



Sandy Parker  
President



Chris Straton,  
Voter Service Chair

## League of Women Voters of Collier County Why bother to vote in the August primary elections?

County Commission Districts 2 (the northern Collier coastal area) and 4 (generally the City of Naples) are up for election. To learn what district you live in, go to [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org) and click on "Find Your Representative."

The August primary will also determine who will appear on the November ballot to be our next Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture, as well as our next U.S. Senator and Representatives.

If you want to influence the November election, you have to plan ahead. Since Florida is a "closed primary" state, you can only vote in the primary

with that party at least 29 days before the election. For the August primary, that means before July 26th.

Just because you register with a party doesn't mean you have to vote that way. Put your party affiliation to its best use in terms of influencing the political process. You can change your party affiliation at any time through the Supervisor of Elections Office at 239.252.8450 or [www.CollierVotes.com](http://www.CollierVotes.com).

Q&As from the candidates and pros and cons of ballot issues will be available near Election Day at [www.lwvcolliercounty.org](http://www.lwvcolliercounty.org). Make a note to review them before you mark your ballot.

The League of Women Voters of Collier County

Last month we told you how you could get a mail ballot so that you could vote anywhere in the August primary. This month we will address the importance of voting in that election.

In the August primary, Collier County voters will

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elect three school board members and two county commissioners. The bulk of your tax bill is for the county public schools, and the County Commission budget adds another significant amount to your property taxes. This election is your opportunity to weigh in on who sets those tax rates.

Since School Board members are elected at-large, all Collier County voters can vote for them, but only those who live in the district can vote for that district's commissioner. In August, the seats for

election of the party you are registered with.

For example, to influence whether Charlie Crist or Marco Rubio or another candidate will be the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate, you'll want to vote in the Republican primary.

To influence whether Dave Aronberg or Dan Gelber or another candidate will be the Democratic nominee for attorney general, you'll want to vote in the Democratic primary.

To vote in a party's primary, you have to register

(LWVCC) is a nonpartisan political organization of women and men whose mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government and influence public policy through education and advocacy. The LWVCC neither endorses nor opposes any political party or candidate for office.

For more information about the LWVCC, call us at 263.4656 or contact us at [lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org](mailto:lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org).

## May 14th golf tourney to benefit Red Cross Collier County Chapter

The American Red Cross Collier County Chapter Planned Giving Committee will hold its fifth annual golf tournament on Friday, May 14, 2010 at Quail West. The event will begin at 7:00 a.m. with registration and a Continental Breakfast followed by an 8 a.m. shotgun start. An awards luncheon for tournament players recognizes winners and features a barbeque buffet. All the funds raised support local

Red Cross programs and services.

Various levels of sponsorship are available including corporate, individual and hole sponsors.

The team sponsor level for a team of four is \$800, but many other sponsorship levels are available.

Those wishing to play, who do not have their own team, will be placed on a team.

For more information or to register, contact

Mary Lee Conner at 239.596.6868 x 12. Visit [www.colliercountyredcross.org](http://www.colliercountyredcross.org) as well.

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