



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 21, 2013

Contact:
Jessica Lowe-Minor
LWVF Executive Director
850-228-3646
LWVFexecutivedirector@gmail.com

LEAGUE'S DEIRDRE MACNAB HONORED AS CENTRAL FLORIDIAN OF THE YEAR

Orlando, FL--Deirdre Macnab, president of the League of Women Voters of Florida, has been named Central Floridian of the Year 2012 by the Orlando Sentinel.

Citing Macnab's dynamic approach to leadership, the Sentinel said, "Florida's League of Women Voters, founded in 1939, has been on a roll since Macnab took charge in 2009. It spearheaded the coalition that persuaded voters in 2010 to reform the state's hyperpoliticized and often profoundly unfair process for drawing legislative and congressional districts.

"The League and its allies convinced a federal judge to strike down part of a 2011 state law that severely restricted voter-registration drives.

"And the group fought alongside others for extra early-voting hours last year. Gov. Rick Scott rejected their request but now apparently has seen the light."

A portrait of strength and determination, Macnab is leading the League to the future. The Sentinel quoted several officials who are familiar with Macnab's efforts: "Deirdre's done an incredible amount with the League," says Linda Chapin, who was a county president herself before going into politics and becoming Orange County mayor. "She really has advanced the cause."

"She's done a phenomenal job in making sure the League is always at the table," says Seminole County Elections Supervisor Michael Ertel.

This is far from Macnab's first recognition for excellence. In November, she received an achievement award from the Florida Commission on the Status of Women.



Wrote the commission: "Due to Ms. Macnab's remarkable ability to attract and grow the League's membership in diversity of age, ethnicity and political parties, the League of Women Voters of Florida is more vital than ever before and with the highest regard of credibility."

Detailing Macnab's education and career background, as well as her efforts to improve Central Florida since she moved to the region in 2004--including her service as president of the Orange County League in 2006 before becoming state president in 2009--the Sentinel says, "She has left a lasting impression on her organization - and on Florida."

For her determination on behalf of Florida's voters, Macnab is the Orlando Sentinel's choice for 2012 Central Floridian of the Year.

To read the entire article and view a video of Macnab describing her work with the League and her motivation for leadership, [click here](#).

###

The League of Women Voters of Florida, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please visit the League's website at: www.TheFloridaVoter.org.