



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARTIN COUNTY

P.O. Box 2874
Stuart, FL 34995-2874

website: www.LWVMartinCounty.org
email: LWVMar@gmail.com

League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed active participation of citizens in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

**February 2017
VOTER**

President: Linda Grand
Editor: Jennifer Durrant

**Monday, February 20, 2017
Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon
Honoree: Kherri Anderson**



The Susan B. Anthony Award honors women who carry on the ideals of Susan B. Anthony: encouraging informed and active participation in government, working to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy.

Kherri Anderson's devotion to the people of Martin County, serving as Deputy of Elections Outreach for the Martin County Supervisor of Elections is most deserving of the League's acknowledgement; her duties include poll worker training and voter outreach.

She received her Masters at Auburn University to professionalize the management of voter registration and elections administration in promoting and preserving public trust in the democratic process. She is a graduate of Florida Atlantic University.

Kherri is a Martin County native, her family are longtime Martin County pioneers. Many educators are included in her family. David Anderson Middle School is named after her uncle. Her mother is Reverend Xenobia Anderson who has been a principal and most recently Executive Director of Human Resources Management Development and Staff Development for the Martin County School District.

Kherri serves on the United Way Board of Directors, and is co-chair of The White Doves Holiday Project. As a member of Florida Public Relations Association, she was recognized with their Grand Champion Award for her Vote by Mail campaign. Please join us in honoring Kherri Anderson at our February 20 luncheon.



Manero's Restaurant
2851 SW High Meadows Avenue
Palm City
Door open at 11:30 a.m.
(serving at 12:00 noon)

RSVP by February 16

Please include your menu choice with your reservation

- Oriental Chicken Salad
- Salmon with Rice and Side
- Vegetarian Sampler
- Dessert and a beverage included

\$18.00 (\$20.00 if paid at door, but reserved ahead)

Send to
Alice Kraus
2784 SW Bear Paw Trail
Palm City, FL 34990
Phone: 772-223-9010
walt29@comcast.net

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Donna Dupuy

CONSENSUS MEETING ON OPEN PRIMARIES: FEBRUARY 20TH

At its state convention in 2015, LWV/F voted to undertake a statewide study on open primaries to evaluate Florida's current primary system and determine whether it is a hindrance to voter turnout.

In the 21 months since then, League members from throughout Florida have collected, collated and churned a mountain of data under the direction of the State Study Team.

Supervisors of Elections and major party officials were interviewed. Leagues in other states were contacted and interviewed. Alternative voting systems used in a dozen other states were analyzed. And a special, separate survey of Millennials was conducted in an effort to garner insight into their attitudes towards the system and tendencies towards participation in it.

All of that data has now been assembled in a report and presentation which will be provided to all participating local Leagues for their use in holding consensus meetings, at which each local League will discuss the material, come to consensus (if possible), and then report their results to the State Study Team.

Tired yet? We're only halfway there.

After the State Study Team receives all of the local League reports, they will provide the consensus findings to the State Board for their review and approval. Finally, the State Board will publish the Open Primary study findings and action plans as determined by the consensus process.

And what does this have to do with YOU?

We, the League of Voters of Martin County, will hold our consensus meeting on open primaries immediately after our luncheon on February 20th.

(Everybody say "Thank you, Manero's!" for allowing us to hold the room following the luncheon.)

You will be shown a PowerPoint presentation of the findings and data. Then you will be asked to consider a set of statements regarding the primary system, and we will attempt to reach consensus on those statements.

In the context of what's going on in Tallahassee and Washington today, this may seem to be an arcane exercise with little relevance to the critical issues of the moment. But I assure you that the same might have been said of the early work done by LWV/F that ultimately led to the adoption of the Fair Districts Amendments, which ended gerrymandering in Florida.

It is deliberate, meticulous, often mind-numbing wonk-stuff like this that produces solid, responsible, progressive governance. So please plan to stay after lunch on February 20th and get jiggy with the consensus process.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Linda Grand

57% of eligible voters voted nationally in the latest general election. In Martin, the turnout was 71%, well above the national average! Thanks to all our LWV members who helped to reach this outstanding number. Special kudos to LWV member Vicki Davis, who is the Martin County Supervisor of Elections.

The League is a voice of reason that is needed now more than ever. We have seen once again how vital the League is and always will be. In a world of emotions, name calling, and ugliness, we need to continue to promote voter education and informed choices.

The League of Women Voters celebrates its 97th birthday this year. As the League honors the years of work its members accomplished, it is also looking to the future. League members will continue their commitment to improving communities across the country. As a nonpartisan political organization with over 850 local and state affiliates, the League is one of America's largest and most trusted organizations.

As we celebrate the difference we have made over the years, we remain focused on the future, working to keep Martin County strong, healthy and vibrant.

This year, the League remains committed to our mission to educate and engage members of the community in their government. Our members work toward our goals every day by reaching out to new citizens and first-time voters, protecting our natural resources, improving our election systems and holding public forums on important government issues. We believe that sensible, responsible, civil discourse and action based on substance rather than partisan battles is essential if we are to avoid polarization.

We are:

- Empowering voters to protect their right to vote
- Providing nonpartisan education and candidate debates
- Working to ensure that all votes are counted and all voices are heard
- Preserving our constitutional rights by safeguarding civil liberties
- Acting as a force for positive change in our communities and in our democracy

Let's try to reach the eligible voters who did not vote, and engage them in the League of Women Voters of Martin County. Please talk up our League whenever you have an opportunity.

Encourage potential members to sign up online. Our website provides a link to pay for membership dues with Paypal: LWVMartinCounty.org.

Our 2017 Susan B. Anthony award honoree, Kherrri Anderson, will be the featured speaker at our February 20 luncheon. Please bring your questions and comments; we look forward to seeing you.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Feb 20 Susan B. Anthony Award

Mar 20 National Issues

Apr 17 Annual Meeting

NEW MEMBER

Eileen Civin

8010 SE Osprey St

Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Phone: 561-762-4305

Email: eileencivinrealtor@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete the information below with your check payable to LWV Martin

Mail to: LWV Martin
POBox 2874
Stuart, FL 34995-2874

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

ANNUAL DUES

Table with 2 columns: Membership Type and Amount. Rows include Individual Annual Membership (\$55), Household Membership (\$85), and Student Membership (\$25).

Please check your interests:

- Education
Voting Rights/Registration
Health Care
Immigration
Natural Resources
Land & Water
Reproductive Rights
Animal Rights Advocacy
Gun Safety
Legislative Interviews
Legislative Actions
Candidate Forums
Speakers Bureau
Observer Corps
Community Outreach
Phone Tree
Membership/Hospitality
Publicity
Website
Social Media
Other

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