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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — MARCH

HAPPY WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH



This month we celebrate the achievements of women, with the theme of “Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.” The National Women’s History Alliance website says the theme “recognizes women throughout the country who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions.” I want to thank all of you, both women and men, who are members of LWVPC. Your efforts and work help to make the world a better place. Let’s honor our history and leaders in working to create a world where everyone is treated equally with respect, understanding and equity.

I had the pleasure of judging the National History Day competition at Park Vista High School. National History Day is a nonprofit organization that supports improving “the teaching and learning of history.” Students are challenged to research a topic and produce a project that exemplifies their subject. The theme this year was “Turning Points in History.” I was asked to judge the senior level documentary for both individuals and groups. I do need to thank **Christene Campbell-Gabor** for getting me involved with this group. It gives me great hope for the future watching these students explain, present and answer questions about their projects. Topics ranged from “Brown vs the Board of Education Foundation of Fair Education” to “White Collar Drug Use.” History and Civics education is alive and well in our schools.

[Read More](#)



FIFTH SOLAR CO-OP IN PALM BEACH COUNTY TO LAUNCH

Solar Energy is good for the environment, good for the economy and good for the consumer.

By **Diane Marks**, Board Secretary

A fifth Solar Co-op in Palm Beach County will start on April 9, and end in August. The last Solar Co-op had 91 members. Each member was interested in putting solar panels on their roof and cut their energy expenses. By joining the Co-op, the members pick one installer who can cut the installation cost by 20 percent by virtue of having numerous installations.



Through 2024, there is a 30 percent income tax credit so this Co-op, too, can save 50 percent on the total cost of your solar installation. The state LWV has joined with Solar United Neighbors, a non-profit organization that has the technical knowledge to explain solar to the community and handle questions co-op members have.

The League of Women Voters has partnered with other energy-conscious organizations to run Solar Co-ops throughout the counties of Florida. We were the 19th county to run a Solar Co-op the first time and other counties have run over 30 more. If you believe in helping the environment and cutting our carbon imprint, please consider converting to solar energy.

[Read More](#)

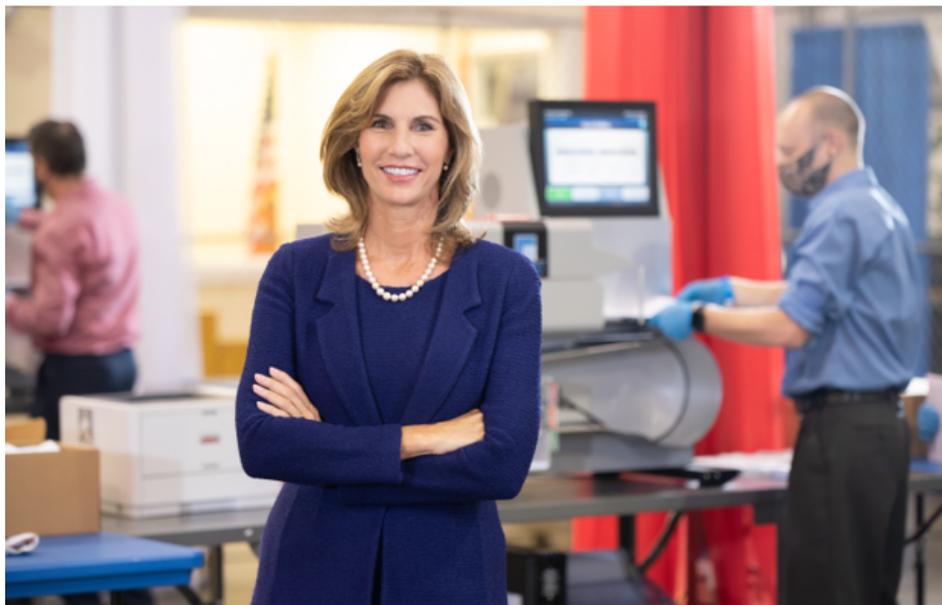
WE NEED YOU!



Please join a committee of your choosing and become active in the League. Help us make a difference.

Committee Chairs and Members
Development
Education Interest Group
Forums
Special Events
Speakers Bureau

MARCH HOT TOPIC



Thank you for registering for our post-primary luncheon with Supervisor of Elections Wendy Sartory Link.

Wednesday, March 20 at 11 a.m.

