



Our Mission
To encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy



ACTION-PACKED MONTH AHEAD!

Chris Straton
President@lwvcolliercounty.org

Personally, I think that we are facing one of the most important elections in my lifetime. Floridians are electing every U.S. Congressman, a U.S. Senator, our Governor and entire Cabinet, our State Representatives, local judges, School Board members, and a County Commissioner. Will the U.S. House and Senate continue to be controlled by the party of the President? Will Florida continue to have a one-party Governor, State House and State Senate? It is our choice – so be sure to VOTE! Meet the winners of the local races at "Wine with the Winners" ... then—before we forget what we've learned, help plan our activities for the 2008 election! See page 2 for a Voter Service update.

November also brings many non-election-related opportunities to get involved and learn about our community.

Hear how the drug culture influences today's youth with the Justice Committee (page 4) ... Learn about local healthcare services for children with the Social Policy Committee (page 6) ... Consider the power of the South Florida Water Management District at our next Hot Topics lunch (page 5) ... And after getting charged up about the challenges to our environment, join the Government or Natural Resources Committees — or both! — for kick-off goal setting meetings (pages 5 and 3).

At our November 20 General Meeting, Dianne Wheatley-Giliotti, President of the Florida LWV, will update us on our lawsuit against the Florida Secretary of State, League priorities for the 2007 Legislative Session, her goals for the state League, and more. Come to the Norris Center at 11:30 a.m. to socialize; lunch at noon. (\$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, due to an increase in cost by our caterer.) Reservations required, which must be honored or cancelled by 11/16 to avoid being charged. RSVP to 263-4656 or Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org.

Finally — save the date! Celebrate the December Holidays with Leaguers, friends and spouses with an enjoyable evening of fun, food and fund raising on Wednesday, December 6 from 6 – 8:00p.m. at the home of Hospitality Chair Nancy Wolfe. Bring a beverage, finger food to share and \$10 per person (page 8). Proceeds will be used to offset the national dues increase we decided not to pass along to our members.

- SAVE THE DATE!
Monday, 10/30
Welcome Back Lunch
Wednesday, 11/1
Justice Committee
Tuesday, 11/7
ELECTION DAY
Wednesday, 11/8
Social Policy Committee
Wednesday, 11/8
Wine with the Winners
Friday, 11/10
Hot Topics
Tuesday, 11/14
Government Committee
Wednesday, 11/15
Prospective Member Information Session
Wednesday, 11/15
Voter Service Committee
Friday, 11/17
Natural Resources
Monday, 11/20
General Meeting
Wednesday, 12/6
Holiday Party
See page 8 for details

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**“ALL  
POLITICS  
IS  
LOCAL...”**

**LATE U.S.  
HOUSE SPEAKER  
TIP O’NEILL**

# VOTER SERVICE IN ACTION

**Sue Bookbinder**

[VoterService@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:VoterService@lwvcolliercounty.org)



As you all know, the League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization. We don't endorse candidates for office, but we do take positions on issues. **Please tell your friends to Vote No for Constitutional Amendment 3** (see page 3) and **Vote Yes for Conservation Collier** (see October Voter).

This past month, the Voter Service Committee has been busy with get-out-the-vote activities and educating the public for the upcoming elections.

We formed a get-out-the-vote **partnership with the Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce**, launching a series of email communications to The Chamber's more than 1700 member businesses.

**I represented the League with a talk** titled "Be Prepared: Issues for the November Election" at a meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women – Naples/Marco Section. (We'd love to do more of this. If you'd like us to address one of your organizations, let us know.)

We hosted "**Lunch with the School Board Candidates**," which gave us the opportunity to get to know the candidates better and gave them a chance to hear first hand what was on our minds. On November 8, we'll have "**Wine with the Winners**" for a continuation of this theme. (See page 8 for details). No, no, no....I do have more on my mind that just food and drink -- these gatherings are great ways to advance our mission "to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government."

