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THE VOTER

June 2026

Election Season Is Heating Up!



Several elections will be taking place on August 18, including races for the St. Petersburg mayorship, City Council seats, and judicial and school board officials. **Early voting is available August 12 - 18**. Click [here](#) for more information on the August elections.

LWVSPA is hosting another round of candidate forums beginning tomorrow, June 2! Scroll down for the full schedule.

LWVSPA is working hard to help voters get ready to vote in the wake of recent redistricting legislation. Read on below to find out how to get ready to use your voting superpower!

Redistricting Update

The mid-decade redistricting and the resulting new maps signed by Governor DeSantis on April 1 have naturally raised questions among voters. They've also spawned lawsuits challenging the new maps. But even amid the current confusion, voters shouldn't be deterred from making their voices heard.

"This is a perfect opportunity to get your vote-by-mail ballot or to arrange to vote early," Voter Services Co-Chair Heidi Davis told Spectrum News/BayNews 9 in a May 11 report on the issue.

"That's because, in both of those scenarios, it doesn't matter if your polling location has changed."

The Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections will mail new voter registration cards when changes to precincts and polling places are final. A lookup tool will be available online for this information.

Here's how you can prepare to cast your vote in upcoming elections:

- Check your voting status [here](#).
- [Renew your vote-by-mail ballot request](#) and verify your mailing address



Watch LWVSPA's Voter Services Co-Chair Heidi Davis speaking with [Bay News 9](#) about how voters can be election-ready amid the redistricting issues.

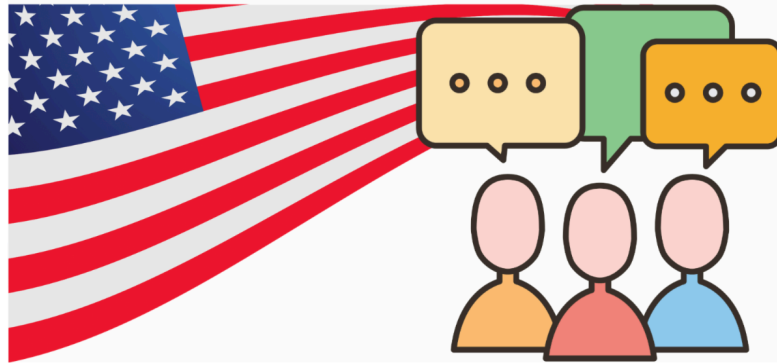
- Visit [vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org) in early July to learn what's on your ballot.

About the August 18, 2026, Election Day

In Pinellas County, the August ballot will include local, county, state, and federal races. Some, but not all, of these races are primaries; remember that Florida is a closed primary state.

ALL voters, regardless of party affiliation, will be able to cast a vote in non-partisan races (e.g. County Judge, School Board, St. Pete Mayor).

For the partisan primary races (e.g. U.S. Congress, State House, Pinellas County Commissioner), the candidates running under a voter's chosen party will appear on their ballot. The deadline to register with a party is July 20, 2026, at [RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov](https://www.RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov).



Upcoming Candidate Forums

Save the dates for these evening (unless otherwise noted) Candidate Forums and watch the Voter Guide and Candidate Forum page on [lwvspa.org](https://www.lwvspa.org) for updates and additional information.

District 6 St. Petersburg City Council Candidate Forum

June 2 @ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Enoch D. Davis Center

1111 18th Ave. S., St. Petersburg FL 33705

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the forum runs from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Free parking; no registration required. Voters are invited to submit questions both in advance of and during the event. Co-sponsored by CONA St. Pete (Council of Neighborhood Associations) and the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) of St. Petersburg. **[Submit questions ahead of time here.](#)**

Pinellas/Hillsborough Judicial Candidates Forum (Virtual via Zoom)

June 18 @ 12 pm - 1:30 pm

Candidates for the 6th judicial circuit will participate in this form, hosted by the Tampa Bay Trial Lawyers Association (TBTLA) and sponsored by LWVSPA and the League of Women Voters of North Pinellas. After brief opening remarks by LWVNP President Tanya Landry, candidates will have the opportunity to discuss their candidacy and field questions from the audience. **[RSVP here.](#)**

