

THE VOTER

August 2025

LEAGUE UPDATES



Helping the Helpers: Recording Now Available!

HELPING THE HELPERS: SHOWING UP FOR YOURSELF WHILE STANDING UP FOR OTHERS

This will be an interactive panel involving a discussion, psychoeducation, and action items. Topics will include: radical hope, burnout and self-care, and navigating feelings of guilt.

Monday July 21st, 5:00 PM via Zoom

LWVSPA members only



Jessica Klein,
LMHC
It Begins Within
Healing Center



Meredith Mechanik,
RCSWI
Mosaic
Wellness Collective



Kayla Rosenkrans,
LMHC
Solace
Counseling Center

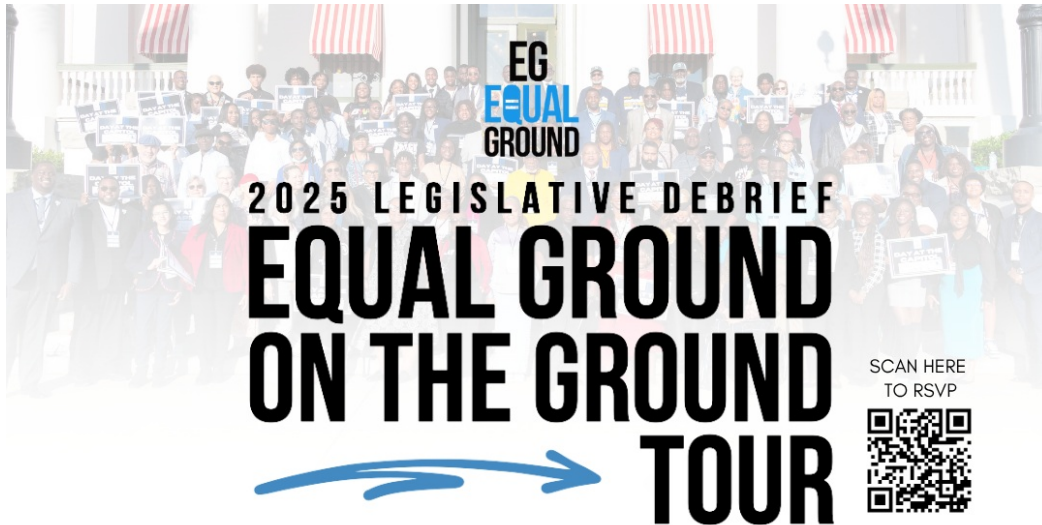
[View Recording Here](#)

Helping the Helpers
PDF

Burnout Prevention PDF



NAACP Legislative Session Debrief: Slides now Available!



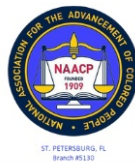
ST. PETERSBURG

JULY 19, 2025

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

***** VIRTUAL MEETING *****

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



For more information and to schedule a stop please visit www.Equal-Ground.com

View Slides Here



Pinellas County Schools Federal Funding Freeze: UPDATE

League of Women Voters, along with numerous organizations throughout the state and country, united to advocate against the abrupt freeze of federal funds for public schools on June 30, 2025.

On Thursday, July 24, Pinellas County Schools hosted a Federal Funding Community Forum to address the impact of this funding freeze. The event drew over 300 in-person attendees and received more than 3,600 online views.

The freeze withheld nine million dollars from schools, putting students, teachers, and educational programs at risk just two weeks before the new school year was set to begin. The Pinellas County School Board unanimously called for the reinstatement of these crucial funds. U.S. Representatives Cathy Castor (District 14) and Anna Paulina Luna (District 13) each sent letters urging for the funds to be restored and had staff members present at the forum to voice their support.

One memorable comment from the forum came from Olivia Carson, Chief of Staff for Representative Luna, who remarked, "I am amazed how many people showed up, this is wonderful."

The strong turnout exemplified the League of Women Voters' commitment to showing up and advocating for public education. The efforts were successful, and the funds were reinstated on Friday, July 25th.



Seeking Volunteers: Need Great Snapshots

Do you enjoy taking good people photos with your camera or smart phone?