**Our website is a one-stop shop for election-related information.** Spread the word! At [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org), you can find:

- a summary of the constitutional amendments, pros and cons, and League positions on each;
- the election edition of the Florida Voter, with information on state-wide candidates and positions;
- candidate surveys with answers from school board, county commission, mosquito control, fire district, and circuit court judge candidates;
- access to replays of candidate forums;
- voter registration, absentee ballot, and polling place information; and more.

With only weeks to go before the election, it's not too soon to begin thinking about 2008! Join me for lunch on **Wednesday, November 15**, when we'll begin planning for the 2008 season. (See page 8 for details.)



Visit our website at [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org)

**EARLY VOTING NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 4  
10:30am—6:30pm ... Monday—Saturday  
ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7  
POLLS OPEN 7am—7pm**





# GOVERNMENT — Hot New Season Begins



By Sandy Parker — [Government@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org)



Do you think our government District: Protector or Protagonist?"

is representative? Accountable? Responsive? The headline read "Water District approves Mirasol permit revision." Despite opposition from every environmental organization in Collier County, the League of Women Voters of the U.S. on representative government is to promote an open governmental system that is just that. The public policy position of the League of Women Voters of Collier County and over 1000 emails asking that the permit be denied, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) Governing Board, consisting of 11 members appointed by the Governor, unanimously approved the water district permit. They even praised the developer.

## Government Committee Kicks Off the Season on November 14

Do you share my passion for good government — or just want to know more about where we live?

Our focus this season will be on local government. How are our interests represented in Collier County and in the Florida Legislature? Who are the players? What issues are they addressing? How do these governments operate? How effective and accountable are our elected officials?

We'll officially launch the new season with an organizational and planning meeting at my home in Olde Cypress on Tuesday, November 14, from 9:30 – 11am. I hope you'll plan to join us!

Meanwhile, "Hot Topics" continues with a session co-sponsored with the Natural Resources Committee titled "South Florida Water Manage-

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**LWVUS Policy Position on Representative Government**

**Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive.**

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Who are these people, what powers do they have, why do the Collier County Commissioners want them elected instead of appointed, and why now?

Join us Friday, November 10 at noon at the Collier Athletic Club when Chris Straton leads a discussion of these questions. Lunch (\$16; \$21 for non-members).

In January, we'll launch a new series called "Lunch with Leaders," an opportunity to speak informally with local elected officials. January 10 with Clerk of Courts Dwight Brock ... February 14 with Supervisor of Elections Jennifer Edwards ... and more to come.

RSVP to [Government@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org) by 11/8 for Hot Topics; 11/12 for Kick-Off Meeting.

**FLORIDA CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS — VOTE NO ON 3**

**WHAT DOES AMENDMENT 3 DO?**

Amendment 3 limits the rights of Floridians to amend their Constitution.

Amendment 3 would require that future amendments to Florida's Constitution pass by 60 percent of the voters, putting an unfair burden on citizens who want to place important issues on the ballot.

Well-heeled opposition and lobby groups will pour millions into counter-campaigns, calculating that a 40 percent NO vote can be bought and paid for.



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



**IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR LEAGUE, PLEASE CONTACT ME. THE NEXT INFORMATION SESSION FOR NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WILL BE HELD AT MEDITERRA ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 ... 10:00 – 11:30AM**

**A warm welcome to the following new members who joined our league since the last Voter was published!**

- Edward Frick
- Coral Aiken-Miller
- Robert Evans
- Mary Carol Brown
- Barbara Fletcher

CONTACT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN THE "FOR MEMBERS" SECTION OF OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.LWVCOLLIERCOUNTY.ORG](http://WWW.LWVCOLLIERCOUNTY.ORG)



## Join the League of Women Voters of Collier County Today!

- \_\_\_ Individual membership - \$60.00
- \_\_\_ Family membership (two individuals at same address) - \$90.00
- \_\_\_ Student membership - \$30.00
- \_\_\_ Associate membership (for persons under 18 years of age, persons who are non-citizens, and members of other Leagues who are seasonal attendees of the LWVCC) - \$30.00

How would you like your contact information to appear in our records?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know your area(s) of interest so we can keep you informed about upcoming events:

