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June 2026

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CITRUS COUNTY

Vicky Iozzia is the Editor of this newsletter. Our mailing address is
LWVCC, P. O. Box 1903, Lecanto, FL 34460 Our website is
lwvcitrus.org Our email address is lwvcc2013@gmail.com

Our June 10, 2026 meeting features Barbara Venditto from the Homeless Coalition, and the Board of Commissioners candidates. It will be at the Coastal Region Library and begins at 10 am. See Page

On July 8, 2026, our speaker will be Dr. Don Wright, author of The Invading Sea. Candidates for the Florida House of Representatives, JJ Grow and Tod Cloud have been invited to a meet and greet.

SEE PAGE 8 FOR THE LINEUP OF MEETINGS COMING UP!

Please visit our Facebook page and "like" us!

<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvotersofcitruscounty>

We want to thank the following businesses for their cooperation: FGE Printing, Citrus County Chronicle, Pinnacle Printing

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE BOARD MEMBERS WHO DO SUCH
A GREAT JOB EVERY MONTH CONTRIBUTING**

**TO THIS NEWSLETTER! THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO READ
THIS. YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME!**



HAPPY JUNE EVERYONE!

June 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Global Day of Parents World Milk Day	2	3 Global Running Day Nat'l. Egg Day World Bicycle Day	4 Corpus Christi Int'l. Day of Innocent Children Victims of... Nat'l. Cheese Day	5 Int'l. Day against Illegal Fishing Nat'l. Donut Day World Environment Day	6 D-Day Anniv.
7 Nat'l. Chocolate Ice Cream Day Tony Awards World Food Safety Day	8 Nat'l. Best Friend Day World Oceans Day	9	10	11	12 The Sacred Heart of Jesus Philippines Indep. Day World Day Against Child Labour	13 St Anthony Int'l. Albinism Awareness Day
14 Flag Day Nat'l. Bourbon Day World Blood Donor Day	15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day	16 Islamic New Year Int'l. Day of Family Remittances	17 Nat'l. Mascot Day World Day to Combat Desertification and...	18 Int'l. Picnic Day Sustainable Gastronomy Day	19 Juneteenth Int'l. Day for the Elimination of Sexual... Nat'l. Flip Flop Day Nat'l. Martini Day	20 World Refugee Day
21 Father's Day Summer Solstice (Summer Begins) Go Skateboarding Day Int'l. Day of the Celebration of the... Int'l. Yoga Day Nat'l. Selfie Day World Music Day	22	23 Int'l. Widows' Day United Nations Public Service Day	24 St John the Baptist	25 Day of the Seafarer Nat'l. Handshake Day	26 Ashura Day against Drug Abuse/Illicit Trafficking Take Your Dog To Work Day United Nations Int'l. Day in Support of...	27 Micro / Small / Medium sized Enterprises... Nat'l. Ice Cream Cake Day Nat'l. Sunglasses Day PTSD Awareness Day
28	29 St Peters Int'l. Day of the Tropics Nat'l. Camera Day	30 Int'l. Asteroid Day Int'l. Day of Parliamentarism				

Events in June 2026

Grid List Month Week Day June 2026 Go < Previous Today						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	1:00 pm: Board of Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida meeting 4:00 pm: Citrus County School Board meeting	10:00 am: Barbara Venditto, Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition	11	12	13
14	15	16	4:00 pm: Cattle Dog Social for the League of Women Voters of Citrus County 7:00 pm: Zoom Meeting with Health Department, Carmen Hernandez	18	19	20
21	22	9:00 am: Library Advisory Board 1:00 pm: Board of Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida meeting	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

This calendar is from our website:
Lwvcitrus.org

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Get ready for 2026 elections with LWV Citrus!

**Meet & Greet for Candidates for Citrus County
Board of Commissioners, Districts 2, 4**

Speaker:

Barbara Venditto, Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition

Wednesday June 10

10:00-11:30 AM **

Coastal Region Library

8619 W Crystal St. Crystal River

*****Please arrive early. Seating will be limited due to room size.*****



**Barbara Venditto is Executive
Director of Mid-Florida Homeless
Coalition.** She will speak about the issue
of homelessness in Citrus County.



**Meet & Greet for Candidates for Citrus
County Board of Commissioners,
Districts 2, 4**

***Diana Finegan & Stacey Worthington (2)
Rebecca Bays, Holli Herndon, Jennifer
Grogan (4)***

Each candidate will have 3 minutes to introduce
themselves. Candidates may interact with
participants following this part of the meeting.



*A nonpartisan, grassroots organization,
empowering voters and defending
democracy.*



The League of Women Voters of Citrus County

invites the public to a special Zoom meeting

to highlight the services of the

Citrus County Health Department

with Carmen Hernandez



Wednesday, June 17 at 7:00 PM.



Carmen Hernandez is the Community Health Program Administrator for the Citrus County Department of Health. In this Zoom meeting, she will share information on the programs that are available to our community and explain how to access them. Guaranteed you will learn something you didn't know!

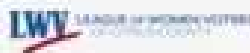
To register go to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/WH1thduZRMWE9VcDY0Emog>

Put in your information and you'll receive a confirmation email.

This meeting is part of a series of outreach events to educate the public on important community topics. The Public is invited. For more information, please email lwvcc2013@gmail.com. Visit lwvcitrus.org and Facebook page "League of Women Voters of Citrus County."

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



Get ready for 2026 elections with LWV Citrus!

**Meet & Greet for Candidates for:
Florida House of Representatives, District 23
and
5th Circuit Judge Group 27**

**Speaker:
Don Wright, Author & Environmentalist**

Wednesday July 8

10:00-11:30 AM

Coastal Region Library

8619 W Crystal St. Crystal River



Professor Emeritus Don Wright

***"Understanding, anticipating, and adapting to
climate change, 2026 storm threats, and potential
impacts on Florida's Gulf Coast"***

Meet & Greet for FL House District 23 & Judicial Candidates

***Each candidate will have 3 minutes to introduce themselves. Candidates
may interact with participants following this part of the meeting.***



***A nonpartisan, grassroots organization
empowering voters and defending
democracy.***



About our upcoming Meet and Greet Meetings:

We have invited every known candidate to participate in our upcoming sessions:

- ☐ All qualified candidates for Board of County Commissioners, Districts 2 and 4, have been invited to our June 10 meeting.
- ☐ Both qualified candidates for FL House, and the two nonpartisan candidates for Circuit Court Group 27, are invited to our July 8 meeting.
- ☐ For US House of Representatives District 15, we invite winners of the August Primary to our September 12 meeting.
- ☐ We will keep you apprised of plans for an August meeting.



Get ready for 2026 elections with LWV Citrus!

LWV Citrus will offer Candidate Meet & Greet Meetings,
May through September 2026

**All Meetings: Second Wednesdays of the Month
10:00-11:30 AM**

**Coastal Region Library
8619 W Crystal St. Crystal River**

Each meeting will begin with a featured speaker. After the speaker, each candidate will have three minutes to introduce themselves and share their ideas and plans. No audience questions will be taken at that time. Following all introductions, participants will be free to interact with candidates at their respective tables.

June 10 10:00	Speaker: Barbara Venditto, Mid-Florida Homeless Coalition Candidates for Citrus County Board of Commissioners Diana Finegan & Stacey Worthington (District 2) Rebecca Bays & Holli Herndon (District 4)
July 8 10:00	Speaker: Dr. Don Wright, Author, The Invading Sea Candidates for FL House of Representatives District 23 JJ Grow, Tod Cloud Candidates for Circuit Judge Group 27 Lisa Yeager, Nicole Morris
Aug. 8 or 12 10:00	TBD. Based on recent events, topics and date may be changing. We promise to keep you posted!
Sept. 9 10:00	Speaker: TBD Candidates for US House of Representatives District 15 Candidates will be announced following August Primary Elections
Oct. 14 10:00	Special Session: Get Ready to Vote! LWVCC speakers will explain the Amendments to the Florida Constitution that will appear on our ballots. Maureen "Mo" Baird , Citrus County Supervisor of Elections will speak about election security and other details.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF CITRUS COUNTY

**A nonpartisan, grassroots organization, empowering
voters and defending democracy.**



Linda Abels, Membership Chair, 2nd Vice President

Welcome to Summer!

Summer has officially arrived! It's the season for vacations, relaxation, and family gatherings—though, as many of us know, sometimes we still need a little vacation from retirement itself!

Before you pack your bags for summer travel or welcome out-of-town guests into your home, we have one small piece of housekeeping. Please take a quick moment to look at your League of Women Voters membership renewal date.



Important Renewal Reminder: June 1, 2026

A significant number of our dedicated Citrus County members have an annual renewal date of **June 1, 2026**. If your membership is up for renewal, you should have recently received an email notification directly from LWV US with instructions on how to renew.

How You Can Renew Today:

- **Option 1 (Fastest):** Open the reminder email from LWV US and click the direct renewal button inside.
- **Option 2 (Via Website):** Visit our local website at lwvcitrus.org, navigate to the **Membership and Dues Information** section, and follow the prompts.

Not sure when your membership expires? Don't worry! Feel free to reach out to me directly at labels58@aol.com, and I will gladly check your status in our database for you.



A Look at Our Dues Structure & Your Impact

As you may recall, LWV US implemented a new flexible dues structure last February to make membership more accessible to everyone. The recommended rate for a one-year membership is **\$75.00**, but the modern system allows you to pay any amount that fits your budget, with a minimum baseline of **\$20.00**.

We want to be completely transparent about how your financial support is utilized. When you pay your annual dues, the funds are divided among our local, state, and national branches to keep the League running smoothly at every level:

League Level	Your Contribution at Work	Share
Citrus County League	Funds our local community forums, local voter information, and county-level educational presentations.	20%
Florida State League	Supports statewide advocacy, legislative tracking in Tallahassee, and state voting rights initiatives.	47%
LWV US (National)	Powers national voter registration infrastructure, legal advocacy, and organizational resources.	33%

Want to make a local impact? Because the local share of standard dues is 20%, we deeply appreciate any additional support. When renewing online, you will see an option to make a **separate donation directly to our local Citrus County League**. 100% of these specific donations stay right here in our community to fund our local programs.



