

THE VOTER


September 2025

LEAGUE UPDATES




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**

LWVSPA All-Member General Meeting



Sep 04, 2025 06:00pm

Add to [Google](#) · [Outlook Web](#) · [Outlook Mobile](#) · [Yahoo](#) · [iCal](#)



John Hopkins Middle School
701 16th St S, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

[View on map](#)

Open to the public: non-members welcome!

At our September Meeting, we will focus on public education with 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!

Childcare will be provided, advance registration required. Please follow the childcare link that will appear after registering for this event.

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida is neither sponsoring nor affiliated with this event

[RSVP Here](#)



Complete the LWVUS Survey



The League of Women Voters of the United States is launching their 2025 State of Our Democracy Survey, and you can help shape the direction of LWVUS's work in the year ahead. What matters most to you? Which threats concern you most?

This is your chance to guide the League's work to protect democracy, and make your voice heard.

[Take Survey Here](#)



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



Rage Against the Regime



LWVSPA members #Represent and #Resist at the 50501 - 50 States, 50 Protests, 1 Day **Rage Against the Regime** protest in St. Petersburg.

We Must Act Collectively to Defend Democracy!
#UniteAndRise



Voter Services at Eckerd College



Ruth Barrens, Mel Donovan and Vicki Smaridge were with Robin Davidoff at Eckerd College on 8/17/25 to welcome incoming students. Thanks to our excellent volunteers!

They found over 83 students eager to talk to the four League volunteers about changing their voter registration to Florida, or registering for the first time, at their new home in St. Petersburg.



Civic Engagement Fair at USFSP



LWVSPA volunteers were at USF St. Pete on 8/26 to participate in the Civic Engagement Fair. We had lots of great

interactions with young voters!



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



LABOR DAY 
#RESISTANCE ACTION
ST. PETE
09.01.2025
SPA BEACH @ ST. PETE PIER
10AM SHARP

Labor Day #Resistance Action

Date: September 1, 2025

Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Pinellas NOW, LWVSPA, and allied orgs will lead the

community in creating **GIANT HUMAN LETTERS** as an aerial-viewed art installation. On Spa Beach at the St. Pete Pier, participants will spell out our message **"UNITE & RISE"** with our bodies. A photographer will record this family-friendly event with a drone flyover. Photos will be posted on LWVSPA and Pinellas NOW social media channels, with participants agreeing to share widely on their own channels.

Bring an umbrella to protect yourself from the sun until the drone arrives.

Participants are urged to:

- Wear bright blue clothing
- Bring a blue towel to sit upon
- Bring your own water in refillable container

Event Details



Reproductive Rights Team Meetings

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



Date: Monday, September 1, 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, September 2, 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](#)



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

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[View on map](#)

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RSVP Here





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF THE ST. PETERSBURG AREA
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY

Yearning To Breathe Free: Updates on the Fight for Immigrants' Rights in Florida

Tuesday 9/9 @ 6:00 PM
Allendale UMC Sanctuary
3803 Haines Rd. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33703
Panel will also be livestreamed



Amy Godshall

ACLU of Florida Immigrants'
Rights Campaign Legal Fellow



Renata Bozzetto, PhD

Deputy Director of Florida
Immigrant Coalition



**Professor Elizabeth
Aranda**

USF Professor of Sociology
and Director of the Immigrant
Well-Being Research Center



Rev. Brittany Leclair

Pastor of
First United Methodist Church
of Pinellas Park

RSVP encouraged: lwvspa.org/events

Yearning To Breathe Free: Updates on the Fight for Immigrants' Rights in Florida



Sep 09, 2025 06:00pm



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

Florida's immigration landscape is rapidly shifting. Join us for a timely conversation with advocates and community leaders as they break down the latest policy changes, enforcement trends, lawsuits, and their real-life impact on immigrant communities. Whether you're an organizer, concerned citizen, or ally, this panel will provide the insights and tools you need

to stay informed and take action for a more just and welcoming Florida.

[RSVP Here](#)



Communications Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 11, 2025

Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

The LWVSPA Communications Committee meets on the second Thursday of every month via Zoom. Email office@lwvspa.org for the link if you'd like to get involved.