Education ___	Government ___	Hospitality ___
Housing ___	International Relations ___	Membership ___
Justice ___	Natural Resources ___	Office Administration ___
Social Policy ___	Publicity ___	Voter Services ___

*Please mail this form with your check to:*  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF COLLIER COUNTY, P.O. Box 9883, Naples, FL 34101



League of Women Voters  
of Collier County  
P. O. Box 9883  
Naples, FL 34101  
Tel 239-263-4656 E-mail: lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org

### NEW THIS MONTH ON [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org) —

- Candidate surveys by LWVCC and Women's Network for Change
- Election Edition Florida Voter
- LWVFLA positions on the proposed constitutional amendments
- LWVCC Letters to the Editor and Guest Commentaries
- Hot Topics presentations on Florida's Insurance Crisis; Natural Resources 101; County-Wide Fire & EMS; Charter Government; and Florida's Voter Registration Law
- Minutes of 4/17 Board and 9/11 Executive Board meetings
- Updated Events & Activities Calendar and Printable Membership Roster

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS		
Date & Time	Description	Place
Monday, 10/30 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.	<b>Welcome Back Luncheon</b> — Cash bar, lunch (\$20 members/ \$25 non-members) and a welcome back presentation by the Board. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org">Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-4656 by 10/25.	Collier Athletic Club (at The Commons) 710 Goodlette Rd. N. at 7th Ave N.
Wednesday, 11/1 6:30 p.m.	<b>Justice Committee Meeting (p.4)</b> — Our Rapidly-Changing Drug Culture. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Justice@lwvcolliercounty.org">Justice@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 10/30.	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Admin. Center, 5775 Osceola Trail behind Barron Collier H.S.
Wednesday, 11/8 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	<b>Social Policy Committee Meeting (p.6)</b> – Access to Healthcare for Collier's Children. Breakfast (\$8.50). RSVP to <a href="mailto:SocialPolicy@lwvcolliercounty.org">SocialPolicy@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/6.	Crissy's Wild Side Café 5026 Airport Pulling Rd N (Carillon Plaza)
Wednesday, 11/8 5:30 –7:00 p.m.	<b>Wine with the Winners (p.2)</b> — Cash bar. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-4656 by 11/6.	Collier Athletic Club (at The Commons) 710 Goodlette Rd. N. at 7th Ave N.
Friday, 11/10 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>Government &amp; Natural Resources Committees</b> -- Hot Topics: Southwest Florida Water Management District: Protector or Protagonist? (p.5) Lunch (\$16 members; \$21 non-members) RSVP to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> or 263-4656 by 11/8.	Collier Athletic Club (at The Commons) 710 Goodlette Rd. N. at 7th Ave N.
Tuesday, 11/14 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	<b>Government Committee Meeting (p.5)</b> – Planning session. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Government@lwvcolliercounty.org">Government@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/13 for directions.	Home of Sandy Parker North Naples
Wednesday, 11/15 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.	<b>Prospective Member Information Session (p.7)</b> – RSVP to <a href="mailto:Membership@lwvcolliercounty.org">Membership@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/13 for directions.	Mediterra North Naples
Wednesday, 11/15 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	<b>Voter Service Committee Meeting (p.2)</b> – Planning session. Dutch Treat lunch. RSVP to <a href="mailto:VoterService@lwvcolliercounty.org">VoterService@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/13.	Vineyards County Club North Naples
Friday, 11/17 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	<b>Natural Resources Committee Meeting (p.3)</b> – Planning session. RSVP to <a href="mailto:NaturalResources@lwvcolliercounty.org">NaturalResources@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/15.	The Conservancy of Southwest Florida
November 20 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	<b>General Meeting (p.1)</b> -- Buffet luncheon (\$15 members; \$20 non-members). Reservations required – call 263-4656 or <a href="mailto:Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org">Hospitality@lwvcolliercounty.org</a> by 11/16. Reservations must be honored or cancelled before the deadline.	The Norris Center 8th Street across from City Hall