Joining Together for Our 2026 Membership Campaign

This year, LWVUS is asking all local chapters to embark on an intentional, active membership campaign to expand our reach. We are taking this call to action to heart, but we cannot do it without you.

Our impact relies entirely on the strength of our numbers. We encourage you to talk to your friends, neighbors, and relatives about the vital work the Citrus County LWV does.

By working together to grow our roster, we gain the hands, minds, and resources necessary to do even more in our community. An expanded membership means we can host more educational events and keep the public informed about the critical legislative and civic happenings shaping our county, state, and nation.

Thank you for your continued passion, your time, and your dedication to empowering voters and defending democracy.

Welcome to new members, **Susan Staley** and **Rachael Cornett**. We now have 74 members!

Have a wonderful, safe, and truly great month of June!

Warmly,

Linda



**Vicky Iozzia, 1st President, Newsletter Editor,
Webmaster, Speakers Bureau Chair**

I don't need to tell you that we are living in dangerous times. First amendment rights are being flagrantly violated. Things that we thought were impossible are happening. A war of choice? Feigning negotiations and then striking with a vengeance? When the Japanese did that, involving our country in World War II, they were vilified.

There are so many things happening at the same time that it is easy to get dizzy, confused, and give up. People being slammed with the needlessly ridiculous prices of gasoline, electricity, and food are trying just to stay above water. People are angry, confused, and frustrated.

Organizations exist to help people to get justice. The League of Women Voters is one of those organizations. Attorneys for the League are battling to counter the illegal acts being perpetrated.

In addition, League officers and other interested parties attend zoom meetings. There is a zoom meeting every Monday presented by the Florida League to inform members, and to let us know what the League positions are.

When I attend Florida zoom meetings I am awed by what some of the county League are doing locally. They are committed, they live in more populated areas, and they have many members who participate.

Sometimes I dream of what this League could do. That dream would depend on the commitment and talents of those who want to get involved with our Board. The door is always open.





Saturday, May 16, 2026 Outreach

The outreach that BJ Ezell, Jeanne Messersmith, Peg Primeau, and I attended at Chinsegut Hill was so well attended that they will have to get a bigger tent next year. It was the Florida Emancipation Day and FAMU (Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University) Farm fest, at the Chinsegut Hill Historic Site in Brooksville.

It included exhibits, lectures, vendors, food, wagon rides, and music.

Even though the weather was very hot, I am glad that I went and glad that the League was represented.

**JOIN US ON JULY 4, FROM 9 TO 11, NEAR THE OLD COURTHOUSE IN
INVERNESS ON GULF TO LAKE HIGHWAY, TO WAVE FLAGS, CELEBRATE
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, AND CELEBRATE THE 250
ANNIVERSARY OF THE USA!**

Why do we do outreaches? I can tell you why I think outreaches at community events are important.

Participating in community events is not easy. The event has to be booked, volunteers are needed for shifts, materials need to be organized. Our tent is some times needed (heavy and difficult to put up and take down, but someone always helps).

Although we have a limited number of members who volunteer (am I sounding like a broken record?), I believe that these events are well worth the effort. Why?

We get to highlight what the League is, what it stands for, and what we are doing in the community. Connections are often made that help us to be known and result in more outreaches.

Successful people and organizations make relationships with other people and organizations. That is what we need to do to continue to be more and more successful.

Thinking about volunteering? Do you think you don't know enough about the League to join us? We can help with that by pairing you with an experienced member.

Dear friends,

I have been writing articles for the **Citrus Life Magazine** for a few years. In the last issue, In the last issue, I wrote about Sheriff David Vincent and Superntendent of Schools Scott Hebert.

I am writing about **servant leaders** in the community. If you know of someone who is a leader who serves the community with integrity, working hard, without letting ego get in the way, please send me their name, vickyiozzia@gmail.com



Peg Primeau, 2nd President, Reproductive Health & Justice Chair

Moms and Babies Are Not Supported in Florida

From Rep. Bilirakis' May 17 newsletter:

“Strengthening Support for Healthy Moms and Babies: Each May we celebrate moms, but we must also confront a troubling reality: America’s maternal mortality rate has more than doubled since the 1980s - and now ranks among the highest in the developed world. Even more heartbreaking, 90% of these deaths are preventable.”

[So where is Florida’s report of maternal mortality data for the past five years?]

“Too many mothers still lack the care and support they need before, during, and after pregnancy. By bringing together leaders across government, business, healthcare, entertainment, and the faith community in a bipartisan effort, we can scale proven solutions and cut maternal mortality in half over the next five years. One important step forward is the new [resource hub](#) launched by the Department of Health and Human Services to connect moms and families with critical support.”

The resource hub is moms.gov.

The first item on the home page is:

“Pregnancy Centers provide supportive services for mothers and families. Many centers offer pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, STD/STI testing and treatment, parenting support, childbirth classes, medical referrals, and material goods like clothes and diapers—at no cost to you. There are more than 2,750 pregnancy centers across the country. The majority of pregnancy centers **offer limited medical services**. Check with your local center for details.”

The associated link to find a local center takes you to Option Line.

Option Line is a project of **Heartbeat International**, a major network of pro-life pregnancy help organizations.

Translation: These are the “crisis pregnancy centers” that are unregulated and unlicensed, outside of HIPAA safeguards, and often lacking any certified healthcare provider.

In Florida, CPCs receive 29.5 million taxpayer dollars annually.

Florida has numerous maternal healthcare deserts. These are counties where there are no hospitals with birthing facilities and no OB-GYN or midwife providers. Long distances to a clinic mean marginal prenatal care, greater consequences for those with high-risk pregnancies, and spotty postpartum care.

A crisis pregnancy center with no medical professionals does not help.

The second item on the moms.gov home page is about Federally Qualified Health Centers. These are not-for-profit comprehensive-care clinics staffed by actual medical personnel. Fees for uninsured are on a sliding scale.

As you read here last month, the 2025 OBBB law took the “Qualified” away from Planned Parenthood clinics. PP previously got Medicaid reimbursement for professional treatment of patients for reproductive health needs including cancer screenings, STI therapy, pregnancy care, and contraception.

In addition, KFF news reminds us that Florida has not only rejected Medicaid expansion, but it has defied federal law and removed 43,000 eligible children from KidCare healthcare coverage.

To sum up:

- + Concealing maternal mortality data
- + Our representatives’ voting to defund Planned Parenthood clinics in the OBBB
- + The state’s sending millions to CPCs
- + The governor’s refusal to accept Medicaid expansion and withholding KidCare

= We cannot say that Florida is doing its best to “support healthy moms and babies.”



Rosemary Nilles, 1st Vice Pres,

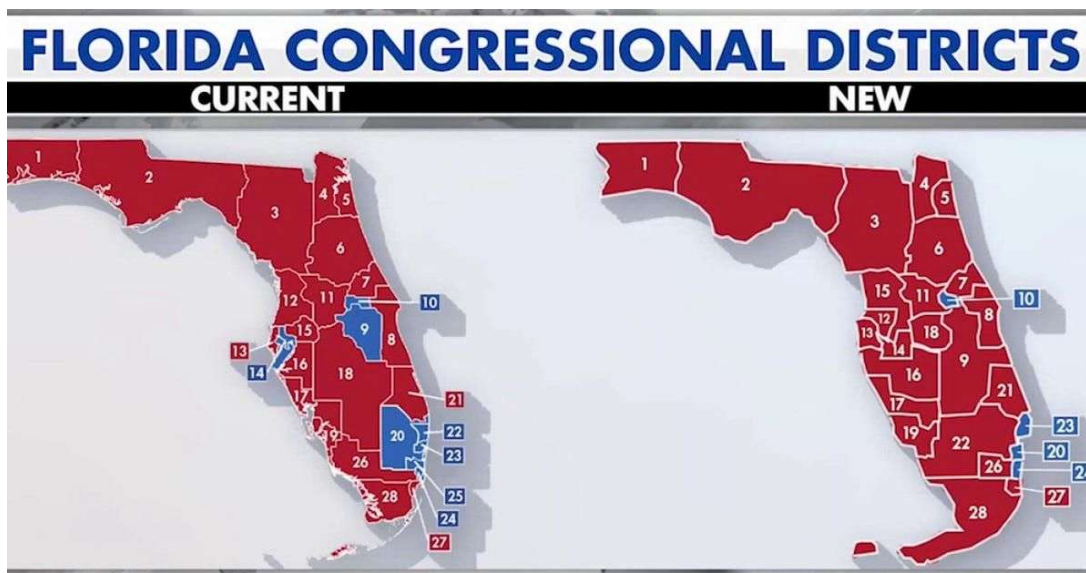
Redistricting Updates: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Unfortunately, most of this article will be about the Bad and the Ugly, because partisan redistricting has triumphed in Florida. This has happened in spite of Florida Fair Districts Amendments to the Constitution, passed in 2010 by 63% of Florida voters, expressly forbidding partisan gerrymandering.

From the beginning back in July 2025, LWV Florida opposed Gov. DeSantis' push to redraw our congressional districts in mid-decade, without new census data or a court order. The President also pushed for partisan redistricting nationally, with the stated purpose of gaining more seats in Congress for his party.

After months of delaying action on redistricting, the Governor called a costly special session to redraw new maps the week of April 28-May 1.

The new map on the right, below, was created by one of the Governor's staff members. It was never publicly revealed until viewers on Fox News first saw it on Sunday evening, April 26. Note that the coloring on the right was done by the Governor's office.



Without adequate time for scrutiny and input, Florida legislators responded to pressure, approving the new maps on April 29.

Voters should be outraged that these maps were passed in this way! Voting rights groups, including LWWFL and Common Cause, immediately filed lawsuits.