Hilton Palm Beach Airport
150 Australian Ave. — West Palm Beach

Doors open at 11 a.m. — Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. — Program begins at noon

Registration is closed.

Walk-ins cannot be accommodated, but a recording will be available later on Facebook.

NOT TO BE MISSED EVENT



A Conversation: Doctors Practicing in a Post-Roe World

Monday, March 25 • 6:00 PM

[Register here](#)

Doctors, not politicians, should be guiding patients making personal healthcare decisions. What has been the impact of legislative restrictions on physicians who choose to practice reproductive healthcare? How has their life and their ability to practice medicine been impacted? What is the effect on patients and their families?

Join us for a conversation with two physicians who personally deal with the impact of politics on reproductive rights.

SPEAKERS

Dr. Misa Perron-Burdick, OB/GYN, was practicing in San Francisco, California, then moved to Boise, Idaho, two weeks before Roe was overturned. After the US Supreme Court decision Idaho quickly enacted an absolute ban on abortion. Dr Perron-Burdick handles high risk pregnancies and delivery complications and is on the front line observing the impacts of the abortion ban on a doctor's ability to practice medicine and its impact ob/gyn healthcare for the women of Idaho.

Dr. Marian Sampson, OB/GYN, works with Planned Parenthood of Southwest-Central Florida. Dr. Sampson was a teen mother at 18, and her experience with her personal physician inspired her to become a doctor and ob/gyn herself. Dr. Sampson grew up in Mississippi. She graduated from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, and completed her obstetrics & gynecology residency at St. Petersburg Bayfront Medical.

Moderator:

Carrie Seidman, is an award-winning career newspaper journalist who has served on the staffs of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, the Albuquerque Journal, and the Albuquerque Tribune. 'Currently, Carrie is an opinion columnist for the Sarasota Herald Tribune.

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

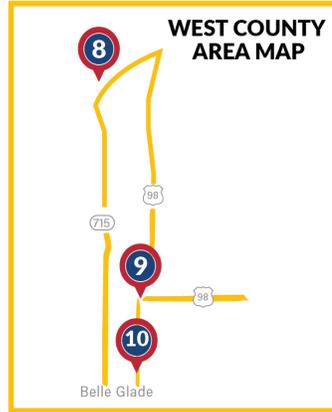
The last day of EARLY VOTING for the March 19 Presidential Preference Primary and a number of municipal elections is Sunday, March 17.

PALM BEACH COUNTY VOTES 2024

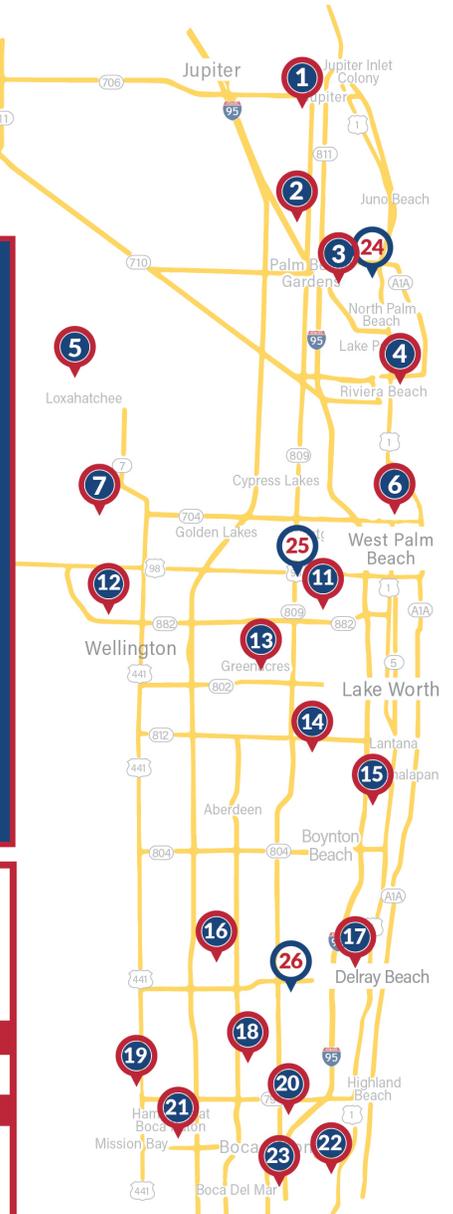
March 19th Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) & Uniform Municipal Elections

