

## LWVAC 2021-2022 LOCAL PROGRAM

**Voter Services Committee** will provide information on voter registration, voting, and state and local ballot issues; sponsor candidate forums; participate in community events; and advocate on voting-related issues.

**Communications Committee** continues to expand the LWVAC's reach into the larger community via website and Facebook. The Committee will coordinate with the LWVAC standing committees to coordinate, educate and advocate messages to citizens in Alachua County.

**Education Committee** will be studying state and local policies and guidelines which impact school climate. In addition, policy that affects budget will be studied along with school choice and employment of personnel.

**Local Issues Committee** will encourage informed and active participation in local government and work to increase understanding of significant local policy issues and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The Committee will continue to focus on affordable housing and renters' rights in our community; civic education through challenge competitions; and educating the public on issues that impact our local community.

**The Natural Resources Committee** welcomes Roberta Gastmeyer as Co-Chair. Under the combined leadership of Jay Rosenbek and Roberta Gastmeyer, the Natural Resources Committee will undertake an aggressive, non-partisan program of advocacy and education in support of preserving what remains of the natural environment in Gainesville, Alachua County, North Central Florida, and in the state. Doing so will require: 1. Increasing League member involvement in NR activities, 2. Expanding and intensifying collaborative efforts with the local league's Climate Action Team, the North Central Florida-Climate Action Team, the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Committee, and other local and regional environmental groups, and 3. Extending education and advocacy beyond forums to include written and in-person activities such as letter writing, labeling and demonstrating.

**Social and Criminal Justice Committee** will continue working to increase deflection of adults and children from the criminal justice system and will advocate for 1) establishment of a comprehensive, civil system of care to provide assessments and wrap-around services; 2) reduction of reliance on money bail, especially for indigents; 3) equitable restoration of suspended driver's licenses; 4) improving the adult and juvenile criminal justice system; and 5) increased coordination among county, municipalities and related entities. Social Events and Hot Topics Committees will organize or assist in organizing meetings and events, including opportunities to network and to explore and discuss current topics.

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