For upcoming campaigns, the Communications Committee needs a supply of snapshots of League members, particularly **candid photos** that are content-ready (good lighting, contrast, happy people, League shirts).

Contact Communications Chair, **Kristen Ehrlich** if you can volunteer in this capacity and let her know which event you will be covering.

Thank you!



TAKE ACTION TODAY! AND GET YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO TAKE ACTION TODAY TOO!

Looking for ways to take action?

*Calls are the best way to make your voice heard and
tell your representatives how you feel about issues.*

*There are tools available to make
calling your representatives as
easy as possible!*



The **SAVE Act** is a federal voter suppression bill that would **prevent millions of eligible American citizens from registering to vote** by requiring everyone to show up in person with a passport, birth certificate or other proof of citizenship. It would threaten voter registration drives as we know them, disproportionately harm communities of color, and make it harder for millions of married women who've changed their names to vote.

1) Several LWVSPA members have reported that they are finding the **5 Calls app** helpful for contacting their senators and representatives in congress on issues like reproductive rights, voting rights, and education. Download it here to give it a try: [Android](#) / [iOS](#)

2) Our partner organization, Common Cause, has an easy tool to find the phone numbers for your representatives at every level of government: <https://www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative/>

3) The League of Women Voters of the U.S. has a "Take Action" page where you can learn about priority League actions at the national level, like opposing the SAVE Act: <https://www.lwv.org/take-action>



THE COMMUNITY



Paint N' Sip Fundraiser for the Tampa Bay Abortion Fund





Thank you for making our (sold out!) Paint & Sip Fundraiser a huge success!

We're so grateful to everyone who came out to support our recent Paint & Sip event hosted by the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area. It was an inspiring evening filled with creativity, community, and action!

A huge THANK YOU to **The Hive Community Clay** for generously donating their beautiful space, and to the amazing team at **Art Den** for guiding the painting experience and donating their time and talent.

This event was a fundraiser for the Tampa Bay Abortion Fund, and thanks to your support, we've already raised over **\$6,300** to help ensure reproductive care is accessible in our community.

There's still time to donate! Every dollar makes a difference:
<https://donorbox.org/sip-n-paint-lwvspa...>

Together, we're painting a brighter, more just future.

[Read More About the Event on Art Den's Blog](#)



Boxing & Self Defense Class



The League kickboxing event with 1MR One More Round Boxing, Kickboxing & Fitness in St. Pete was an absolute knockout! We punched up the energy, kicked off great conversations, and had a blast building strength together.



July Cocktails & Conversations



There was a great turnout for July's Cocktails & Conversations! We hope you can join us at the next one.



Good Trouble Lives On Protest



Thanks to the 350+ of you who came out and got into good trouble with us for the [#GoodTroubleLivesOn](#) national day of action. We will not be silent in the face of attacks on our civil and human rights.



Voter Services Meets with Interfaith Tampa Bay



Voter Services volunteer Lyn Dalzell met with Interfaith Tampa Bay on July 17 in St Petersburg to share information about renewing Vote By Mail requests.

They meet monthly at the Hanger in St. Petersburg.



Voter Services at Historic Bethel AME Church

Voter Services In Action: Historic Bethel AME Church



LWVSPA Voter Services volunteers joined the Historic Bethel AME Church for their annual Friends and Family event on July 20, to share voter information, including how to renew Mail Ballot requests.

IMPORTANT VOTER SERVICES REMINDER: Your Mail Ballot request expired after the 2024 general election. To renew your request, visit <https://www.votepinellas.gov/VoteByMail>



LWVSPA Teams Up with the Junior League of St. Petersburg



LWVSPA volunteers teamed up with the Junior League of St. Petersburg to educate voters (and future voters!) at the Back to School Care Fair at Evara Health in South St Petersburg on July 26.



The League Supports the Freedom to Read!

We have a Little Free Library at the entrance to Allendale UMC, and we've stocked it with banned and challenged books.

A huge THANKS to Carolyn Curtin for her generous donation to our Little Free Banned Books Library!

If you'd like to donate books, we have a [wish list at the wonderful local book store, Tombolo Books](#).