Circuit Judge Joshua Hawkes heard the arguments on Friday, May 15, but did not make his ruling until May 25. He ruled to use the news maps, stating that the recent Supreme Court [Louisiana v Callais decision](#) renders these new maps lawful, that plaintiffs did not address this recent ruling, and there is not enough time to draw new maps prior to the impending elections in August. *(remember the delays in creating these maps?)*

We are dismayed that the judge chose to ignore Florida's Constitutional Fair Districts Amendments, passed overwhelmingly by FL voters in 2010. There will be appeals, but it is likely that the maps will stay. Voter confusion is high, with many voters, including Citrus, now voting for new candidates they may not have heard of before.

Learn more about the details of the judge's ruling [here](#).

Now for the only good news: LWW Citrus promises to keep our local and regional voters up to date with information about our new candidates and the impact of other state actions impacting voting and elections. While we never take sides with candidates or parties, we will do our best through Meet & Greet meetings, other events, newsletter, emails, and social media to keep our voters informed.

YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

■ District 1 (Crystal River, Ozello, Citronelle, Red Level): Jeff Kinnard, jeff.kinnard@citrusbocc.com

■ District 2 (Homosassa, Sugarmill Woods): Diana Finegan, diana.finegan@citrusbocc.com

■ District 3 (Beverly Hills, Pine Ridge, Citrus Springs): Janet Barek, janet.barek@citrusbocc.com

■ District 4 (Floral City, part of Inverness): Rebecca Bays, rebecca.bays@citrusbocc.com

■ District 5 (part of Inverness, Hernando, Arrowhead): Holly L. Davis, holly.davis@citrusbocc.com

NOTE: Correspondences, including email, are public records once received by commissioners or county staff.

Community Meetings March – June 2026

Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

1:00 PM 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (*note exceptions!*):

May 12 & 26, June 11 (Thurs), June 22 (Mon), July 14 & 28

Citrus County Courthouse, 110 Apopka Ave. Inverness

Agenda & watch meetings online:

Citrus County BOCC/Departments/Commissioners

Meetings are livestreamed on the Citrus County Government You Tube Channel.

Broadcast live: Comcast - Channel 71, Spectrum - Channel 643

Find all county meeting dates:

<https://citrusclerk.org/calendar.aspx>

****Governing Body of the Special Library District****

Wed. July 22, 8:30 AM; Citrus County Courthouse, Inverness

Citrus County Library Advisory Board (Regular Meetings)

9:00 AM, 4th Tuesdays: June 23

Lecanto Gov't Bldg., 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto 34461

For more information:

Citrus County/BOCC/Special Library Board

<https://citrusclerk.org/calendar.aspx>

Citrus County Schools District (CCSD) School Board

Regular Meetings: 4:00 PM, 2nd Tues: May 12, June 9, July 14

Workshops: 4th Tuesdays, 9:00 AM check calendar

1007 Main St. Inverness 34450

Agenda & watch meetings online:

Citrus County School District/School Board tab/ Board

Agenda and Minutes:

<https://go.boarddocs.com/fl/citrus/Board.nsf/Public>

View School Board Meetings:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CitrusSchools>

**State Legislators Representing Citrus
Contact Information:**

Sen. Ralph Massullo, FL Senate Dist. 11:

Inverness 352-666-5707 **Tallahassee** 850-487-5011

Email: massullo.ralph.web@flsenate.gov

Rep. JJ Grow, FL Dist. 23:

Inverness 352-560-6075. **Tallahassee** 850-717-5023

Email: jj.grow@flhouse.gov

**US Senators and Representative Representing Citrus
Contact Information:**

Sen. Rick Scott: Tampa 813-225-7040. Washington 202-224-5274

Contact via Senate Website: [Contact Rick Scott](#)

Sen. Ashley Moody: Washington 202-224-3041

Contact via Senate Website: <https://www.moody.senate.gov/>

US Rep. Gus Bilirakis: Inverness 352-654-1004 Washington: 202-225-5755

Contact via House Website: <https://bilirakis.house.gov/>

US Capital Switchboard: 202-224-3121 to contact any federal legislator.

From our Supervisor of Elections, Maureen "Mo" Baird



CITRUS COUNTY Voter Guide



Maureen "Mo" Baird
Supervisor of Elections

1500 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429
PO Box 1870, Lecanto, FL 34460-1870
(352)564-7120 Phone
(352)564-7121 Fax
Email: vote@votecitrus.gov
Website: VoteCitrus.gov

WHO CAN VOTE

You May Register to Vote If:

- ★ You are a US Citizen.
- ★ You are 18 years of age. (A person who is otherwise qualified may pre-register on or after that person's 16th birthday to vote in any election occurring on or after his or her 18th birthday.)
- ★ You are a legal resident of the county in which you wish to vote.

Persons NOT Entitled to Register:

- ★ Anyone convicted of a felony or declared mentally incapacitated with respect to voting may not register to vote until his or her rights or competency has been restored.
- ★ Any person who is not a citizen of the United States. (Section 97.041, Florida Statutes)

HOW TO REGISTER

You Must Fill Out a Voter Registration Form.

It only takes a few minutes to fill one out and mail or deliver it to our office, the Division of Elections, or any voter registration agency.

Voter Registration Forms are available at:

- ★ Supervisor of Elections Office - Come in person or call our office for an application to be mailed to you (352) 564-7120.
- ★ You may download a form at: votecitrus.gov.
- ★ Driver License Offices (DMV's)
- ★ Local Libraries
- ★ Public Assistance Offices
- ★ Government Agencies



2026 Election Dates

PRIMARY ELECTION

August 18, 2026

Last Day to Register - July 20, 2026

GENERAL ELECTION

November 3, 2026

Last Day to Register - October 5, 2026

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WHEN YOU CAN REGISTER

New Registrations

You may register to vote at any time. However, there is a 29 day deadline prior to each election for registering to vote or for changing party affiliation.

The date your voter registration application is postmarked or hand delivered to your county Supervisor of Elections will be your registration date.

When the registration deadline has passed for an election, address and name changes can still be made. Voter registration and party changes will be accepted, but only for the purpose of subsequent elections. (FS. 97.055)

UPDATE YOUR VOTER RECORD

It is the Voter's Responsibility to Notify the Supervisor of Elections Office if You:

- ★ Changed your address within Citrus County - Notify us by phone, fax, e-mail, or in writing.
- ★ Moved into Citrus County from another county in Florida - Notify us by phone or fill out a Voter Registration Application by mail, in person at the Supervisor of Elections Office, the library, or online at registertovoteflorida.gov.



ELECTION WORKERS

Apply to be an Election Worker:

- ★ Applications are available online at votecitrus.gov
- ★ Must be able to read and write in the English language
- ★ Must be registered to vote in Citrus County
- ★ Must attend mandatory training classes
- ★ Need workers with technical and computer skills
- ★ Must have a valid email and computer access
- ★ We are also in search of workers who can speak, read, and write Spanish



2

CLOSED PRIMARY STATE

What is a Closed Primary?

In a Primary Election, voters are limited to choosing candidates of the party in which they are registered.

If you register with the Republican Party, you are allowed to vote only for republican candidates.

If you register with the Democratic Party, you are allowed to vote only for democratic candidates.

If you register with a minor party or no party affiliation, you are allowed to vote for non-partisan candidates and referenda in the Primary Election.

NOTE: An applicant who fails to designate a political party affiliation will be registered without party affiliation.

UNIVERSAL CONTEST

What is a Universal Contest?

"Universal Primary Contest" refers to a contest in a Primary Election in which all candidates for an office have the same party affiliation and the winner of that contest will have no opposition in the General Election.

When this happens, ALL voters, regardless of party affiliation, will have the opportunity to vote in this race.

VOTER INFORMATION CARD

A voter information card will be mailed to you after your voter registration application is processed.

Please review this card to make sure all of your information is correct, and be aware that your precinct may have changed since the last election.

You do not need this card to vote; however, you do need a valid photo and signature ID. See page 4 of this guide for a list of acceptable photo and signature IDs.

You will receive an updated voter information card if there are any changes.

A new voter information card will be mailed to you when there are any changes to your polling place.

This card is for information purposes only. This card is proof of registration but is not legal verification of the eligibility to vote. It is the responsibility of a voter to keep his or her eligibility status current.

VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT

How to Request a Vote-by-Mail Ballot:

- ★ You can request a Vote-by-Mail ballot for yourself or for an immediate family member by:
 - Requesting by phone at (352)564-7120
 - Filling out a Vote-by-Mail request form at our office
 - Filling out the Vote-by-Mail ballot request form online at votecitrus.gov
- ★ In order to mail your ballot to an address that is not already in your voter record, you must complete a paper Vote-by-Mail Request form.

General Information:

- ★ Ballots are mailed 4 to 5 weeks prior to each election
- ★ Our office only mails ballots to registered voters who request them
- ★ You can make requests for specific elections, or all elections. NOTE: In the past, Vote-by-Mail requests lasted for two election cycles; however, due to a change in Florida law in 2021, requests for Vote-by-Mail ballots currently are for one election cycle.
- ★ Any qualified registered voter in Citrus County is entitled to a Vote-by-Mail ballot. The ballot may be requested in person, by mail, or by phone. An immediate family member or legal guardian may request a Vote-by-Mail ballot for a voter. Immediate family means the voter's spouse, parent, child, grandchild, grandparent or sibling.

RETURNING YOUR BALLOT

You Can Return Your Vote-by-Mail Ballot:

- ★ By mail - Postage is Prepaid!
- ★ In person at the Supervisor of Elections Office during Business Hours.
- ★ In person at any of the Early Vote sites during Early Voting.
- ★ Ballots must be received by 7pm on Election day.
- ★ On Election Day, Vote-by-Mail ballots must be turned into the Supervisor of Elections Office. You cannot turn in your ballot at your polling precinct.

NOTE: Voters, when returning your VOTE BY MAIL ballot by US Postal Service, please allow for extra delivery time.

VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AT A POLLING PLACE.

