundraising activity)
Tuesday November 8	Election Day
Saturday November 19 9:30 am	Board of Directors Meeting LWVBC Office 5101 NW 21 st Avenue, Suite 450 Fort Lauderdale, FL
Saturday November 19 11 am	Volunteer Thank You Brunch LWVBC Office 5101 NW 21 st Avenue, Suite 450 Fort Lauderdale, FL
Saturday December 3 6:30 – 8:30 pm	Holiday Wine and Cheese Party 3070 NE 39 th Street Fort Lauderdale, FL

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lwvbcfl.org

The **VOTER** is a newsletter published by
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LWV BROWARD COUNTY VOTER



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF BROWARD COUNTY, FL

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2016

Thank you for your support of the League of Women Voters. Our voice is more important today than ever!
Membership includes local, state, and national membership and *VOTER* newsletters.

	INFORMATION
Name	
Address/Apt	
City/State/Zip	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
Cell Phone	
Email	

Contact me by: Email Mail Home Phone Work Phone Cell Phone

Please tell us how you heard about the League:

- FRIEND
- LEAGUE MEMBER
- RADIO
- TV
- SCHOOL
- INTERNET
- GROUP/ORGANIZATION

Select Annual Membership Level:
 \$100.00 Susan B. Anthony
 \$75.00 Household
 \$50.00 Individual
 \$25.00 Full-time Student
 Your donation is appreciated
 Total Amount enclosed

COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP FORM AND MAIL WITH CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO LWVBCFL
TO: LWVBC Membership, P.O. Box 15952, Plantation, FL 33318-5952

Check # _____ Date _____

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST:

<input type="checkbox"/> ADVOCACY	<input type="checkbox"/> MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL MEDIA
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY OUTREACH	<input type="checkbox"/> NEWSLETTER	<input type="checkbox"/> SPEAKERS BUREAU
<input type="checkbox"/> EVENT PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> OFFICE PHONE/VOICEMAIL	<input type="checkbox"/> VOTER SERVICE
<input type="checkbox"/> FUNDRAISING	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLICITY	<input type="checkbox"/> WEBSITE MAINTENANCE

*Be sure to indicate your email address in order to receive the *VOTER* newsletter and special announcements electronically.