City of St. Petersburg Mayoral Candidate Forum

June 18 @ 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

SPC Gibbs Campus Music Center

6605 5th Ave. N., St. Petersburg FL 33710

Free parking; doors open at 5:00 pm

Cosponsored by Pinellas County Urban League. Due to high anticipated interest in this event, **registration is required; [RSVP here.](#) [Submit questions ahead of time here.](#)**

District 2 St. Petersburg City Council Candidate Forum

June 23 @ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Paloma House in the Social Lounge, 10787 Oak St. NE

St. Petersburg, FL 33716

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. The Forum runs from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Parking is free. No registration required. Voters are invited to submit questions both in advance of the forum and during the event. **[Submit questions ahead of time here.](#)**

Pinellas County School Board Candidate Forum

June 29 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

SPC Seminole Campus Digitorium

9200 113th St. N., Seminole, FL 33772

Free parking; doors open at 5:30 p.m. No registration required. Hosted by the Pinellas County Council of PTAs in partnership with the Education Committee of LWVNPC/LWVSPA.

Be election-ready! Click [here](#) to check your registration, request a mail ballot, and more.

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

**HISTORY OF
RETURNING CITIZENS
VOTING RIGHTS IN FLORIDA**

JOIN US | Saturday, June 13
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**STAY INFORMED,
STAY INVOLVED.**

Johnson Community Library
1059 18th Ave. S.
727-893-7113

Multiple studies indicate that restoration of voting rights dramatically reduces the likelihood of recidivism and rearrest among citizens who have completed their sentences and obligations for non-violent felonies. However, the history of returning citizens' voting rights in Florida is a tumultuous one of advances and setbacks.

Join LWVSPA's Sonia King, an instructor in political science at St. Petersburg College, as she explores this history and provides an update on the current outlook for returning citizens who wish to exercise their voting rights.



The presentation takes place at 11 a.m. on June 13 at the James Weldon Johnson Community Library, 1059 18th Avenue S., in St. Petersburg.

Immigration Justice Update

Vigils for Immigrant Justice, held in partnership with the Pinellas Delegation of the Florida Interfaith Coalition, have now surpassed 30 consecutive weeks, building a sustained and visible presence for immigrant justice in Pinellas County.



LWVSPA is collaborating with the Interfaith Coalition to develop a teach-in presentation to tour faith spaces and community groups across Pinellas County, focusing on **ending 287(g) agreements** between local police forces and ICE and local pathways for action. LWVSPA's vigorous efforts to end these agreements and raise public awareness about their multiple harmful impacts also include a postcard campaign to Pinellas County elected officials and law enforcement.

While recent announcements about **the closing of "Alligator Alcatraz"** are encouraging, vigils and organizing efforts, coordinated among hundreds of faith leaders and community organizers, will continue until all detention facilities holding people without due process are shut down and immigrant communities are treated with dignity, transparency, and humanity.



LWVSPA is cosponsoring a peaceful vigil outside the Everglades Detention Facility ("Alligator Alcatraz") on Sunday, June 14. Round-trip bus transportation from Pinellas is being provided thanks to [The Workers Circle \(donations accepted\)](#).

Seats are limited and each person must RSVP individually to reserve a spot, so if you are considering joining us, [please sign up now](#).

Passionate about immigration justice? Learn more about LWVSPA's Immigration Justice team [here](#). More details on the above update can be found [here](#).

Discover Resilient Energy Already at Work in Pinellas

On Thursday, June 25, at 10 a.m., join LWVSPA, the Florida Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Egg Geo for a guided tour of the region's most resilient geothermal energy system at the Pinellas County Emergency Management Complex, 10750 Ulmerton Road in Largo. The tour offers a unique opportunity to see hardened, "all-inside" geothermal technology operating in a real-world public facility.

In the process, attendees will learn how sustainable energy systems can strengthen critical infrastructure during major storms and power disruptions throughout Pinellas County and beyond.

This is a public event; however, space may be limited. Learn more and [RSVP here](#).



2026 Florida Legislative Session Outcomes

On May 3, LWVSPA Voter Services co-hosted a NAACP Community Town Hall examining the outcomes and potential impacts of the 2026 Florida legislative session. The presentation by Letitia Harmon, senior director of policy and research at Florida Rising, was followed by a lively Q&A. View a video of the session [here](#)!