Upcoming Board Meeting

board 

meeting

Date: Monday, September 15, 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).



Voter Services Committee Meetings

Meetings held on the third
Wednesday of each month

For More Information Contact: Office@lwgspa.org

Date: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm

This meeting will be held in-person at the Allendale UMC
Sanctuary.

Come for a (mostly) social gathering with updates on coming
events. Bring a yummy snack to share and a beverage!

Please contact office@lwgspa.org if you need additional info.



Education Action Team Meetings

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

&

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
OF NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY

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

September Meetings

[Joint LWVNC/LWVSPA Education
Meeting](#)

[Pinellas School Board Meetings](#)

Date:

Date:
Monday, Sept. 22 @ 4-5:00 via
Zoom

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

Open to all current LWV
members only.

Tuesday, Sept 9 @ 5:00 pm

Tuesday, Sept 23 @ 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](#)



Membership Committee Meetings



**Wednesday,
Sept. 24th, 2025**

5:00 PM-6:00PM

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Time: 5:00pm-6:00pm

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

[Click Here to Email Amy Weintraub](#)





Sep 30, 2025 05:30pm



Golden Isles Brewing Co.
3000 Dr M.L.K. Jr St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33704
[View on map](#)

September 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 September event will be at Golden Isles Brewing Co.

Parking is limited – please carpool if possible!

[RSVP HERE](#)





Historic Trolley Tour of the St. Pete African American Heritage Trail



Oct 04, 2025 10:00am - Oct 04, 2025 12:00pm



Tropicana Lot 4
198 17th St S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712
[View on map](#)

Join us for the African American Heritage Association's trolley tour of the historic Deuces neighborhood. Open to LWVSPA members only.

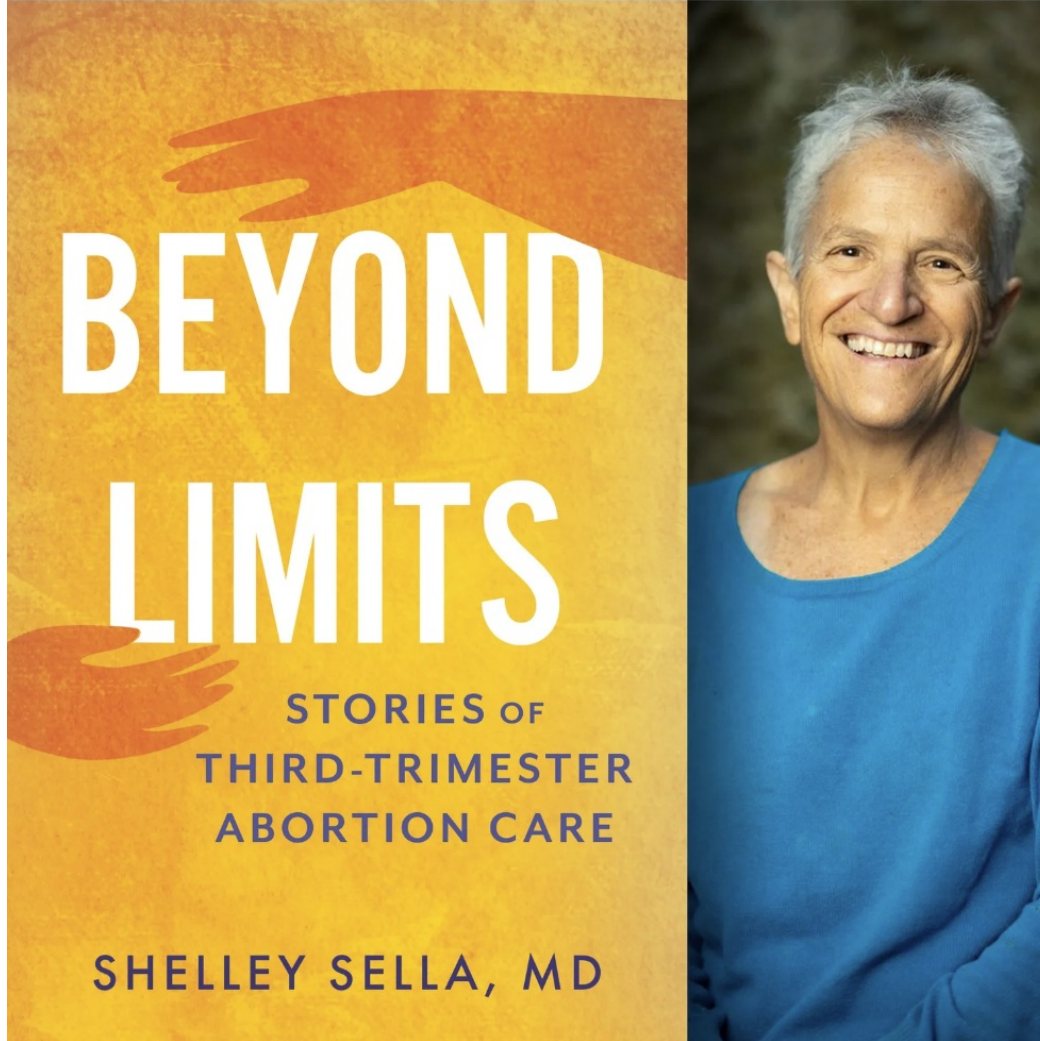
The tour meets at Tropicana Field's Lot 4.
Parking is available in Lot 1.

