



Thursday – August 10, 2017

ROB LOREI

**Managing Editor of Florida This Week on WEDU-TV &
News/Public Affairs Director at WMNF 88.5 FM**

Club favorite, **ROB LOREI**, returns to share with us the insights he has gleaned from his many years of dealing with individuals in the political arena. He knows local, state and national politicians and has moderated many state wide debates. He is a co-founder of



WMNF Radio and has a talk and phone in show on that station Monday through Friday – 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

You can also catch Rob on Florida This Week on Fridays at 8:30 PM and on Sundays at 12:30 PM.

Come and hear his take on our crazy upside down political environment and the human disaster, Tornado Trump.

Please **RSVP ASAP** by calling Betty Morgenstein at **727-360-3971** or email your RSVP to GPDemocraticClub@aol.com.

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DUES

If you haven't paid your 2017 dues yet, please mail your check for **\$15** payable to **GPDC** to:
PO Box 11175
St Petersburg, FL 33733

Thank you. It's the best deal in town!

WHEN:	AUGUST 10, 2017 SOCIAL HOUR: 6:00 PM DINNER: 6:30 PM
WHERE:	BANQUET MASTERS 13355 49 TH St N (One block south of Ulmerton)
MENU:	Banquet Masters' Buffet
PRICE:	\$18.00
RESERVATIONS:	Betty Morgenstein 727-360-3971 Susan Sullivan 727-577-6359

THE RACE FOR ST PETERSBURG MAYOR

Notes from Michael

If you watched the St Petersburg Mayoral Debate last Tuesday, I'm sure you noticed that Rick Baker, like most Republicans, has a problem with the truth. It seems to be the same script in all Republican races, you lie about your opponent because it doesn't matter, your base will believe whatever you say. Much of what Mr Baker says about Mayor Kriseman is a total fabrication. As an example Baker says that he supports the LGBTQ community which, judging by his past actions, is definitely not the case. And, then, he accuses Mayor Kriseman of trying to divide the city because of Kriseman's support of the LGBTQ community.



It is so important to keep St Petersburg in the hands of a progressive Democrat. He could use everyone's support by both voting for him and, if possible, volunteering for his campaign. To **volunteer**, please contact **Daniel Weiss, 727-278-5019** or email him at daniel@kriseman.com.

Mayor Rick Kriseman's Main Campaign Office is located at 1638 9th Street North and his satellite office at 833 22nd Avenue South.

Notes from Betty

It's supposed to be non-partisan but everyone knows who the Democrat is and who the other person is. **RICK KRISEMAN** has worked long and hard during the past term to make St. Petersburg the best city around. He has been succeeding. He needs another term to continue the projects that have been started during his tenure. Sure, there have been some problems but they will be dealt with. The sewage problem has been addressed over and over by the press and by his opponent. All of the "good things" he has begun are being ignored.

The Primary is **August 29**. If you live in St Petersburg, please vote for **RICK KRISEMAN**. If you do not live in that city, offer to help in the campaign. If you have friends who live in St Pete, encourage them to vote for him. Absentee ballots have already been sent out.

With the very strange person we have in the White House pumping out tweets every day and attempting to take away all the progress Obama has made, it is very important that we keep Democrats at the local and state level. We will have to fight to keep the gains we have made.

Mayor Kriseman's Accomplishments Moving Forward

Rick Kriseman ran for mayor 4 years ago because St Pete had some big problems. The mayor tackled those problems head on, and now the city is moving forward. Under Mayor Kriseman, our local economy has flourished. Job creation is up, crime is down, and poverty - a primary focus for Mayor Kriseman - is falling at a rate outpacing the nation and the state. We are finally building a world-class pier and a new police station. There's still a sewer system to finish, and more opportunity to create throughout the city. Mayor Kriseman is running for reelection so that we can keep building the future of our city together.

Infrastructure

The \$300 million (over 5 years) Kriseman Infrastructure Plan is the largest single investment in public works in St. Pete's history. Under Mayor Kriseman, the city has stopped cutting corners on our sewer system.

- Under Mayor Kriseman, we are averaging approximately 155,000 linear feet of sewer pipe repairs and replacement each year. That's the highest it's been in 2 decades.
- The infrastructure plan will complement Mayor Kriseman's efforts of combating climate change and prepare St. Petersburg for future extreme weather.

Quality of Life Moving Forward

Mayor Kriseman implemented paid parental leave for all city workers - both moms and dads - so that new families can spend more time together.

- Mayor Kriseman increased the minimum wage for the city's workers because he believes all workers deserve a living wage. He has pledged to have a minimum wage of \$15 per hour by 2020.
- Mayor Kriseman secured the funding for the Cross Bay ferry pilot program, connecting downtown St. Petersburg to downtown Tampa.
- Under Mayor Kriseman's leadership, new amenities have come to South St. Pete, including a regional skate park which begins construction this summer.
- The 'Healthy St. Pete' initiative aim to help residents eat, shop and play healthy and change health outcomes for St. Pete. The initiative led St. Pete to become the 1st Florida city with a Healthy Procurement Policy.