Early Voting & Vote-by-Mail Ballot Drop Off Locations

1. **Jupiter Community Center**
200 Military Trl, Jupiter
2. **Florida Atlantic Univ. - Jupiter Campus**
5353 Parkside Dr, Jupiter
3. **Gardens Branch Library**
11303 Campus Dr, Palm Beach Gardens
4. **Wells Recreation Community Center**
2409 Avenue H West, Riviera Beach
5. **Acreage Branch Library**
15801 Orange Blvd, Loxahatchee
6. **Gaines Park Community Center**
1501 N. Australian Ave., West Palm Beach
7. **Royal Palm Beach Library**
500 Civic Center Way, Royal Palm Beach
8. **Loula V. York Library**
525 Bacom Pt. Road, Pahokee
9. **SOE West County Branch Office**
2976 State Road #15, 2nd floor, Belle Glade
10. **Belle Glade Branch Library**
725 NW 4th St, Belle Glade
11. **Summit Main Library**
3650 Summit Blvd, West Palm Beach
12. **Wellington Branch Library**
1951 Royal Fern Dr, Wellington
13. **Greenacres Community Center**
501 Swain Blvd, Greenacres
14. **Lantana Road Branch Library**
4020 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth Beach
15. **Ezell Hester Community Center**
1901 N Seacrest Blvd, Boynton Beach
16. **Hagen Ranch Road Branch Library**
14350 Hagen Ranch Rd, Delray Beach
17. **Delray Beach Community Center**
50 NW 1st Ave, Delray Beach



18. **South County Civic Center**
16700 Jog Rd, Delray Beach
19. **West Boca Branch Library**
18685 State Road 7, Boca Raton
20. **Spanish River Library**
1501 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton
21. **Glades Road Branch Library**
20701 95th Ave S., Boca Raton
22. **Boca Raton Downtown Library**
400 NW 2nd Ave, Boca Raton
23. **Sugar Sand Park Community Center**
300 S Military Trl, Boca Raton
24. **SOE North County Branch Office**
Northeast County Courthouse
3188 P.G.A. Blvd, RM #2401, PBG
25. **SOE Main Office**
240 S Military Trl, West Palm Beach
26. **SOE South County Branch Office**
Southeast PBC Administrative Complex
345 S Congress Ave, RM #103, Delray Beach



Vote-by-Mail ballots may be returned at any Early Voting location during Early Voting hours, at a Secure Ballot Intake Station, or one of our four offices during office hours.

Vote-by-Mail ballots must be received by the Main Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

EARLY VOTING LOCATION HOURS

Saturday, March 9, 2024 - Sunday, March 17 • 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

SOE OFFICE SECURE BALLOT INTAKE STATION HOURS

Monday, March 11 - Friday, March 15 • 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday, March 18 - Tuesday, March 19 • 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 The Main Office will be open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19th

For more information: VotePalmBeach.gov | (561) 656-6200

National Popular Vote would ensure every vote counts equally

By *Daniel Lishansky*, NPV Committee Chair



With primary voting and election season here, we are bombarded with news about the Electoral College and Swing States, also known as Battleground States. These are the states that can go Red or Blue in the election. They will determine the winner of the election, while the Spectator States are predictable and generally ignored.

In the 1990s it was common to have 16 or more Swing States in a presidential election. But that dwindled to 12 by 2008. And for 2024 there will be just five Swing States. The problem is that campaigns focus on attracting voters in just those few Swing States, while the voters in the other 45 states are taken for granted.

Each state passes its own law directing how it will award its electoral votes. Two states, Maine and Nebraska, award their electoral votes by congressional district. A candidate receives one electoral vote for each congressional district they win. The candidate with the most popular votes across the state will win two additional electoral votes. But in the other 48 states and the District of Columbia, one candidate will win all the state's electoral votes.

The Founding Fathers and the Constitution intended for every vote for a candidate to count toward that candidate's nationwide total. They never discussed or envisioned a system where a political party in a state could strip away the votes of the second- and third-place candidates. But once political parties were established, party bosses realized it was to their advantage to take all the electoral votes in a state, not just the ones cast for their candidate.



[Read More](#)

ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR CLOSEUP?

LWV WHY VOTE 2024



SHARE YOUR VOTING STORIES AND REASONS WHY YOU VOTE WITH US!