3

EARLY VOTING

Early Voting Locations:

- ★ **Central Ridge Library**
425 W. Roosevelt Blvd.
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
- ★ **Central Ridge Community Center**
77 Civic Circle
Beverly Hills, FL 34465
- ★ **Supervisor of Elections Office**
1500 N. Meadowcrest Blvd.
Crystal River, FL 34429
- ★ **Homosassa Public Library**
4100 S. Grandmarch Ave.
Homosassa, FL 34446
- ★ **Inverness City Hall**
212 W. Main St.
Inverness, FL 34450

ELECTION DAY INFORMATION

Polls Are Open on Election Day from 7:00am to 7:00pm.

The name and address of your polling location will be on your voter information card. Be aware that due to redistricting, your polling location may have changed from the last time you voted.

REMINDER: You must show photo and signature identification. Both the photo and the signature ID may be on one ID or they may be on two separate ID's. Lack of a photo and signature ID will require the voter to cast a provisional ballot. (Florida Statute 101.043(2))

Election Day Checklist:

- ★ Know Your Polling Location (Located on your voter information card.)
- ★ Have your photo and signature ID ready.
- ★ Be an informed voter by researching candidates and issues. (You may mark a sample ballot and bring it in with you.)

VOTING A PROVISIONAL BALLOT

What is a Provisional Ballot?

(FS. 101.048)

If you do not bring ID or if there is any question about your eligibility to vote, you may vote a provisional ballot.

Provisional ballots may be issued at polling precincts on Election Day or at Early Voting sites.

You'll mark your ballot just as you would normally, but instead of putting it through the scanner at the voting site, your voted ballot will go into a "provisional envelope" and be delivered to our office. If your eligibility to vote can be verified, the ballot will be counted.

Provisional ballots are sealed in a special envelope and kept separate from regular ballots. The county Canvassing Board is responsible for examining the provisional ballot envelope and making a determination as to the voter's eligibility.

If you receive a provisional ballot, you will also receive a tracking number, which you can use to see the Canvassing Board's decision on the ballot's eligibility.

Please be aware that the Canvassing Board will not meet until after Election Day.

To track your provisional ballot visit our website:

votecitrus.gov > [Voter Information](#) > [Provisional Ballot Status](#)

DID YOU KNOW ?

Your Signature May Change Over Time

- ★ When you complete a Vote-by-Mail ballot, your signature is compared to your signature currently on file at the Elections Office.
- ★ To ensure your Vote-by-Mail ballot is counted, update your signature today by using a voter registration application.
- ★ You can mail or hand deliver your Vote-by-Mail ballot to the Elections Office.
- ★ ADA accessible ballots are available for disabled voters upon request.



4

PHOTO AND SIGNATURE ID

Acceptable Forms of Photo and Signature ID Include:

(ID Must be Current and Valid)

- Florida Driver's License
- Florida ID
- U.S. Passport
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Debit or Credit Card with Photo
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Veteran Health Identification Card issued by the United States Health Department of Veterans Affairs
- A License to Carry a Concealed Weapon or Firearm Issued Pursuant to S. 790.06
- Employee Identification Card Issued by any Branch, Department, Agency, or Entity of the Federal Government, the State, a County, or a Municipality.

HOW TO MARK YOUR CITRUS COUNTY BALLOT

Citrus County uses an optical scan system with a paper ballot. You must completely fill in the oval on your ballot.

USE A BLACK PEN. TO MARK YOUR BALLOT CORRECTLY, FILL IN THE OVAL NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE.

US PRESIDENT - Vote for ONE -	
☒	YOUR CHOICE
☐	NOT Your Choice

IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE:

If you make a mistake on your ballot, please do not erase or use white out. If you are voting at your polling place, ask for another ballot. If you are Voting-by-Mail, please call the Supervisor of Elections Office at (352) 564-7120 for instructions.

VOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND BILL OF RIGHTS

VOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Each registered voter in this state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
2. Maintain a current address with the office of the Supervisor of Elections.
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
6. Treat election workers with courtesy.
7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
8. Report any problems or violations of elections laws to the Supervisor of Elections.
9. Ask questions, if needed.
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

NOTE TO VOTER: Failure to perform any of these responsibilities does not prohibit a voter from voting.

VOTER'S BILL OF RIGHTS

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and upon request, oral instructions in voting from election officers.
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by election officers or any other person.
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast. (F.S. 101.031)

OPTICAL SCAN VOTING

- ★ ES&S DS300 optical scanners are used at all Early Voting and Election Day polling sites.
- ★ Once a ballot is marked, the voter places their ballot in the DS300 scanner and their ballot is counted.
- ★ All voters in Florida use paper ballots to vote.

EXPRESS VOTE



The Supervisor of Elections Office provides voting to aid persons with disabilities. The ExpressVote is a paper based ballot marking system that utilizes a touch screen for the voter to mark their ballot on a paper ballot card which is then inserted into the DS300 tabulator.

The ExpressVote ballot marking device allows blind and visually impaired voters to vote independently by accessing the system's audio feature. An ExpressVote device will be available in each Early Voting site and polling precinct and may be used by all voters.

ADA ACCESSIBLE BALLOTS

ADA Accessible Ballots are Available:

You can receive a Vote-by-Mail ballot through an electronic ballot delivery and marking system. This allows a person with disabilities to receive a ballot electronically upon request. A voted ballot may only be returned in person or by mail. Voted ballots cannot be returned electronically.

Please contact the Supervisor of Elections Office at (352)564-7120 if you are need of an ADA Accessible Ballot.

BE AN INFORMED VOTER

Resources for Researching Candidates:

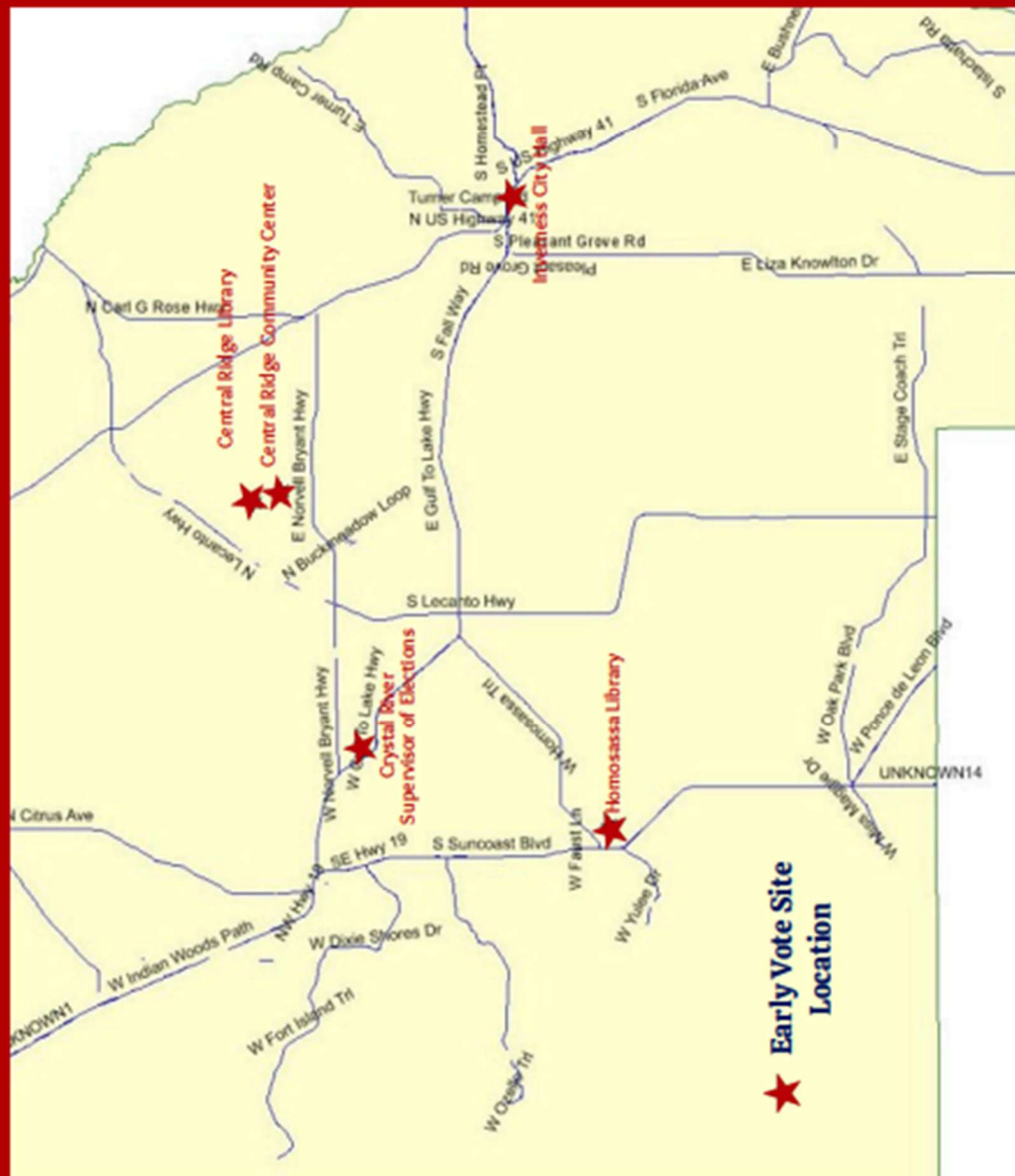
Please visit our website for additional information: votecitrus.gov > Voter Education > How to be an Informed Voter

If you wish to research the platforms of local candidates, profiles and financial reports on local candidates are available at our website: votecitrus.gov > Candidates > Candidate Profiles and Financial Reports

Sample Ballots are also available at votecitrus.gov or you can find them at the Supervisor of Elections Office.

For more information when researching Judicial Candidates, you can visit floridabar.org, or you can find a Guide for Florida Voters on Judicial Elections at the Supervisor of Elections Office or on our website at votecitrus.gov under the Voter Information tab.