If you have any questions please email office@lwvspa.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS



RAGE AGAINST THE REGIME



SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND
10:30 am - 12:00 noon
34th St N & 22nd Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL

Corner of 34th S N & 22nd Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33713

August 2nd marks a pivotal National Day of Action, uniting communities in a shared purpose: ***Rage Against the Regime.***

On this day, join Pinellas NOW, the League of Women Voters St. Petersburg, and allied partners, as we in southern Pinellas County come together in solidarity with sister events across the nation to transform anger into action, harnessing the energy of collective resistance.

Our movement is rooted in non-violence, but it is far from passive. ***We stand strong, bold, and unyielding, showing the world the irresistible force of communities united against injustice.***



RSVP Here

Event Details



Reproductive Rights Team Meetings

Meetings Held on the First Monday of Each Month at 5:30pm via Zoom




Date: Monday, August 4, 2025

Time: 5:30pm-6:30pm

Join us via Zoom! We meet monthly on the 1st Monday.


Email office@lwvspa.org with questions.

RSVP for Meeting Here



National Popular **VOTE** Committee Meetings

Meetings Held on the First Tuesday of Each Month from 5:00pm-6:00pm via Zoom



Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Join us as we talk strategy. First timers are welcome, and all levels of experience encouraged to join!

Meetings will be the 1st Tuesday of every month.

[RSVP for Meeting Here](#)

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA

Our
**SOCIAL
JUSTICE
ACTION
TEAM**

is back!

Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Our social justice team is back! On Thursday, July 10, LWVSPA members gathered virtually for the final vote to add a social justice team to our program. After members voted unanimously in favor of adding the team, the new social justice team leaders provided details about upcoming events, calls to action, and news worth celebrating. Lastly, Sebastián González de León of the San Pedro Gazette presented about his work as a journalist covering immigration and other social justice issues in the community.

Robin Davidov, Carla Vila, and Jackie Azis will lead the social

justice team, which will focus on defending democratic values, educating the public on critical issues such as immigration and racial justice, and advocating for equitable redevelopment in St. Petersburg. The team also intends to mobilize community action through campaigns like the LWVUS Unite and Rise 8.5 campaign, foster informed dialogue on urban transformation projects such as Reimagine 175, inform people of their rights regarding immigration, and build consensus around the responsible redevelopment of the Gas Plant site. Through a blend of advocacy and education, the team will empower residents to engage in shaping a more just and participatory local democracy.

Check out the social justice team's first updates below, and sign up to join here: <https://lwvspa.org/social-justice/>

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Team Meetings: The Social Justice Team will meet on the First Thursday of the month. Our meeting will be on Thursday, August 7 from 5-6 via Zoom.

Trolley Tour of the St. Pete African American Heritage Trail: Join us for a members-only trolley tour of the **St. Pete African American Heritage Trail** on Saturday, October 4 at 10 am. This tour provides an overview of African American influence and history in St. Pete. The trolley tour is limited to 20 attendees and LWVSPA members only. **Sign-up here.**

RSVP for Meeting Here





**Know Your Rights
Immigration
Training**

Presented by:

ACLU

Florida

Thursday 8/7

5:30-6:30 PM

Zoom: RSVP required

Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025

Time: 5:30pm-6:30pm

The League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area's Social Justice Action Team is partnering with ACLU of Florida to offer this training to our members and the community.

Regardless of your immigration status, you have guaranteed rights under the Constitution and it's important that you know them. Join our Zoom presentation to learn more about immigrant rights so you can protect yourself, your family, and your community.

We will be asking everyone to rename themselves to their favorite food item on the Zoom meeting for privacy and anonymity, so please prepare to rename yourself or do so ahead of time!

RSVP Here



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA

SAVE THE DATE

LWVSPA MEMBERS
ONLY



Voter Registration Certification Training

August 13, 2025 | 6:30 pm | Zoom

Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025
Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm

Amy Keith will lead us through the Voter Registration training, LWVSPA practices, and key facts needed to pass the LWVFL Quiz. LWVSPA members who are interested in Voter Services must pass this quiz to be certified to table at events. For our seasoned volunteers, LWVFL is not requiring everyone to retake the quiz, but join us anyway to share your experience!