Saturday, April 6



11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



Glades Road Branch Library
20701 95th Street South Boca Raton, FL 33431



Sunday, April 7



1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Gardens Branch Library
111303 Campus Drive Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410



Saturday, April 13



1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Main Library
13650 Summit Blvd West Palm Beach, FL 33406



Sunday, April 14



1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.



West Boynton Beach Branch
9451 Jog Road Boynton Beach, FL 33437

CIVIC LIFE PROJECT

Young Leaguers want to film while you tell your voting story

By **Ashley Cacicedo-Surdovel**, *Young Leaguers Chair*

We are excited to announce our latest GOTV initiative, "Why Vote 2024" — a campaign collecting voices that can reach our local community and beyond. We are looking for volunteers to be filmed on short informational video topics. All segments will be 2 minutes or less.

- Voter Registration
- Early Voting
- Vote By Mail
- Reasons to Vote and Voting Stories
- Ballot Amendments
- Vote 411/Voters Guide

We hope that you can help us make this initiative a success. Please join us at one of the locations listed in the poster above. To RSVP, please [CLICK THIS LINK](#).

If you cannot attend one of the film sessions, but would still like to participate, please reach out to YoungLeaguersPBC@gmail.com or contact (732) 757-9943 for the submission guidelines.

POLITICAL PERIL

AARP warns Floridians to beware of ID theft scams tied to election.

The following article was published recently in 'The AARP Bulletin.'

AARP Florida is warning people about election-related fraud targeting older voters, including requests for donations to fictitious political action committees and soliciting sensitive information during fake voter registration efforts.

In a voter registration scam, the perpetrator contacts an unsuspecting voter, telling them they're not registered to vote and offering to register them if they're willing to provide personal information, says Karen Murillo, AARP Florida's associate state director of advocacy.

Another con includes a call from a purported pollster promising a gift card in return for opinions — but then asking for your credit card information under the guise of covering taxes and shipping. More at [AARP.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2020/political](https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2020/political).



SAVE THE DATE: POSTCARD PARTY

By **MJ Range**

The Palm Beach County League will host a postcard writing event on **April 6** at the Okeechobee library branch at 5689 Okeechobee Blvd. from 10 a.m. to noon. The State League has been involved with the **Restoration of Voting Rights** effort since 2016. This latest project is to write postcards to those who have returned from incarceration but may owe fees and fines. The postcard

includes a phone number to call to receive help from a pro-bono attorney trained in researching. Come and join us. Please RSVP to Mary Jane Range, mjrange@comcast.net or (561) 339-9522.

VOTER EDUCATION SERIES: YOUR VOICE, YOUR POWER, YOUR VOTE!

The second lecture in our Voter Education Series, being held at the West Boynton Branch Library, 9451 Jog Road, Boynton Beach, begins at 2 p.m. on **Saturday, April 13**. "Your Voice, YourPower, YourVote!" is an enlightening Power-Point created by League member **Christene Campbell-Gabor**.

The lectures, which will run through October, are being held through a partnership between the Palm Beach County Library system and the League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County. For more information and to preregister, call (561) 734-5556.

LWVPBC ANNUAL MEETING

All members are invited to join our Annual Meeting. We will celebrate the achievements of the past year, plan for the next, and enjoy reconnecting with friends over lunch.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024
Hilton Palm Beach Airport
150 Australian Ave., West Palm Beach



10:00 am – 12:00 pm Annual Meeting

12:00 pm – 1:15 pm Lunch (optional - \$35)

- **President's State of the League Address**
- **Highlights of Issue Group & Committee Activities**
 - **Financial Report**
- **2024-25 Budget Presentation and Approval**
 - **Program Adoption**
 - **Election of Officers**

If you cannot participate in person, please complete a proxy, found [HERE](#).

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Show your support for the League!

Order a shirt or other League gear & have your photo taken to show that you "Stand with the League."

(Pics will be displayed in our online Photo Gallery.)

You can check out our [SHOP PAGE](#) HERE!



Share the SHOP Page: <https://lwvpsc.org/shop>

May 18: INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

A TASTE OF THE LEAGUE



By Darlene Kostrub, Membership Chair

If you are a new member or know persons interested in knowing more about the League, please encourage them to save **Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to noon**, for A Taste of the League Orientation. Location will be announced soon.