Early Voting Location Map



Early Voting Locations

Central Ridge Library
425 W. Roosevelt Blvd.
Beverly Hills, FL 34465

Central Ridge Community Center
77 Civic Circle
Beverly Hills, FL 34465

Supervisor of Elections Office
West Citrus Government Center
1500 N. Meadowcrest Blvd.
Crystal River, FL 34429

Homosassa Public Library
4100 S. Grandmarch Ave.
Homosassa, FL 34446

Inverness City Hall
212 W. Main St.
Inverness, FL 34450

**Voters can vote at any Early
Vote Site regardless of their
residential address.**

ELECTION SECURITY FACTS

Decentralized Elections in Florida

Each of Florida's 67 counties maintain their own local voter registration database and voting system. The two systems are not networked together. The voting system is a standalone system certified by the Florida Bureau of Voting Systems Certification.

Paper Ballots Only

All voters in Citrus County cast their vote using a paper ballot, which allows for a FULL AUDIT of an election. Electronic poll books are used at all Early Vote sites and polling precincts.

Pre-Election Testing

All voting equipment is thoroughly tested prior to each election. Our testing procedures in Citrus County are according to the guidelines set forth in the Florida Statutes.

A public testing called the Logic and Accuracy testing of the voting system is held during a public meeting of the Canvassing Board.

Results Reporting

Election Night unofficial results will be posted on the Supervisor of Elections website until final certification. The results will be compared to the voter registration data and voter tabulation reports for accuracy.

Post-Election Audit

After each election, a Post Election Audit is required by law. Citrus County uses an independent auditing system to count all ballots for the entire election. This process is a 100% audit of the election. This system is a standalone system and not part of the tabulation system.

We highly recommend reviewing the materials available on our website or giving us a call at (352)564-7120 if you have any questions concerning elections security.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What voting equipment is used?

ES&S DS300 optical scanners and ExpressVote ballot marking devices are at all Early Voting and Election Day sites.

Does it matter how I insert my ballot in the scanner?

No. You can place either end into the scanner with either side up.

Do I have to vote in all the races?

No. The ballot scanner will count your votes in all of the races that you marked.

What if I vote for too many candidates in a race?

If you're voting in person, the ballot scanner will alert you that you have "overvoted" and allow you to request a new ballot or cast the ballot anyway. If you cast a ballot with an overvote (in person or by mail), all races except the overvoted race will be counted.

What if I do not vote in ANY races?

The scanner will alert you that the ballot is blank. You can choose to cast the blank ballot or get assistance from a poll worker.

What if I make a mistake on my ballot?

If you're voting by mail, call our office and let us know you need a new ballot. If you're voting in person, tell a poll worker. You can have up to three ballots, including the original. The ballot(s) with mistakes will be sealed inside a "spoiled ballot" envelope. If you make a mistake on your third ballot, the ballot cannot be corrected.

Can I change my ballot once it has been cast?

No. Once your ballot has been scanned and accepted by the optical scanner or your mail ballot has been received by our office, your ballot cannot be retrieved or changed. You may only cast one ballot.

If I receive a Vote-by-Mail ballot, can I change my mind and vote in person?

Yes. In that case, your Vote-by-Mail ballot will be canceled at the polling place.

What happens to my ballot after I've voted?

Paper ballots are secured and available for recounts or audits. We store ballots for 22 months.

How do I know that my ballot will be counted?

If you Vote-by-Mail, you can track your ballot on our website to see when your voted ballot has been received and counted. When you vote in person, the screen on the scanner indicates that your ballot has been accepted.

Speaker's Bureau

Rosemary Nilles is co-chair of the Florida Speakers Bureau

Vicky Iozzia is the chair of the LWV Citrus Speakers Bureau

If your organization is interested in having a speaker, contact Vicky Iozzia at
vickyiozzia@gmail.com



Speakers Bureau

Our well-prepared speakers are available to speak at your events and meetings. We offer up-to-date, nonpartisan educational presentations on a variety of current topics including:

Voting and Elections Presentations for Florida 2026

- Get Ready to Vote in 2026 *What Florida voters need to know*
- Florida's Constitutional Amendments *Available Summer 2026*
- Your Vote. Your Community. Your Future. *Understanding local impact of your vote*
- Protecting Your Voting Rights *Historic & current look at voting rights*
- Election Security vs Access: A Delicate Balance *Florida's election safeguards*
- Your Local Power: How State & Local Government Work *Specific to county*
- Write-In Loophole *How some primary races become closed to certain voters*
- Voting Rights for Returning Citizens *Current procedures to regain voting rights*
- New Congressional Maps for Florida *Update on the 2026 redistricting*
- Your Voice. Your Vote. Your Power *Youth engagement*

Civics Presentations

- The Fight for Suffrage
- The US Constitution
- The First Amendment to the US Constitution
- Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances
- From Idea to Law: Understanding Florida's Legislative Process
- Interacting with Elected Officials and their Staffs
- Immigration: Just the Facts
- Identifying and Combating False Information
- Disinformation: Spot it! Stop it!
- What Is the League of Women Voters?
- Why Public Schools Matter
- Understanding School Choice

Presentations can be customized to your time and audience. Contact Vicky Iozzia, vickyiozzia@gmail.com or go to our website, www.lwvcitrus.org to receive a Speaker Request form.



League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, never endorsing or opposing political parties or candidates, and encouraging informed, active participation in government.



This is from our May 27 Social.
Come join us for our Monthly Social! Have a
cup of something or a snack.
Join the conversation or listen.
Our next meeting is at the Cattle Dog Restaurant
in Inverness, 4:00,
Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Florida LWV State Program 2025-2027

Affirmed by 40th State Convention Delegates on June 7, 2023.

Program Preface

The League of Women Voters is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity.

Government in Florida

Promote an open government that is responsive to the people of the state.

Florida Constitution

Support basic law that assures a government responsive and accountable to the people of the state. Support retention of the 1968 Florida Constitutional Amendment for home rule by municipalities and counties in the administration of local issues.

Issue for Action:

- Support compliance with the Fair District Standards for the Redistricting of Congressional and Florida Legislative Districts.

Finance and Taxation

Support a state fiscal structure that is equitable in its distribution of the tax responsibility and responsive to public needs.

Election Law

Support laws and policies to protect, extend and encourage voting rights. Advocate for fair methods of financing political campaigns including public financing.

Issues for Action:

- Support automatic restoration of voting rights for former felony offenders (Returning Citizens), excluding persons convicted of murder or felony sex offenses, after completion of sentence excluding any additional fines or liens not ordered by the sentencing judge.
- Support encouraging the Florida Division of Elections to establish a database or clearing house for Returning Citizens to confirm voter registration eligibility.
- Support notifying registered voters that Vote-By-Mail ballot requests must be renewed.
- Support state funding of return postage for Vote-By-Mail ballots in all counties when Congressional and Florida legislative offices are on the ballot.
- Support Supervisors of Elections notifying voters if their Vote-By-Mail ballot has been accepted or rejected and provide a remedy for ensuring the vote of those whose ballots have been rejected.

- Support Florida's participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center including notification of all citizens who may be eligible but are not registered.
- Support implementation of Election Day Registration as soon as administratively possible.
- Support implementation of automatic voter registration of eligible voters.
- Establish threshold criteria for write-in candidates that mirror current requirements for announced candidates. The presence of write-in candidates as the only opponent should not close the primary.
- Make election voting portable within the county to enable the broadest voter access.
- Support statewide use of an Open Primary election system that would allow for the broadest possible vote participation.
- Support the election of the President and Vice president by direct popular vote. Support the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.
- Replace Florida's present closed Presidential Preference Primary with an Open Primary system of voting.
- Support the abolishment of Super PACs, the elimination of foreign money investment in US elections, reducing dollar contributions to campaigns and limiting carryover funds from campaigns to PACs.
- Support redistricting preferably being conducted by an independent special commission, with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government, including citizens at large, representatives of public interest groups, and members of minority groups.

Education in Florida

Support a free public secular school system for Florida with high standards for student achievement and with equality of educational opportunity for all that is financed adequately by the state through an equitable funding formula. Establish a statewide Civics Education Subcommittee under the state Education committee.

Issues for Action:

- Promote adequate and equitable funding of public education by:
 - Using a multiyear approach to bring Florida's total per-pupil funding to at least the median of the national ranking of the states by U.S. Department of Education, providing school districts adequate funding and the flexibility to implement programs and adopt spending plans that best meet their communities' needs.
 - Resolving the inequities in capital improvement funding.
 - Opposing the use of public funding for the expansion of funding of private education, including through voucher programs.
 - Supporting requirements that state and local capital outlay funds and the assets they purchase must be able to be recouped by the school district before capital outlay funding can be released to a charter school.
- Support a curricular framework that includes broad common standards developed by educational experts that serves as a guide to local districts.
- Support the increased oversight of the development and implementation of charter school contracts with regard to administrative fees, facility contracts, teacher salaries and benefits, and instructional innovation, independence of charter board members, and unmet need in the district.

- Support a statewide assessment and accountability system that provides valid data at appropriate intervals to measure student progress for all students and schools that receive public funds directly or indirectly. Data should be used to identify areas where increased support is needed.
- Support higher standards for early childhood education staff and programs.
- Increase funding for high quality preschool program of certified teachers
- Promote diversity and nondiscrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, citizenship, socioeconomic status and ability status in all publicly funded schools, including publicly funded colleges and universities.

Justice in Florida

Support a judicial system that provides a unified court structure, improved provisions for judicial selection and merit retention and equal access to legal services. Support a criminal justice system that emphasizes diversion and deflection, rehabilitation and alternatives to incarceration.

Issues for Action:

- Support juvenile justice actions that emphasize civil citations, not criminal, and increased judicial oversight of direct file of juveniles to adult court.
- Support rehabilitation and other alternatives to incarceration.

Social Policy in Florida

Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all persons.

Equality

Issue for Action:

- Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the Florida Legislature and passage of a resolution by the U.S. Congress to remove any outstanding deadlines to ratify the ERA.

Children and Families

Support measures to meet special concerns of children and families, including countering intrafamily abuse and providing for safe homes, foster care and shelter care.

Issues for Action:

- Support the safe rescue and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking and the education of the public about this issue.
- Support employment at a livable wage for all workers.
- Support equal pay for women.
- Support better coordination between school and community services in social services, pre-school programs, and after school programs.
- Support measures to maximize eligibility for TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and to exclude work requirements for Medicaid recipients.

