



IN THIS ISSUE:

Fair Districts: People over Politics
Amendments Pro/Con
Rally 2010 - October 18-19
Amendments Removed...
Voters Service Report
Links

FairDistricts: People over Politics

Monday September 13,

4:30 - 6:00 PM

Gulf Coast Community Bank Lobby

40 N. Palafox Street (Corner of Palafox & Chase Streets)

Ellen Freidin, Chair of Fair Districts Florida

YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Officers:

Deborah Nelson, President
Paula Montgomery, 1st V.P.
Rosemary Hays-Thomas, 2nd V.P.
Marilyn Badessa, Treasurer
Haley Richards Secretary

Directors:

Sharon Barnett
Mary Bishop
Vivian Faircloth
Carolyn Kolb
Dian Parsley
Ellen Roston

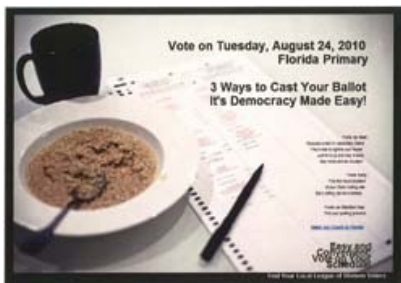
www.lwvpba.org

lwvpba@gmail.com

Phone: (850)937-7769

www.lwvfla.org

www.lwv.org



Vote by mail

Vote early

**Vote at the polls on Election Day
November 2, 2010**

Join the LWV— where men and women like you are actively engaged in making change happen on the local, state and national level!

The public is invited to join Ellen Freidin, Chair of FairDistricts Florida, the League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area, ACLU and Movement for Change on Monday afternoon at the Gulf Coast Community Bank at 4:30 pm. This event will provide an opportunity for members of local organizations and interested citizens to become informed and support Amendments 5 and 6, which will be on the November 2 ballot.

Passage of Amendments 5 and 6 will set standards for the Florida Legislature when new boundaries are drawn using the recent census population totals. Rather than consideration of incumbency or political party affiliation, the redistricting would reduce gerrymandering, protect minority interests, be contiguous, compact and, where feasible, follow city, county and geographical boundaries.



Please join us for this afternoon event!

What does it mean to *vote for* or to *vote against* the ballot amendments?

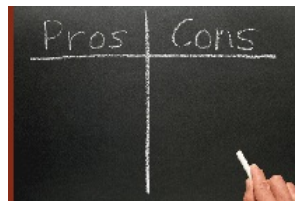
Saturday, September 18, 2010

Speaker: Sharon Barnett, LWV Florida Director

New Lucia M. Tryon Branch Library

Coffee 9:00am - program 9:30 am

The League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area will host a public forum on the pros/cons of the November ballot amendments, Saturday September 18, at the new Tryon Branch Library on Langley Ave. The League Voter Service Committee concentrates on educating voters before they go to the polls. Committee member Sharon Barnett will present non-partisan information on these issues. One important aspect of Voter Service is the presentation of pros/cons on proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution.



Voters will decide the fate of six proposed amendments and one question on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

Continued on page 2 vote for or

Continued from page 1 Vote for or....

Six Amendments, 1 Question to Consider

Amendments:

1. Repeal of public financing requirement
2. Tax break for deployed military personnel
4. Control over changes to growth plans
- 5 & 6. Changes in redistricting process
8. Relaxation of class-size requirements

Ballot Non-Binding Question: "In order to stop the uncontrolled growth of our national debt and prevent excessive borrowing by the federal government, which threatens our economy and national security, should the United States Constitution be amended to require a balanced federal budget without raising taxes?" ◇



"Rally 2010"

October 18 & 19
7 pm to 9:30 pm

WSRE, PBS for the Gulf Coast, presents "Rally 2010," a general election

televised candidate forum. This special will feature local candidates from Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties, State Senate and House seats, as well as candidates for Circuit Court Judge.

The Rally will take place October 18 and 19.

"Rally 2010" is co-sponsored by WSRE and the LWV of the Pensacola Bay Area and LWV of Okaloosa County. The purpose of "Rally 2010" is to give citizens an unbiased look at the candidates vying to represent them and to learn where they stand on the important issues that affect us all. WSRE provides the program as a public service and encourages all citizens to participate in exercising their constitutional right to vote. ◇

Amendments Removed From Ballot After Court Challenges

Amendments 3 (property tax limit for non-homestead property, which added new exemption for new homestead owners), Amendment 7 (redistricting changes that are less restrictive than Amendments 5 & 6), and Amendment 9 (nullification of federal health-care law) were removed from the November 2010 ballot by the Florida Supreme Court after legal challenges. (See August 31 Supreme Court rulings on www.FloridaSupremeCourt.org under Public Information) ◇ [www.CollinsCenter.org]

The League extends heartfelt sympathy to Sharon Barnett on the recent death of her father, Cleatus Eugene Barnett.

Voters Service Committee

Active during Summer

by Chair Mary Bishop, 384-2931

Rally 2010 on WSRE-TV gave viewers information about candidates in the August primary election. The questions were provided by members of the Voter Service committee and covered a wide range of topics related to the specific office the candidates were seeking. The committee spent summer Sunday afternoons determining the most important topics for questions. Members who participated in writing questions and serving as hosts at WSRE were: Chair Mary Bishop, Sharon Barnett, Betsy Bowers, Janet deLorge, Vivian Faircloth, Gene Feicht, Don Freeman, Ina Freeman, CJ Lewis, Deborah Nelson, Ann Regan, Ellen Roston, Fay Walker, Andrea Walker and Courtney Winstead.

Now that the primary election is over, the Voter Service members are meeting to discuss the 6 proposed Constitutional Amendments that will appear on the November 2 ballot. This group will offer pro/con information on the proposals to our League in September and will be available to speak to community groups when requests are made. Pro/con information is available at www.lwvpba.org Visit the website for current information on activities of our local organization. The League telephone number is: 850-937-7769.

LWVF is distributing the *Special Election Edition of the Voter* throughout Florida. In October, our League expects to receive 10K of the flyers in English and 1K in Spanish. These will be distributed as widely as possible. If you can suggest a group or location where the publication may be made available to the public, please call 607-9170 or 937-7769. ◇

Links for Election Information:

1. League website at: www.lwvpba.org
2. "Rally 2010" programs may be viewed 48 hours after the live televised candidate forum. There will be a link on www.lwvpba.org and www.wsre.org/rally/.
3. PolitiFact is a project of the St. Petersburg Times to help you find the truth in American politics: <http://www.politifact.com>
4. www.VoteAnywhere.org.
5. www.Vote411.org
6. www.brennancenter.org/content/section/category/re-districting/
7. To search and navigate the LWV.org website, use "site:lwv.org" (with no spaces) in the Google browser as one of your search parameters, then Google will search only the LWV.org webpages