

JULY 2024



June Highlights

TAMPA BAY LEAGUES ✨



On June 13, League members from the Tampa Bay Area met for the first, but not the last, combined all-member meeting. Debbie Chandler, LWVFL Co-President was the guest speaker.

Tanya Landry, President LWV N. Pinellas; Ruth Harenchar, Co-President, LWV Manatee; Cindy Wilson, Communications Chair, LWV Hillsborough/Pasco and Jackie Azis LWVSPA, President, LWV St. Petersburg Area each gave a presentation highlighting programs in the works leading up to the presidential elections.



2024 LWV Biennial Convention June 27- 30 Washington, DC



YOUR ACTION NEEDED ASAP



Call to Action: Contact the City Council about the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment Project

The St. Petersburg City Council is set to vote on a proposed deal regarding the redevelopment project on July 18.

Now is the time to contact the City Council and express your thoughts on the proposed deal.

Our League has studied the [Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment Project](#) for 18 months. According to the City of St. Petersburg, the City and Pinellas County will divert at least \$684 million of property taxes for the project.

After thoroughly studying the project, the League has serious concerns with the deal, specifically related to issues that include: racial equity, housing, potential federal civil rights violations, [environmental and sustainability concerns](#), and the lack of resident, taxpayer, and voter involvement in the process.

On our own and with community partners, we have [written articles](#), reviewed extensive documents and the term sheets, met with community leaders, interviewed experts, hosted and attended meetings with professionals who have researched the redevelopment project, conducted a survey of voters, testified at hearings, and shared [resources on our webpage](#), social media pages, and in our newsletters.

Why is the Historic Gas Plant District Redevelopment a social justice issue?

Approximately 40 years ago, the City of St. Petersburg forced residents, churches, and businesses in the Historic Gas Plant community to leave the area. The City displaced these residents through the use of federal funds and eminent domain but with the promise of future housing, jobs, opportunity, and equitable development. Those promises have yet to materialize. Instead, the land has been used for a baseball stadium for the Tampa Bay Rays. But now, this new redevelopment project is an opportunity for the City to finally make good on its promises to the community.

Why should you advocate for a better deal? [READ MORE.....](#)



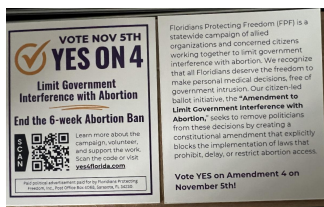
Yes on 4 Swag Available FREE TO MEMBERS

Yard signs, bumper stickers, palm cards

LWVSPA has paid to print great **Yes on 4** stuff -- free for our members. Non-members are asked to make a donation to cover our printing costs (\$5 to \$10). Email these League leaders today to arrange time to pick up items at their residences:

Lindsay Polega
5227 Burlington Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
Email Lindsay
lindsaypolega@gmail.com

Amy Weintraub
4545 Dolphin Cay Ln S
St. Petersburg, FL 33710
Email Amy
amyw304@gmail.com



UPCOMING ELECTION DATES

AUG 20, 2024: FLORIDA PRIMARY ELECTION

Polls are open from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. election day

- Monday, July 22, 2024: Deadline to register to vote and/or change party affiliation
- Thursday, Aug 8, 2024: Vote-By-Mail request deadline

AUG 10-18: EARLY VOTING DATES/TIMES

- Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Saturday - Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Help Protect Voters - Be a Nonpartisan Poll Monitor



Election Protection/866-Our-Vote is the largest nonpartisan voter protection program in the United States and Florida. Our League is a key partner in the Election Protection Coalition's work to protect voters in the Tampa Bay area in 2024. The coalition has a statewide command center staffed with experts and lawyers who are ready to respond in real-time to stop voter suppression ---- but we can only stop it if we know it's happening. That's where you come in.

Nonpartisan Poll Monitors are the eyes and ears on the ground to protect

voting rights. Election Protection Poll Monitors are stationed outside priority polling locations during early voting and election day to help make sure every registered voter gets to exercise their rights. You'll be trained to directly assist voters, observe and report issues that may deter voters, and connect voters with the command center if they have been denied the ballot.

[Sign up TODAY to volunteer or learn more!](#)

Poll Monitoring is not limited to League members: Share this with your friends who share our pro-voter values.

UPCOMING EVENTS



ALL-MEMBER MEETING: FOCUS ON EDUCATION IN PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS



**TUESDAY AUGUST 6TH, 6:00-7:30
ALLENDALE UMC
3803 HAINES RD. N.**

Kevin Hendrick, Superintendent will be the keynote speaker. He will share an overview of Pinellas County Schools, highlights for the 24-25 school year, and information about the PCS Referendum on the November Ballot.