- Support subsidized quality childcare for low income families.

Financing & Delivery of Health Care

Support use of federal, state and local resources to develop programs emphasizing equitable access to high quality comprehensive health care for all and control of costs for the individual.

Issues for Action:

- Advocate for Medicaid Expansion.
- Advocate for cost-effective approaches that emphasize prevention and focus on health outcomes.
- Promote oral and behavioral health services and education.
- Support accessibility to care and the right to make private personal reproductive health care decisions.

Housing

Protect the Sadowski Fund so it can only be used for affordable housing.

Farmworkers

Support measures to provide safe, adequate living and working conditions for farm workers.

Libraries

Support full funding of public library systems.

Immigration

Support immigration policies that promote reunification of immediate families, meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States, and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the United States on student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all persons. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

Issues for Action:

- Support granting driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants.
- Support the June 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the abolishment of quotas, and support sanctuary cities.

Gun Violence Prevention

Support regulations concerning the purchase, ownership, safe storage for unattended guns and use of handguns and long guns that balance as nearly as possible individual constitutional rights with the general interest and welfare of the community.

Issues for Action:

- Support changes in law to allow local communities to enact ordinances for any type of gun safety measures in their jurisdiction.
- Support expansion of mandated background checks and three-day waiting periods for ALL gun sales or transfers, including gun shows and unlicensed gun sales, and ensure the state provides all relevant records to the FBI National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

- Support a state ban on all semi- automatic assault style weapons and large capacity feeding devices.
- Support changes in the law to make lying on a background check punishable by law.

Sustainability in Florida

Support governmental action that results in sustainability: Meeting the needs of the present without endangering the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Environment, society and the economy must be integrated and balanced to achieve a sustainable Florida.

Issues for Action:

- Support public transportation projects which yield multi-modal investments in local and state enhanced infrastructure, especially in low-income areas.
- Support governmental actions that result in sustainability by meeting the needs of the present without endangering the future.
- Support the adoption of a renewable portfolio standard.
- Support the development of state, regional and local plans to address climate change mitigation and resilience.
- Request the Governor join the US Climate Alliance.
- Request Florida mayors to join the Climate Mayors.
- Support legislation or other measures to put climate change references and language in Florida laws and regulations.

Energy

Support state legislation for energy conservation and greater use of renewable sources such as solar energy.

Issues for Action:

- Continue partnership with FL SUN and other associations to create solar cooperatives and other programs that provide incentives to switch to solar.
- Support state legislation and local policy makers to expand solar and the electrification of transportation.
- Support the adoption of relevant energy alternatives.
- Support public transportation that does not rely on fossil fuels.
- Advocate statewide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining a robust economy that is in line with the United Nations (UN) and Paris Accords (i.e., reduction of 45% by 2030 and 100% by 2050).
- Back placing a price on carbon emissions whether cap-and-trade or carbon tax/fee, while ensuring equity in its implementation.

Natural Resources in Florida

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest by recognizing the inter relationship of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources. Promote public understanding and participation in decision making as essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources. (LWVUS) Promote resource conservation, stewardship and long-range planning, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government. (LWVUS)

Land Use

Promote resource conservation, stewardship and long-range planning, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.

Issues for Action:

- Support the preparation and implementation of a new state growth management plan that addresses current needs.
- Support the implementation of the Water and Land Legacy Amendment consistent with the intent of the adopted language.
- Support the preparation and implementation of a new state growth management plan that addresses current needs.
- Take steps to ensure that land uses are exemplary of environmental justice.

Freshwater Resources

Support public policies that promote conservation of freshwater and its availability for environmental, public supply, agricultural, industrial and mining uses on a priority basis.

Issues for Action:

- Update the study of groundwater resources to ensure they are adequate to meet future needs.
- Support septic to sewer conversion and state tracking of septic inspections.
- Request maximum support for Everglades Agricultural Area funding.
- Support enforcement of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) regarding releases to surface water.
- Protect our natural springs from pollutants and unsuitable uses. (i.e., commercially bottled water).

Coastal Management

Support intergovernmental stewardship of and fiscal responsibility for the Florida coast, under the management of the state, while recognizing the dominance of nature and the role of the sand transport system.

Issues for Action:

- Advocate for an equitable transition plan to move people from high-risk areas where climate change mitigation is not feasible.
- State support of coastal communities in developing localized responses to Sea Level Rise and salt-water intrusion into drinking water wells.
- Support the protection and restoration of estuaries and wetlands.

Environmental Protection and Pollution Control

Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment. (LWVUS)

Issues for Action:

- Support the ban of advanced well stimulation treatments (“fracking”) including but not limited to hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and matrix acidizing.
- Take positions to preserve our wetland ecosystems.
- Discourage use of single-use, non-essential, disposable plastics from fossil fuels.

African American Read-in

The 18th Annual African American Read-in took place on Sunday, February 22, 2026, at the Curtis Peterson Auditorium. It was a well-executed presentation which was positive and often emotionally moving.

I will be including the literary pieces which were read in future newsletters. Once a year is not enough to enjoy this literature.



The Teacher
Leslie Pinckney Hill - 1880-1960

Lord, who am I to teach the way
To little children day by day,
So prone myself to go astray?

I teach them KNOWLEDGE, but I know
How faint they flicker and how low
The candles of my knowledge glow.

I teach them POWER to will and do,
But only now to learn anew
My own great weakness through and through.

I teach them LOVE for all mankind
And all God's creatures, but I find
My love comes lagging far behind.

Lord, if their guide I still must be,
Oh let the little children see
The teacher leaning hard on Thee.



Your World
By Georgia Douglas Johnson

Your world is as big as you make it.
I know, for I used to abide
In the narrowest nest in a corner,
My wings pressing close to my side.

But I sighted the distant horizon
Where the skyline encircled the sea
And I throbbed with a burning desire
To travel this immensity.

I battered the cordons around me
And cradled my wings on the breeze,
Then soared to the uttermost reaches
With rapture, with power, with ease!



7



RESTORATION OF RIGHTS AFTER COMPLETION OF FELONY SENTENCE

— FREE CLE / 3.0 HOURS —



Cecile M. Scoon, Esq.

Co-Chair Restoration of Rights Action Team,
Past President of the League of Women Voters of Florida

Saturday, July 25th

9 AM to 12:30 PM

Unitarian Universalist Church

7633 N Florida Ave (Hwy 41)
Citrus Springs, FL 34434

Hosted by the **Citrus County** League of Women Voters

Scoon was Action Chair on Amendment 4, the 2018 initiative overwhelmingly approved by voters that automatically restored a felon's voting rights after they complete their sentences.

A subsequent implementing bill required ex-felons to pay their fines and fees, but allowed ex-felons to petition the courts to modify their sentences.

Scoon authored a CLE training course to teach attorneys how to work with felons to regain their rights and will be presenting this training in Citrus County.

The training will cover the Administrative and Judicial processes that are available and how to determine which process is best on a case specific basis.

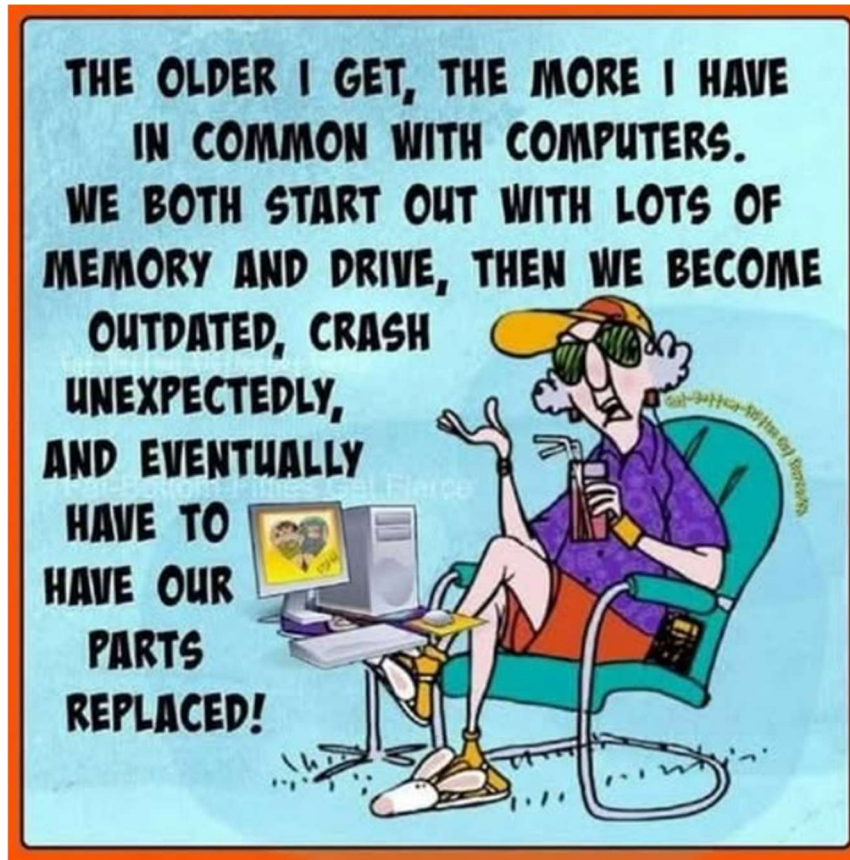
***Judges, attorneys, advocates, and community leaders
are encouraged to attend!***

