

[View this email in your browser](#)



May 15, 2022

Newsletter Submission Tips

Deadline: fifth of the month--published on the 15th of the month
Please send photos in JPEG format with text! Contact the newsletter editor: lwpbcnews@lwpbc.org

Please share with your friends!

President's Report THE STATE OF THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

By Kathi Gundlach, LWVPBC Chair

The League of Women Voters Palm Beach County has weathered the Covid storm and come out the other side in wonderful shape. This is due to the active participation of you, our members. The League has continued our mission of **EMPOWERING VOTERS AND DEFENDING DEMOCRACY**, against all odds. I am happy to report the League of Women Voters Florida was triumphant in their challenge to SB90. Many

of the onerous parts of the bill have been stricken. We are all sure that this will be challenged but we remain hopeful that we will prevail. Cecile Scoon, President of the League of Women Voters Florida, testified for hours on SB90 and represented us extremely well. The fight continues.

[Click to Read More](#)



"Reconnect with your Inner Child" exhibit

After the Annual Meeting, Palm Beach League members took a special tour of this new exhibition from acclaimed artist Sean Kenney featuring over 40 sculptures made from more than 800,000 LEGO pieces and explores the beauty of nature through highly stylized,

colorful displays that stand in striking contrast with their surroundings. Produced by Imagine Exhibitions, *Nature POP!* blends art, science, and innovation in the display of these sculptures.



UPCOMING EVENTS



May 18, 2022

Hot Topic

PBC Tax Update

[Register Here](#)

Dorothy Jacks & Anne Gannon



June 15, 2022

Hot Topic

The Importance of Public Defenders on the Supreme Court

[Register Here](#)

Carey Haughwout, Public Defender in Palm Beach County

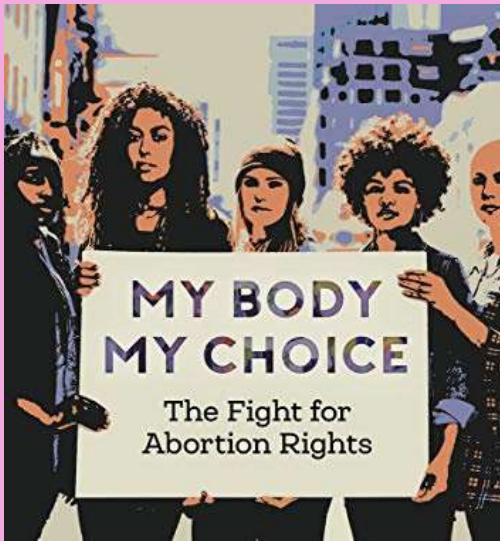


**June 25th is
New Members
Orientation**

**Taste of the
League...Orientation for newer
members and other persons
interested in the League**

[Register HERE](#)





Roe Vs Wade To Be Overturned?

On May 14, 2022 Hundreds took to the streets in Delray Beach and West Palm Beach--and tens of thousands more in cities across the nation--protesting the leaked Supreme Court draft opinion by Justice Samuel Alito. On May 2nd, we learned that SCOTUS is poised to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, stripping the constitutional right to abortion in spite of fifty years of

precedent. The Supreme Court is making their official decision on abortion rights in June. Once that happens, 26 states could move quickly to ban abortion, meaning millions of people could live without local access to abortion care. Many Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and other people of color experience barriers to accessing abortions.

[Here's the response from the League of Women Voter's Blog, May 3, 2022](#), WASHINGTON — Today the League of Women Voters of the United States president **Dr. Deborah Turner** and CEO **Virginia Kase Solomón** issued the following joint statement in response to the leaked Supreme Court draft opinion that would overturn *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*:

“Reproductive care is essential health care and a fundamental right that the Supreme Court is preparing to undermine. If this draft opinion holds, and overturns *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, it not only strips women and pregnant people of their personal autonomy but opens the door to erode more fundamental rights. As an organization that believes in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy, we will fight to preserve the individual rights of women to make their own reproductive choices.

[Click to Read More](#)

Judge Sides with League of Women Voters of Florida and Others In Congressional Map Challenge



May 11, 2022--TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Following the decision from a judge in the Circuit Court of Leon County that plaintiffs were likely to succeed in proving that the configuration of Florida’s Congressional District 5 in the ‘DeSantis map’ diminishes the voting power of Black Floridians, in violation of the Florida Constitution, plaintiffs including the League of Women Voters of Florida in the case *Black Voters Matter Capacity Building Institute v.*

Lee released the following statements:



"The DeSantis' enacted congressional map is a threat to the rule of law. Notably, the League of Women Voters of Florida was a lead plaintiff in successfully suing the Florida Legislature over its legislative and congressional boundaries at the conclusion of the 2012 redistricting process. The League finds no solace in returning to court a decade later to once again fight for fair representation. This preliminary injunction from the court is a start to ensuring that the laws of the sunshine state are followed and the voices of voters are fairly represented," said **Cecile Scoon, President of the League of Women Voters of Florida.**

[Click to Read More](#)





League Wins Grand Prize Award for VOTE 411 Website! Educates Voters on Local Elections-- Needs Volunteers in PBC!

By Cynthia Archbold

The National League of Women Voters has won the 'Grand Prize: Nonprofit Communications Campaign of the Year' category of PR Daily's 2021 Nonprofit Communications Awards for its VOTE411.org--a nonpartisan election website run and operated by the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) and a one-stop resource with all this information in one place. It gives voters a chance to know who they are voting for and the issues they are voting for. Anyone in Any state can type in their home address on VOTE411.org and see the ballot questions they will be voting on and compare candidate responses to the League's questions.