To register, contact Members@lwvpsc.org or text/call (561) 276-4898.

Regional Transportation Survey needs your thoughts

By Rich Bartholomew, Advocacy Chair



Once again, transportation planners are seeking your input. This time it is a regional request from the Southeast Florida Transportation Planners. This tri-county agency looks at the interconnected needs of Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade.

Do you wish there was an easier way to get to a Marlins game? Are you put off by the auto travel times and costs to visit places in Miami-Dade? As congestion grows, do you feel that your quality of life is being diminished? In just a few minutes you can express your priorities and opinions by clicking on the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO ANSWER THE SURVEY](#)



By Nancy Gau, Healthcare Co-Chair

Although LWFVFL has not yet officially approved collecting Medicaid Expansion petitions at our League events, you are welcome to sign one as a supportive individual if you receive a blank petition in the mail.

LOOK WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

TURTLEFEST 2024



A sea of smiles and civic engagement at Juno Beach's finest coastal celebration

By Pamela Maldonado, Voter Services

The Loggerhead Marinelife Center in Juno Beach played host to an unforgettable day at this year's TurtleFest, its annual extravaganza. Many thousands of visitors soaked up the sunshine at the event, which celebrated Loggerhead's work in caring for injured sea turtles and promoting public awareness about steps necessary to care for their habitat and promote a successful nesting season. It also proved to be a melting pot of community spirit and civic engagement, bringing conservation-minded non-profits and local vendors together, along with food trucks, games for kids and amazing live music all day.



Our LWVPBC table caught the attention of both kids and parents. With our patriotic dress-up station, little ones gleefully donned red, white, and blue outfits, transforming into pint-sized patriots for pictures. In between photo ops, volunteers took the opportunity to engage their parents on a different level. Newly armed with information about upcoming elections and changes to the voting laws, many voters exclaimed: "Thank you! I didn't know that!"

The Supervisor of Elections' table was next to ours, so when someone needed to register or update, we walked them over there. The collaboration worked out perfectly. Most people were registered, but by concentrating on voter education, I think we had an even larger impact. Most importantly, we made sure to tell everyone to spread the word about changes to vote-by-mail.



LWVPBC, PBC Libraries Team to Reach Disabled, Neurodivergent

By **Pamela Maldonado**, Voter Services

The Palm Beach County Library system has an active program for making its activities accessible for disabled and neurodivergent citizens. Every month it publishes a calendar of special activities at branches throughout the County.

In keeping with our commitment to inclusivity and civic engagement, as members of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) REV UP the Vote! campaign, the League has joined the committee and will attend some of these events. Recognizing the significance of diversity in all its forms, we hope to network with other civic organizations to foster active participation in the democratic process.

As a first step, we recently participated in the Diversity/Neurodivergent Resource Fair at the Belle Glade library. We all laughed when volunteer **Germaine Richards** extracted pinky promises and oaths to register to vote when they turn 16 from a group of middle school boys in exchange for candy.

If you are involved with or have contact with an organization serving a specific disabled community, please reach out to us with contact information. We are anxious to network with as many groups as possible. Please contact **Pam Maldonado** at maldonadopbc@gmail.com or (305) 873-4239.





PB County League Advocates for Inclusive Voter Education

By Pamela Maldonado, Voter Services

We recently took part in the **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office's Day for Autism** in Wellington. The event, dedicated to raising awareness and support for individuals with autism and their families, became an opportune platform for the League to provide vital voter education, with a special emphasis on encouraging disabled individuals and their families to participate in the democratic process.

We work to ensure that every eligible citizen has the knowledge and resources needed to exercise their right to vote by emphasizing the importance of the disabled community's voice in shaping policies that directly affect their lives. Our collaboration with PBSO's Day for Autism allowed us to extend our outreach efforts to a community that often faces unique challenges in accessing information about civic participation.

IN THE NEWS



Stet Media Group Photo by Carolyn DiPaolo

Five Things Carey Haughwout Told Women Voters

This article was published Feb. 27 by Stet Media Group shortly after Palm Beach County's outgoing Public Defender addressed a League forum. It is reprinted here with permission. You can also find it at this link:

<https://www.stetnews.org/i/141677294/five-things-carey-haughwout-told-the-women-voters>

Public Defender Carey Haughwout is stepping down after 24 years. That makes her the county's longest-serving public defender.