2026 Florida Legislative Session Outcome

League of Women Voters St. Petersburg Area



Watch on

An Evening With Dr. Shelley Sella

On May 6, LWVSPA was honored to host a well-attended and profoundly meaningful [evening with Dr. Shelley Sella](#), one of the nation's most respected voices in reproductive healthcare, at Tombolo Books.

Through her reflections on decades of work in abortion care as explored in her book *Beyond Limits*, Dr. Sella challenged attendees to think more expansively and compassionately about reproductive healthcare and the challenges patients face in accessing it.



Following a thoughtful Q&A session, attendees had the opportunity to meet Dr. Sella during a book signing.



Earlier in the day, the Reproductive Rights team hosted a lunch with Dr. Sella alongside local reproductive rights leaders from organizations including the Tampa Bay Abortion Fund and Progress Florida. LWVSPA is deeply grateful to the partners and attendees who helped make this day of education and advocacy around reproductive freedom such a success.

Cocktails & Conversation

LWVSPA members and friends gathered at the Green Light Cinema Lounge + Kitchen May 14. In addition to the socializing and sipping, attendees wrote and mailed 38 postcards to local law enforcement and city council and mayor asking them to end 287(g) agreements.



The next Cocktails & Conversation takes place on June 10 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at Red Mesa Mercado West, 6001 Central Avenue in St. Pete. Drinks are half off! In addition to convivial imbibing and chatting, we'll be writing postcards to lapsed League members to let them know we want them back! [RSVP here!](#)

Partnering With Delta Sigma Theta



LWVSPA Voter Services volunteers were on hand at Delta Sigma Theta St. Petersburg Alumnae Chapter's "All Power to the People" event on May 16. The community-centered experience combined curated readings, dramatic monologues, music, and visual art to explore the legacy and experiences of the Civil Rights movement.

On May 23, LWVSPA tabled at the Delta Sigma Theta's Power Up: Health & Wellness Expo. Erica Monet Li, health policy analyst at Florida Policy Institute, presented on behalf of the League discussing legislation impacting public health. At both events, League volunteers provided tips on getting election ready, including information on [vote411.org](https://www.vote411.org) and the upcoming August elections.

There are always interesting events aplenty for Voter Services volunteers to engage with community members and provide them with vital information on voting and elections. We invite LWVSPA members to [learn more](#) and [join the team!](#)

LWVSPA Weighs in on Battleground Florida



On May 20, LWVSPA Voter Services Co-Chair Heidi Davis discussed the Supreme Court's recent ruling on the Voting Rights Act on WFLA's Battleground Florida with host Ty Russell and political expert Tara Newsom.

Asked about the recent groundswell of activism against administration policies and SCOTUS rulings, she emphasized the importance of translating that energy into actual voter turnout. "Protesting is fabulous," she says, "but now get out and vote!"

[Watch the video here!](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Zoom Events in Black
In-Person Events in Red

Reproductive Rights Action Team Meeting

June 1 @ 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Join us via Zoom! We meet monthly on the 1st Monday. Email office@lwvspa.org with questions. [RSVP](#)

National Popular Vote Committee**June 2 @ 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Join us as we talk strategy. First-timers are welcome and all levels of experience are encouraged to join. [RSVP for Zoom](#)

District 6 St. Petersburg City Council Forum**June 2 @ 6:00 - 7:00 pm****Enoch D. Davis Center****1111 18th Ave. S., St. Petersburg FL 33705**

Doors open at 5:30 pm. Parking is free; no registration required. [Submit questions for candidates here.](#)

PAL at St. Pete Family Pride Day**June 7 @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Join the Parent Advocacy League at St. Pete Family Pride Day on the Pier, one of the most joyful, family-friendly events of the year. 🇺🇸 [RSVP Here](#)

Team Leads and Board Meeting**June 8 @ 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm****Allendale UMC Hybrid Room****3803 Haines Road N., St. Petersburg 33703**

Any LWVSPA member who wishes to address the board should email president@lwvspa.org to get on the agenda and to receive meeting info.