Caprice Edmond, School Board member will also speak in her role as a school board member for Pinellas County Schools.

Meeting is open to League members only.

REGISTER



Jul 09, 2024, 5:00 pm
National Popular Vote:
Making sure every voice is heard

Join us as we discuss the current electoral system, what implementing the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would mean, and how to lobby your legislators on this, or any other, cause.

This hybrid event can be attended in person or via Zoom.

- In-person: 803 Haines Rd N, St. Petersburg, FL 33703
- Virtual location: When you register, you will receive a confirmation email with a URL.

[REGISTER](#)



Reproductive Resilience: Realities in a Pre-Roe and Post-Roe World

A VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION



PRE-ROE EXPERIENCES SHARED BY:

- SUE LEHRER, PHD, CSW
- ANONYMOUS SPEAKER
- & TIME FOR MEMBER STORIES



Register for Zoom link



MARLA NEUFELD
PARTNER: GREENSPOON MARDER
FOUNDER: SURROGACY & ASSISTED REPRO
TECH. PRACTICE GROUP



Wednesday, July 10, 6:00pm-7:15pm
via Zoom

Reproductive Resilience July 10, 2024 from 6:00 - 7:15 PM

Please join the St. Petersburg League of Women Voters' Reproductive Rights Action Team for its third monthly virtual panel discussion, Reproductive Resilience: Realities in a Pre-Roe and Post-Roe World. If you are not able to join the live virtual event, register anyway. All who register will receive a link to the recorded event.

[Register to attend this event.](#)

[Learn more about Sue Lehrer and Marla Neufeld.](#)



MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT REPRO RIGHTS

YES ON 4 SUPER SATURDAY

Saturday, July 20 @ 10am

Location: TBA

LWVSPA will co-lead this door-to-door canvass as we talk to voters and mobilize them to vote "YES!" on Amendment 4. It's up to us to limit government interference with abortion care delivery in Florida.

[SIGN UP](#) for the LWVSPA Repro email group to stay informed.

LWVSPA Reproductive Rights Team Meeting

Wednesday, July 25 @ 6:30pm (Virtual meeting)

[SIGN UP](#) for the LWVSPA Repro email group to get Zoom link.

Other Opportunities to engage in Yes on 4:

- Every Tuesday at 5:15 is training and troubleshooting for the Reach relational organizing app with Amy Weintraub. Supporters are encouraged to use Reach to start conversations around Amendment 4 and track progress with voters they already know.

[Register](#)

- Every Thursday at 6 pm is the Virtual Phone Bank training. Once trained, volunteers can make calls anytime or anywhere.

[Register](#)

- Be sure to [sign up](#) as a **Yes on 4** volunteer to stay informed about all the ways to plug in.
- The postcard campaign will roll out in July. Watch for news on that




July 12-13: Double Tree Hilton Hotel Orlando at Sea World
 We will celebrate our educators, protect public education, and speak out in one voice to defend our rights of free speech and free expression.
[Register here](#)



DONOR THANK YOU!

**Thank you to the following who donated to the
 League of Women Voters
 of the St. Petersburg Area in June**

- Jacquelin Azis
- Cynthia Barasz
- Laura Crabtree
- Beth Hovind
- Abigail O'Connor

Thank you to the following members who joined or renewed membership at the Silver and Gold Level

Ruth Barrens
Ingrid Bredenberg
Gregory Carlin
Patricia Lucas
Sandy McCay
Diane Sector
Alexandra Thackrey
Julie Weston



FINANCE TIP FROM AVA



JULY TIP:

Revisit your asset allocation. When you rebalance your investments at least annually, you should reassess your risk tolerance so you can feel comfortable and confident with your investing. Reach out for a comprehensive financial review.

Ava Elkins, AAMS®, Financial Advisor and Investment Management Consultant,
Raymond James & Associates,
ava.elkins@raymondjames.com, 727.551.5254
raymondjames.com/avaelkins



LEAGUE ONLINE

- [July Calendar of Events/Meetings](#)
- [Explore Issues](#)
- [Check Out our Blog Archives](#)
- [Engage!](#)
- [LWVSPA Store](#)

League of Women League of Voters of the St. Petersburg Area

[Email](#) | [Website](#)

Telephone: 727-295-5255



The League of Women Voters, 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.

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