She runs a 200-member staff charged with defending people whose life or liberty is in the balance over misdemeanor, felony or capital charges.

- Haughwout has personally represented several defendants in Palm Beach County death penalty cases.

Former Literacy Coalition CEO Darlene Kostrub interviewed Haughwout this month at a free event west of Delray Beach presented by the [League of Women Voters](#) of Palm Beach County.

[Read More](#)

James Patterson donates \$1M to campaign to fight book banning, other issues facing authors

This article was published Jan. 31 in 'The Palm Beach Daily News' and is reprinted here with permission.

By [Jodie Wagner](#), *The Palm Beach Daily News*



Palm Beach resident James Patterson, an outspoken opponent of book-removal efforts in Florida's public schools, has joined a group of bestselling authors in supporting a new campaign to address the myriad issues facing authors today.

Patterson and his wife, Sue, have committed \$1 million toward a \$10 million capacity-building campaign launched by the Authors Guild Foundation, a New York-based nonprofit that is the charitable and educational arm of [The Authors Guild](#).

The 12,000-member organization advocates for the rights of writers by supporting free speech, fair contracts and copyright protections.

Money raised through the campaign will be used to meet immediate needs to increase staff to assist with legal services for authors and advocacy and to fight book bans at the state level.

[Read More](#)

PLEASE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

Contact information is available in the Member Directory at LWVPBC.org

Jayne Butler (Delray Beach); **Randy Faust** (Delray Beach); **Pamela Fine** (Lake Worth Beach); **Joan Friedenber**g (Boynton Beach); **Diane Garland** (Boca Raton); **Lori Geiger** (Boca Raton); **Virginia Meredith** (Lake Worth Beach); **Jamie Orens** (Boynton Beach); **Sue Shattuck** (Lantana); **Lois Steinberg** (Palm Beach Gardens).

Questions? Call or text **Darlene Kostrub** at (561) 573-6384 or email Members@LWVPBC.org.

REMINDERS

YOUR Vote by Mail
Application Has

EXPIRED

REAPPLY NOW!

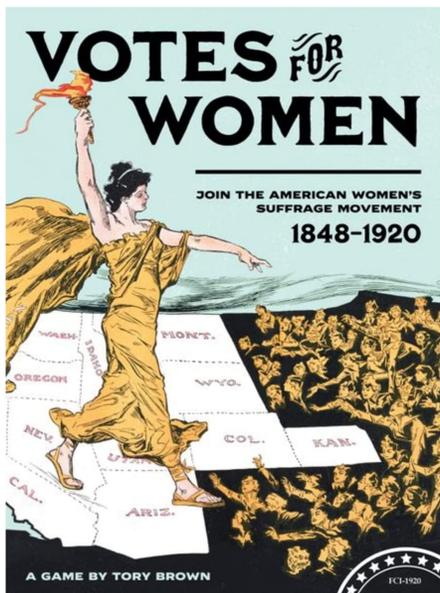


A MILESTONE GIFT: WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE GAME

Votes for Women, designed by Tory Brown and published by Fort Circle Games, recounts the story of how suffragists won the right to vote in 1920 through the 19th Amendment. The card-driven game detailing events from Seneca Falls, N.Y., to the ratification of the 19th Amendment features period artwork and historical documents.

Founded in 2017, Fort Circle Games designs board games based on historical events. Fort Circle Games is based in Washington, D.C., and is named after the network of fortifications that defended the city during the Civil War.

The game Votes for Women can be pre-ordered for \$75 (including shipping) at [VotesForWomen.com](https://www.VotesForWomen.com). The League of Women Voters receives a donation for each game purchased.



Show your League Spirit
by wearing your shirts and hats!

GET YOUR LEAGUE ON!
The League Merch Store is Now Open!



Our **SHOP PAGE** is open on the website and ready for your order.
Wear your shirt to a League meeting and we will post your picture
on our website!



**Show that you
STAND WITH THE LEAGUE!**

SHOP NOW!



**DO YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?
DO YOU LIKE TO BE WHERE THE ACTION IS?
DO YOU LIKE TO TAKE PICTURES?**

Then we need you on our Communications Team!
Contact Communications@LWVPBC.org.



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Our mailing address is:

League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County
9314 Forest Hill Blvd
Suite 640
Wellington, Florida 33411

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