This date replaces the usual monthly meeting previously scheduled for 8/20.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. LWVSPA MEMBERS ONLY.

RSVP HERE

Join/Renew Here



Upcoming Board Meeting

board meeting

Date: Monday, August 18, 2025
Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm

If any LWVSPA member wishes to address the board, they should email the president at president@lwvspa.org to get on the agenda and to receive meeting info (such as location or Zoom login).





Aug 19, 2025 05:30pm



Tiki Docks Skyway
3769 50th Ave S, St. Petersburg, FL 33711
[View on map](#)

August Cocktails & Conversation

We would love for you to join the League for Cocktails & Conversation, and invite a guest or two. These happy hours are the perfect time to relax with (or without!) a drink and enjoy some great company.

Our August event will be at Sunshine City Tavern.

[RSVP HERE](#)



Aug 21, 2025 06:30pm - Aug 21, 2025 07:30pm



Allendale United Methodist Church
3803 Haines Rd N, St. Petersburg, FL 33703
[View on map](#)

New Member Orientation

As one of the most active advocacy and policy education groups in Pinellas County, the League of Women Voters' current issues include voter engagement, education, and protection; reproductive rights; public schools/education; and the National Popular Vote.

New Member Orientation is designed to orient folks who are curious about the League, as well as those who've been members for less than a year.

Our hope is that everyone will find what interests them and get involved as expediently as possible.

RSVP HERE



The LWVSPA Education Action Team has partnered with the North Pinellas League's Education Team and will be meeting monthly.

August Meetings

Joint LWVNC/LWVSPA Education Meeting

Date:
Monday, August 25 @ 3-4:30 via Zoom

For an invitation or to attend, contact treasurer@lwvspa.org to receive an agenda.

Open to all current LWV members only.

Pinellas School Board Meetings

Date:
Tuesday, August 19 @ 10:30 am

Address: 301 4th Street SW,
Largo, FL 33770L

To join the Education Action Team, email Sue Castleman by clicking below.

Click Here to Email Sue Castleman



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA

Membership Committee Meetings



**Wednesday,
August 27th, 2025**

5:00 PM-6:00PM

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

Contact chair, Amy Weintraub, for the teleconference link or for more info.

[Click Here to Email Amy Weintraub](#)



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA

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



KEVIN HENDRICK



LAURA HINE

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH, 6:00 PM
JOHN HOPKINS MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER
701 16TH ST. S., ST. PETERSBURG**



Sep 04, 2025 06:00pm



John Hopkins Middle School
701 16th St S, St. Petersburg, FL 33705
[View on map](#)

All Member Meeting

At our September General Meeting, we will focus on public education with guest speakers:

- Kevin Hendrick, Superintendent of Pinellas County Schools
- Laura Hine, Chair of Pinellas County Board of Education

Also, hear LWVSPA announcements and find out about all the ways to get plugged into our League's work, and more!

We will meet in the Grand Theatre of Gibbs High School.

Please note: Childcare will be provided, but each child must be registered in advance. If you will use this service, please follow the link that will appear after registering for this event.

RSVP HERE



DONOR THANK YOU!

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

Karen Coale
Emily Fletty
Claudette Fornuto
Sandy James
Robin Jones
Zoe Kopp
Karen Lieberman
Kathleen Passafiume
David Westmark



FINANCE TIP FROM AVA

AUGUST TIP:

Investing is not one size fits all. So, your approach should be tailored to



both your risk tolerance and time horizon. Risk tolerance reflects how much market fluctuation you're comfortable with, while your time horizon considers how long you plan to keep your money invested before needing it.

Ava Elkins with Raymond James manages the LWVSPA accounts.

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



LEAGUE ONLINE

- [August Calendar of Events Meetings](#)
- [Explore Issues](#)
- [Check Out our Blog Archives](#)
- [Engage!](#)
- [LWVSPA Store- Get Your LWVSPA Gear!](#)

SEND US YOUR MONTHLY NEWS

Please send your news and updates one week in advance of the 1st of the month directly to communications@lwvspa.org



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.

LWVSPA | P.O. Box 11775 | St. Petersburg, FL 33733 US

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