Education Moving Forward

- Mayor Kriseman continued the St. Pete's Promise program, a holistic program to give at-risk students more resources and opportunities to succeed.
- Mayor Kriseman implemented service learning in St. Pete schools, giving students more opportunities to participate in their community.
- Mayor Kriseman appointed a full time liaison from City Hall to engage with schools, helping them secure more of the resources they need.

Sustainable progress for South St. Pete

- Mayor Kriseman's urban affairs agenda focuses on creating opportunity and building up people.

- Mayor Kriseman worked with Commissioner Ken Welch and others to implement the South St Pete Community Redevelopment Area. It has already allowed the city to grant about \$350,000 to nearly three dozen South St. Pete businesses and organizations.
- The 22nd Street S (Deuces) Commerce Park will be vacant no more. Development and jobs for our community are coming to this site.
- Mayor Kriseman's strategy is working. The most recent data shows St. Pete's African-American poverty rate decreased 8.5 % in one year, outpacing the nation, the state, the county, and the cities of Jacksonville, Miami, and Tampa.
- Business registrations in the CRA are way up. Since Mayor Kriseman took office, we've seen a 174% increase!
- When the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African-American History Museum was being threatened, Mayor Kriseman chose to save it. The building is now under the ownership of the City, and its future is bright.
- A record number of homes in South St. Pete have been renovated or removed to make way for new home. In January of 2014, 358 homes in the area known as 'Midtown' were vacant or boarded. Today, that number is down to 127. The number of vacant and boarded homes in Childs Park has fallen from 188 to 40.
- New development, new jobs, and new restaurants are coming to 34th Street S and the Skyway Marina District.
- Mayor Kriseman "Banned the Box" for all city job applications, removing the requirement to disclose a prior criminal record when applying for a job with the city.
- Mayor Kriseman kept a campaign promise & brought back community-oriented policing with the 'Park, Walk, and Talk' initiative. Police officers are now building stronger relationships with the community.
- Mayor Kriseman appointed a new chief of police within his first few months in office. Together, Mayor Kriseman and Chief Holloway have moved our police department and neighborhoods forward.
- Mayor Kriseman implemented a youth diversion program, giving minors second chances and no record for first offenses.
- Mayor Kriseman signed the Mayors Against Illegal Guns pledge, standing with police officers and neighborhoods.
- Mayor Kriseman changed the police department's high-speed chase policy in order to protect citizens and officers.

Crime & Criminal Justice Reform

- Under Mayor Kriseman's leadership, crime is down 6% and violent crime is down 26%.
- Mayor Kriseman kept a campaign promise to bring back community-oriented policing, creating better relationships between officers and the neighborhoods they serve. Tips are up and crimes are being solved faster and prevented sooner than ever before.
- A decade ago, our police department was in need of a new building, and an officer quit the force every 5 days. Mayor Kriseman broke ground on a new police station and with police Chief Holloway, morale is higher than ever before.

- Mayor Kriseman has made St. Pete a leader in criminal justice reform. The police department's 'Second Chance' program allows for minors who commit misdemeanors to perform community service instead of being arrested. More than 100 minors have successfully gone through the program and not repeated. Pinellas County followed suit based on the successes in St. Pete.

Environment

- Mayor Kriseman is not afraid to say that climate change is real, and that our city must take bold action.
- Mayor Kriseman brought curbside recycling to St. Petersburg.
- His leadership brought alternative forms of transportation like a high speed ferry and bike share to St. Pete.
- As a state representative, Mayor Kriseman worked with Charlie Crist on a nearshore drilling ban following the BP oil spill.
- Under Mayor Kriseman’s leadership, the City of St. Petersburg was one of the first cities to pledge to be powered by 100% clean energy.
- At Mayor Kriseman’s direction, nearly 50 acres of green space has been purchased or preserved. He protected the Boyd Hill Nature Preserve from a nearby townhome development.
- Mayor Kriseman signed a pledge to uphold the ‘Paris Climate Agreement’ following Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw the United States from it.
- St. Pete is now an accredited ‘STAR’ community, recognized nationally for sustainability.

LGBT Rights

- Mayor Kriseman has been a proud, lifelong ally of the LGBT community.
- Mayor Kriseman was one of the first elected officials in Central Florida to support marriage equality.
- Mayor Kriseman took St Pete from an equality score of 66 to 100 every year he’s been in office.
- Mayor Kriseman implemented diversity training on LGBT issues with all city workers.

Mayor Kriseman has proudly marched in St Pete Pride, has raised the Pride flag above City Hall.

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM

Rev. Kathleen Walter, Member of FAST (Faith & Action for Strength Together) will be our guest on Thursday, **September 14th**.

<http://revisefl.com/index.php/resources/citizens-guide>

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