LWVPBC's Vote411 Chair Joyce Sullivan says the PR Daily honor went to the National League; however, the award reflects the work of local league chapters across the nation which research, write, edit and publish their own local vote411 voting guides--a very laborious, major project for each

one. But LWVPBC has the distinction of being the only chapter in the state that publishes a printed guide distributed throughout the county that is uploaded to the VOTE 411 website--the other 28 chapters publish online only.

"We have an amazing team," Sullivan says. And she'll need it, because they're already publishing and distributing their voting guides for the November 2022 Election.

It takes more than 75 volunteers to produce the Palm Beach County League's Voters' Guide, as well as sponsors to underwrite the project. The print edition is thanks to donors including Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart and Shipley, P.A., *The Palm Beach Post* and several generous League members. We will go live on July 11 on VOTE411 with all qualifying candidates for the Aug. 23 primary election. We currently are gathering candidate and ballot information, which we will upload into VOTE411 and print in our 2022 Voters' Guide. The printed guide will be distributed in local newspapers, libraries and many other sites around Palm Beach County.

You can help us with this important civic effort! We still need more volunteers to help identify locations and help distribute the printed guide in

**September. Contact Diane Marks
at dimarks@gate.net**

[Click to Read More](#)

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

988: A new Emergency Mental health Hotline Could Save Lives

By Cynthia Archbold & Marilyn Ricci

Since the Pandemic, more Americans may be suffering from mental health issues than ever before. But a new hotline is on the way if Florida is ready to implement it. Starting on July 16, 988--the three-digit number will go live, and Floridians should be able to call, text or chat to get help from a trained professional who could even send a mental health team to visit.

It's part of a new national mental health program established in 2020 by the Federal Communications Commission and authorized by Congress. The 988 number is an alternative to 911 to provide round-the-clock response to behavioral health emergencies.

"Switching to an easy-to-remember 988 will make it easier for individuals in crisis to access the help they need and decrease the

stigma surrounding suicide and mental health issues," the FCC Fact Sheet states.

[Click to Read More](#)

Florida Drops the CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey, drawing alarm from doctors and child welfare agencies.

From WLRN By Tom Hudson April 30, 2022

Florida teenagers will no longer be asked if they've gotten into a fight, use drugs or feel hopeless in a biennial survey from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Earlier this month, the state opted to end its participating in the CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The questionnaire had been distributed to thousands of teens in Florida since 1991.

"This is the worst time one could pick to do this," said Dr. Mobeen Rathore, Associate Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, at UF-Jacksonville, and past president, Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. "This comes at a time when it is more important than ever to have this sort of data for the health and well-being of our young people."

It is a voluntary and anonymous survey asking middle and high school students about a variety of behaviors, including drug and

alcohol use, sex, diet, physical and mental health. There were more than 100 questions in the 2019 survey.

[Click to Read More](#)

Congress Battles to Lower Insulin Pricing

By Sharon Lent, LWVPBC Healthcare Issue Group



People with Type I diabetes need insulin to survive, and news reports are rife with stories of patients whose health has suffered because they've skipped injections to make their supply last longer. People with diabetes who must take insulin are especially captive, and skipping or rationing doses becomes a dangerous reality for 1 in 4 insulin-dependent Americans. Sadly that number will continue to climb if patient costs keep rising.

According to a CNN report, a real game-changer might be Civica Rx, which recently announced its plans to manufacture generic versions of all three major insulin products. It plans to manufacture and sell insulin for no more than \$30 a vial. The company expects it to be on the market as early as 2024. This will be a tremendous help to families who are now paying more for insulin than they are for their mortgages!

There should be a bi-partisan way forward to limit out-of-pocket costs for Americans with diabetes regardless of what kind of insurance they have. On March 31, 2022 the U.S. House passed a bill (H.R.6833) that would cap out-of-pocket costs at \$35/month. Sadly, a similar version failed to pass in the Senate. Currently, Senators Collins and Shaheen are working on a revised version that would still limit out-of-pocket costs. Senator Collins explains that their version will include provisions that would limit how much manufacturers can charge for insulin.

[Click to Read More](#)



**Please Welcome These New Members
to Our League:**

Darlene Kolstrub, Membership Chair

Christene Allen (Boca Raton); Donna Colabella (Highland Beach); Joan Cutler (Boynton Beach); David Eisenberg (Royal Palm Beach); Mitzi Garvey (Delray Beach); Susan Innis (Palm Beach Gardens); Leonard Rutkoski (Delray Beach); Nina Le Sueur (Palm Beach Gardens); Hal Reed (Delray Beach); Gail Schachter (Delray Beach); Marci Shaughnessy (Wellington).

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

NEXT TASTE OF THE LEAGUE ORIENTATION....is on Saturday, June 25, 10:30-11:30 a.m. If you have never attended an Orientation, please do plan to attend and register [HERE](#).



NEWS EDITORIAL VOLUNTEERS

Cynthia Archbold Managing Editor

We need writers and editors! Please contact us today!

Please send your story ideas, feedback or questions to _lwvpscnews@gmail.com

Copyright © 2020-2022 League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Mailing Address:

League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County

PO Box 6208

Delray Beach, FL 33482-6208

[Add us to your address book](#)

Copyright © 2022 League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

League of Women Voters of Palm Beach County

PO Box 6208

Delray Beach, FL 33482-6208

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