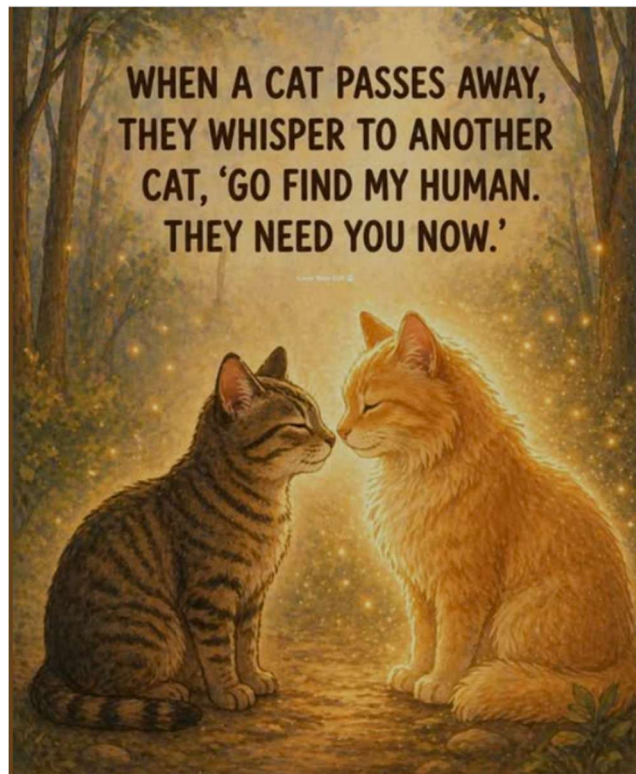
 **Lunch will be provided**

Contact Phyllis Dixon at (352) 464-7451 or at padixon352@gmail.com



IN THE NEWS



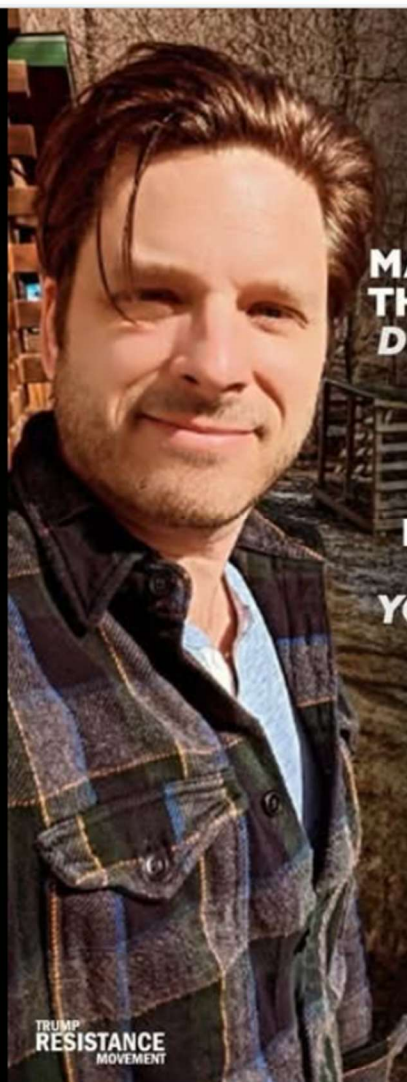


THERE ARE MANY
TERRIFYING THINGS IN THE
WORLD, BUT THE MOST
TERRIFYING THING IS
LOVE. IT ATTACKS YOU
LIKE A THING WITH
CLAWS. LOVE OPENS YOU
UP, AND THERE YOU ARE.
AND YOU DON'T EVEN TRY
TO STOP IT. YOU LET IT
FEED. BECAUSE REAL
LOVE MAKES YOU WANT
THE PERSON YOU LOVE TO
BE OKAY...

EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT.

~HARRY VANDERSPEIGLE





**IF YOUR GOD DOESN'T
LIKE BIRTH CONTROL,
DON'T TAKE IT.**

**IF YOUR GOD THINKS
MARRYING A PERSON OF
THE SAME SEX IS SINFUL,
DON'T MARRY SOMEONE
OF THE SAME SEX.**

**IF YOUR RELIGION
DEMANDS PRIVATE
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
FOR YOUR CHILDREN,
YOU AND YOUR CHURCH
PAY FOR IT.**

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
DOES NOT MEAN
BURDENING OTHERS
WITH YOUR RELIGION;
IT MEANS FREELY
BURDENING
YOURSELF.**

ANDREW L. SEIDEL
AMERICAN CRUSADE: HOW THE SUPREME
COURT IS WEAPONIZING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

TRUMP
RESISTANCE
MOVEMENT

Can you help restock CASA shelves?

The Citrus County Abuse Shelter Association (CASA) needs help with donations of daily items to keep its pantry stocked.

■ Household and cleaning supplies: paper towels, trash bags (high need), laundry detergent.

■ Pantry and food needs: crackers, tea, eggs, butter, sugar, kid-friendly drinks and snacks, milk, cheese, fresh fruits and vegetables, lunch meat, chicken or ground chicken, beef or ground beef, pork or ground pork, ketchup, mayonnaise and mustard, Ranch and other salad dressings/condiments, cooking spices, juice.

■ Other needs: Baby wipes, diapers (size 7), children's medications (cough/cold and acetaminophen), adult cough/cold medications.

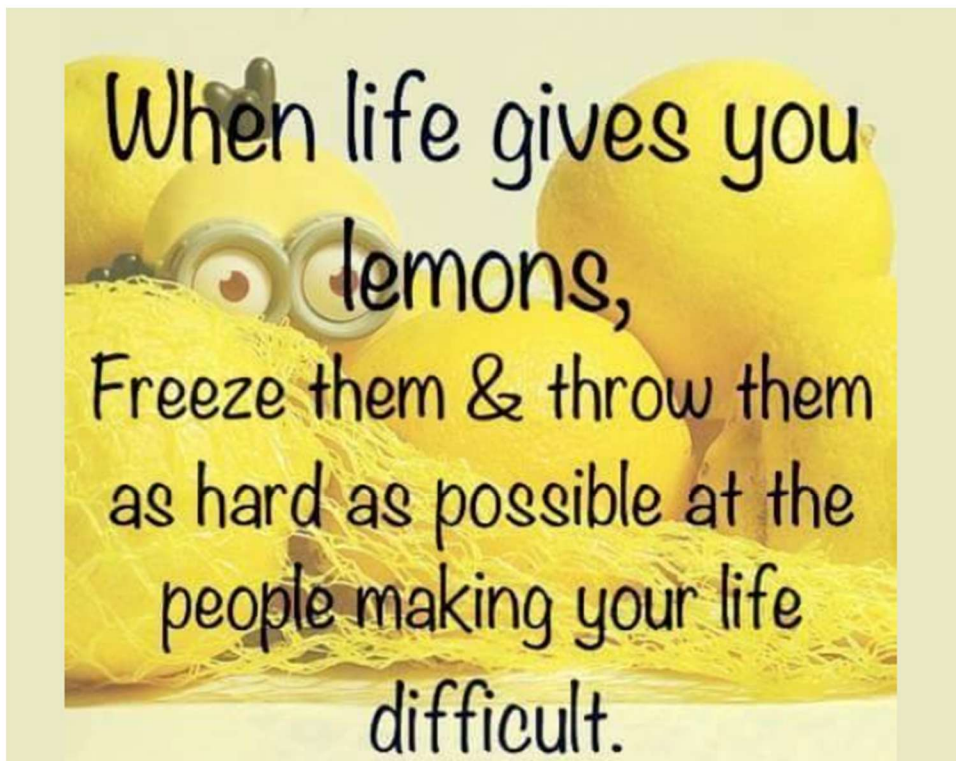
■ Clothing needs (boys): sizes 14-16, sizes 12-14 slim, men's size 34 pants, men's large shirts.

To make it easier to donate, CASA now has an Amazon Wishlist: [a.co/c6Wobgs](https://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/a.co/c6Wobgs).

Drop items off at the CASA Outreach office between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, at 1100 E. Turner Camp Road, Inverness. Shelter needs can also be dropped off at their alternative drop off location, Carol's Interiors and Floors, 6410 S. Suncoast Blvd. in Homosassa.

For more information, contact Rane Herzek at 352-344-8111 or email rherzek@casaffl.org.

If interested in volunteering, call 352-344-8111 or download the Volunteer Application at casaffl.org. Email completed applications to marilynn@casaffl.org.



When life gives you
lemons,
Freeze them & throw them
as hard as possible at the
people making your life
difficult.

6:55



38. In Australia, if you fail to show up to the polls, you get a "show-cause notice," in which you're required to give a good reason for skipping on your civic duty...and have to pay a fine, as voting is required by law:





Maxine Connor, Natural Resources Chair

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLE FROM LWVCC NATURAL RESOURCES CHAIR
JUNE, 2026**

Flood Risk to Resilience
Tampa Bay Coastal Master Plan
Hold the Dates for June 11, 18, & 24th
Community Listening Sessions

Take the Flood Risk Survey
Tampa Bay Coastal Master Plan

LWVFL Clean Energy Monthly Statewide Zoom
5 pm ET- Wed., June 17
Solar Switch (A Group Buying Program) with Heaven Campbell
Florida Program Director with Solar United Neighbors

On May 26th Citrus County Commission Unanimously Passed a Moratorium on
Construction, Expansion, or Operation of Data Centers, Data Center Facilities, and Data Center
Utilities within the Unincorporated Areas of Citrus County

Land Use Change Application for Data Center
Returning to
Citrus Planning & Development June 18 - 9 am

URGENT: Technical and Legal Assistance Needed
SWFWMD Approves 345-Acre Borrow Pit in Sensitive Springs Recharge Area

Flood Risk to Resilience
Tampa Bay Coastal Master Plan
Hold the Dates for June 11, 18, & 24th

Community Listening Sessions

**HAVE YOU BEEN FLOODED
AND EXPERIENCED HARDSHIP?
PLEASE COME AND TELL US YOUR STORY
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**



The Tampa Bay region is a flood-vulnerable area, facing extreme risk from storm surge, sea-level rise, and heavy rainfall due to its low-lying geography, extensive coastline, shallow continental shelf, and dense development. Both coastal and inland flooding threatens the safety, property, and livelihoods of Tampa Bay's communities.

The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is developing the **Tampa Bay Coastal Master Plan (TBCMP)**—a comprehensive, four-year, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant-funded initiative in Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. It spans more than 2,200 square miles of coastal and inland communities, estuaries, rivers, wetlands, and barrier islands.