Please show up about 10-15 minutes early to sign in. The trolley will leave promptly at 10:15am. The tour lasts about 1 hour and 30 minutes. The trolley will return to Lot 4 after the tour is complete.

Please note that there are no restrooms available on the trolley or at any of the tour stops.

[RSVP HERE](#)





Reproductive Rights Book Club



Oct 06, 2025 06:30pm - Oct 06, 2025 08:00pm



Stephanie Sembler's house - address will be provided

We hope you'll join us for a thoughtful conversation.

About the book:

Beyond Limits is Dr. Sella's firsthand account of her path to becoming one of the only third-trimester abortion providers in the United States. It's an illuminating, deeply human look at abortion care.

Discussion highlights:

- What compassionate care looks like in complex cases
- Ethics, autonomy, and the real-world impact of policy
- Provider narratives and patient experience

The book is available to order at Tombolo Books (or your preferred bookstore).



RSVP HERE



Voter Registration Volunteer Training MEMBERS ONLY

Wednesday 10/15

6:30 PM

Zoom

Registration

Required



Voter Registration Volunteer Training (LWVSPA Members Only)

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm

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. 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 10/15.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED – LWVSPA members only.

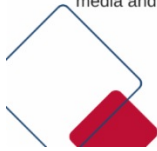
RSVP HERE



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

ADVOCACY Training

Turn policy ideas into skillful advocacy and organizing. Learn best practices in influencing change with elected officials, while engaging the media and the general public.



LWV members only

SAT, OCT 18

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM | Allendale UMC | Registration required



Advocacy Training (LWVSPA Members Only)

Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025

Time: 1:00pm-5:00pm

Hear from seasoned LWVSPA advocates and engage in hands-on learning to build and strengthen skills for issue advocacy — particularly issues in the LWVSPA Program. Whether someone is new to advocacy or has years of experience, they will leave the workshop with messages, step-by-step tools, and the practice they need to feel ready to make a difference. In addition to whole-group plenaries and action team meetings, break-out sessions will include these workshops on tactics:

- Engaging and Influencing Elected Officials
- Using the press (Getting in Print, media events)
- Online Communications (Effective action alerts, social media)
- Action in the Public Square (Hosting powerful events: protests, panel discussions, town halls, webinars)

We will meet at Allendale United Methodist Church.

RSVP HERE



DONOR THANK YOU!

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

Ama Appiah
Sara Dubbeld
Lynn Fruit & Edward Miller
Ellen Goldberg Weiner
Janice Hallman
Katie Jean
Rachel Kent
Emily Knight
Victoria Rexer
Debie Scurr
Sydni Ann Shollenberger
Jessica Tomlinson
Livia Zien & Greg Carlin



FINANCE TIP FROM AVA



SEPTEMBER TIP:

Investing when you're young is one of the best ways to see solid returns on your money. That's thanks to compound earnings, which means your investment returns start earning their own return. Compounding allows your account balance to snowball over time.

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

- [September 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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