Cocktails & Conversation**June 10 @ 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm****Red Mesa Mercado West****6001 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg 33710**

Join the League for Cocktails & Conversation, and invite a guest or two. Drinks are half off! We will be writing postcards to lapsed League members to let them know we want them back! [RSVP](#)

All-Member General Meeting**June 11 @ 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm****Allendale UMC Sanctuary****3803 Haines Road N., St. Petersburg 33703**

This meeting will focus on ALL THINGS VOTING! Find out what's happening and how to engage. Childcare will be available during the meeting – after registering, a prompt will guide attendees to another form to reserve childcare if needed. See you there! [RSVP](#)

History of Returning Citizens Voting Rights in Florida**June 13 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm****James Weldon Johnson Community Library****1059 18th Avenue S., St. Petersburg 33705**

Join us for a presentation by LWVSPA's Sonia King on the History of Returning Citizens' Voting Rights in Florida. No RSVP necessary.

Bus Ride to Vigil at Everglades Detention Center ("Alligator Alcatraz")**June 14 @ 11:30 am - 9:00 pm**

Join LWVSPA and allies for a peaceful vigil outside the Everglades Detention Facility. Round-trip bus transportation from Pinellas is generously underwritten by The Workers Circle (donations to their [bus fund](#) graciously accepted). Seats are limited, and an RSVP is required. Together with faith leaders, families, tribal members, and partner organizations across Florida, we will continue showing up until this detention camp is fully shut down. See detailed info on the [RSVP page](#)

Communications Committee Meeting**June 16 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

The LWVSPA Communications Committee meets monthly via Zoom. Email office@lwvspa.org for the link if you'd like to get involved.

New Member Orientation**June 16 @ 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

As one of the most active advocacy and policy education groups in Pinellas County, our League's current issues include voter engagement, education, and protection; reproductive rights; public schools/education; the National Popular Vote; redevelopment of the Historic Gas Plant District; immigrant rights; expansion of Early Voting sites; and opposing mid-decade redistricting. This orientation is designed to orient community members who are curious about the League, as well as those who've been LWVSPA members for less than a year. [RSVP here](#)

Voter Services Voter Registration Training – LWVSPA Members Only**June 17 @ 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm**

Amy Keith will lead us through 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. [RSVP](#)

6th Judicial Circuit Candidate Forum**June 18 @ 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm**

View the virtual forum via Zoom. [RSVP here for link](#)

City of St. Petersburg Mayoral Candidate Forum**June 18 @ 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm****SPC Gibbs Campus Music Center, 6605 5th Ave. N., St. Petersburg 33710**

Parking is free. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. [Submit questions for candidates here.](#)
Due to robust expected attendance, registration is required. [Register here](#)

Geothermal Energy System Tour
June 25 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Pinellas County Emergency Management
10750 Ulmerton Road, Largo 33778

Geothermal energy saves money, conserves water, and lowers utility costs for homes and businesses. Seeing this hardened "all-inside" geothermal infrastructure in person is a great way to understand the benefits this innovative technology can offer our community. Cosponsored by LWVSPA CCD (Community-Centered Development) Team and Suncoast Sierra Club. [RSVP Here](#)

Pinellas County School Board Candidate Forum
June 29 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
SPC Seminole Campus Dignitorium
9200 113th St. N., Seminole, FL 33772

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Free parking, no registration required. Hosted by the Pinellas County Council of PTAs in partnership with the Education Committee of LWVNPC / LWVSPA.

NEW TIME !!

TODOS LOS DOMINGOS!
EVERY SUNDAY!

VIGILA por la JUSTICIA para los IMMIGRANTES
VIGIL for IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

Pinellas County Courthouse
14250 49th Street N (corner of 144 Ave N &
49th St N), Clearwater, FL 33762

5 PM - 6 PM

Register Now

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

Join LWVSPA, the Pinellas/Hillsborough Interfaith Coalition, and community allies as we stand in solidarity with immigrant families and demand an end to the detention and deportation of our nonviolent, law-abiding immigrant community neighbors, siblings, and friends.

[Join our Immigration Justice team](#) for updates on this and other urgent issues. Your involvement can help make a difference!

Discover more events at www.lwvspa.org/events.



Thanks to the following generous supporters who made gifts to LWVSPA in May:

Frieda Hallock
Sandy James
Jean Johnston
Dana Robertson
Andrea Thew
Emily Timoner
Laura Turley
Sally Wallace
Laura Williamson

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directly to communications@lwwspa.org.



League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area
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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 | 3803 Haines Rd. N. | St. Petersburg, FL 33703 US

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