The Coastal Master Plan aims to strengthen regional flood resilience by addressing the impacts of sea-level rise, storm surge, extreme rainfall, and high-tide flooding through a coordinated, data-driven, and community-based process. **The 2026 focus includes hosting public listening sessions to identify flood-vulnerable communities, prioritize restoration and flood-reduction projects, and guide long-term adaptation strategies with a strong emphasis on equity, innovation, and collaboration.**

As partner/collaborators in this effort, Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group, Hernando Audubon and other community organizations will host three listening sessions as follows:

Thursday, June 11th 5pm-6:30 pm at the George Washington Carver Community Center, 95 Three Sisters Springs Trail, Crystal River. The facilitators will be Sierra Club's Robin Orlandi and Maxine Connor in cooperation with other community-based organizations. **Refreshments will be available.**

RSVP/REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flood-listening-session-your-voice-matters-tickets-1988330943376?aff=oddtcreator>

Thursday, June 18th 5pm-6:30pm at the Weeki Wachee Area Club, 7442 Shoal Line Boulevard, Hernando Beach. The facilitator will be Sierra Club's Taylor Masnjak in cooperation with the Weeki Wachee Area Club and local long term recovery management efforts.

RSVP/REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flood-listening-session-your-voice-matters-tickets-1988332114880>

Wednesday, June 24th, 5pm-6:30pm at the Ridge Manor Community Center, 34240 Cortez Boulevard, Ridge Manor, . The facilitator will be Lynn Gruber-White, President of the Ridge Manor Property Owners Association in cooperation with Joe Murphy of Sierra Club and Hernando Audubon along with other stakeholders. Refreshments will be available.

RSVP/REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flood-listening-session-your-voice-matters-tickets-1988332324507?aff=erellivmlt>

These efforts ensure that local governments, community organizations, residents, and technical experts all contribute to shaping the plan. In the third year, the Coastal Master Plan will develop a Regional Flood Risk Assessment that will provide a scientific and analytical foundation for all future project recommendations. By 2027, the focus will be to

design, screen and evaluate projects in priority areas based on community feedback. In 2028, the plan will be released.

What you can do now: Save the date and plan to attend a workshop in your area. Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group and Hernando Audubon participated in recent Flood Listening Session Facilitation Training and will engage as non-profit stakeholders in the process for Citrus and Hernando Counties. Contact us at sierraclubadventurecoastcc@gmail.com for more information.

Article Courtesy of Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group



The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council is creating the Tampa Bay Regional Resilience Coalition—a voluntary alliance of local governments and partner organizations working together to strengthen the region’s ability to adapt to climate change. By aligning with the Coalition’s shared goals, the Tampa Bay Master Coastal Plan (TBMCP) advances coordinated, region-wide resilience strategies that reflect local priorities and foster long-term collaboration across jurisdictions. The study area spans over 4,400 square miles of diverse inland and coastal ecosystems across Citrus, Hernando, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota counties—home to more than 4 million residents.

The Tampa Bay region faces escalating climate-related risks, including sea level rise, storm surge, extreme rainfall, and high-tide flooding. These threats are compounded by rapid population growth and limited regional coordination on flood mitigation and current efforts are often fragmented and lack a cohesive, long-term strategic framework.

Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group has agreed to become a collaborating partner and leaders have participated in training sessions which will now be followed by planning community listening sessions.

The Tampa Bay Coastal Master Plan (TBCMP) enhances regional resilience by addressing flooding impacts through a coordinated, data-driven, and community-based planning process. Over the course of this four-year, grant-funded initiative, the TBCMP will identify flood-vulnerable communities, prioritize restoration and flood-reduction projects, and guide long-term adaptation strategies.

Take the flood risk survey at the QR code below:



Article Courtesy of Sierra Club Adventure Coast Group

**LWVFL Clean Energy Monthly Statewide Zoom
5 pm ET- Wed., June 17
Solar Switch (A Group Buying Program) with Heaven Campbell
Florida Program Director with Solar United Neighbors**

Join us on Zoom on Wednesday, June 17th, at 5 pm ET. Our guest speaker is Heaven Campbell, Florida Program Director with Solar United Neighbors. Heaven will explain how the new Solar Switch Program for buying of solar at group discounts works. This is a new, very efficient program, that has some similarities and some differences from the original solar co-ops, which were introduced in Florida by Solar United Neighbors a few years ago. We had two of those in Citrus County. The Gulf Coast Solar Switch Program is still open and encompasses Citrus County and many others on the Gulf Coast of Florida. If you are a League of Women Voters of Citrus County member, you will be emailed an invitation. If you are not a member, and wish to attend, email maxineconnor@gmail.com for the link to register.

***On May 26th Citrus County Commission Unanimously Passed a Moratorium on
Construction, Expansion, or Operation of Data Centers, Data Center Facilities, and Data Center
Utilities within the Unincorporated Areas of Citrus County***

The moratorium will last up to but no more than a year. Meanwhile, the county commission is seeking input from subject matter experts and citizens on information that would help them draft an ordinance that will protect the citizens and the environment. There should be many examples of such to refer to and evaluate, since there are many data centers.

***Land Use Change Application for Data Center
Returning to
Citrus Planning & Development June 18 – 9 am***

A land use change application came before the Citrus Planning & Development Commission on March 5th to change approximately 800 acres to Industrial zoning, which would grow the Holder Industrial Park to over 1,300 acres. Attorney Sid Ansbacher, representing Deltona Corp., requested a comprehensive plan amendment for this property near County Road 491 and Tram Road. If approved, the change would allow information processing, data center utilities, and data storage at the Holder Industrial Park site. There are residences in the vicinity.

The application was “continued” (postponed) by the Planning & Development Commission, because more information was needed and legislation pertaining to data centers was being considered at the Florida Legislature, which was not scheduled to finish session until March 13.

The application will come back before the Citrus County Planning & Development Commission on June 18 at 9 am, Lecanto Government Center, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, because it was filed before the moratorium was passed on May 26th.

SB 484 Data Centers was passed:

The FL legislature has recently passed legislation regarding Data Centers – with some good features and one deceptive dangerous feature. It was signed by the Governor, and will take effect July 1, 2026:

SB 484 is aimed at regulating large-scale data centers to protect residents from increased energy and water costs. It requires that AI and other large-scale data centers cover their own infrastructure and utility costs, preventing higher bills for residential customers.

Local Control: It confirms that local governments maintain control over comprehensive planning and land development regulations for “large load customers” (megawatts).

Water & Energy Usage: It introduces stricter regulations on water usage for cooling and requires developers to bear the costs of energy usage, ensuring that local utility capacity is not compromised.

Confidentiality & Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs): A final, amended version allows state agencies to enter into NDAs with companies, allowing them to keep development plans secret for a year. (!)

Targeted Projects: The legislation is a direct response to rising concerns over the environmental and infrastructural impact of new, high-demand AI data centers.

(Thank you to fellow board member RN for this excellent summary of SB 484.)

Meanwhile the County Commission is conferring with state authorities and working on coming up with guidelines for data centers in light of the fact that they have health and environmental impacts including noise, pollution, and excessive water and electricity needs.

While county commissioners voted unanimously in February 2026 to have staff draft land development code guidelines, a final decision on these regulations—and a specific project proposal—is currently pending further review.

Some Data Center Resources

<https://www.thecitrusinsider.com/good-data-centers/>

https://baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2026/03/05/citrus-county-officials-want-regulations-in-place-before-eyeing-data-centers?cid=id-app15_m-share_s-web_cmp-app_launch_august2020_c-producer_posts_po-organic

<https://nodatacentercitrus.org/>

https://www.change.org/p/protect-the-nature-coast-oppose-the-holder-industrial-park-expansion-cpa-202500012?recruiter=46794940&recruited_by_id=4ce8bc80-82b0-0130-db6c-3c764e049c4f&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=starter_onboarding_share_personal&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_491068025_en-US%3A8&share_id=zcwdzp5FZt

https://www.change.org/p/protect-the-nature-coast-oppose-the-holder-industrial-park-expansion-cpa-202500012?recruiter=46794940&recruited_by_id=4ce8bc80-82b0-0130-db6c-3c764e049c4f&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=starter_onboarding_share_personal&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_491068025_en-US%3A8&share_id=zcwdzp5FZt

Understanding the impact of data center noise pollution:

<https://www.techtarget.com/searchdatacenter/tip/Understanding-the-impact-of-data-center-noise-pollution>

<https://www.eesi.org/articles/view/communities-are-raising-noise-pollution-concernsabout-data-centers>

The Dangers of Data Centers by Elan Justice Pavlinich, PhD, Feb 27, 2026

<https://www.environmentalhealthproject.org/post/the-dangers-of-data-centers>

A direct response to rising concerns over the environmental and infrastructural impact of new, high-demand AI data.

URGENT: Technical and Legal Assistance Needed
SWFWMD Approves 345-Acre Borrow Pit in Sensitive Springs Recharge Area



The Southwest Florida Water Management District has approved an Environmental Resource Permit authorizing a 345-acre borrow pit excavation for the Florida Department of Transportation's Suncoast Parkway Phase 3A project in Citrus County. The approved project involves more than 5.1 million cubic yards of excavation within an Outstanding Florida Springs Priority Focus Area connected to the Kings Bay / Crystal River springshed. The permit record itself acknowledges direct infiltration into groundwater, shallow groundwater and karst conditions, hydraulic communication between groundwater systems, and approximately 894 acres of combined roadway and excavation disturbance within this highly sensitive recharge area. Citizens remain deeply concerned that the record reflects substantial unresolved procedural, hydrologic, and groundwater issues that warrant additional independent environmental and hydrogeologic review before irreversible excavation begins. Community members are currently exploring technical expert review and administrative challenge options.

If you are a hydrogeologist, groundwater scientist, environmental professional, attorney, conservation organization, or individual willing to assist, please contact the Stop the Sand Mine Committee.

Stopthesandmine.com

Stopthesandmineecc@gmail.com

Updated 5/29/26

From the National League of Women Voters

Contact Your Representatives

Speak up on the issues that matter!

- **URGENT:** Tell Congress to say no to ICE and CBP funding!
 - Thank your Senator if they opposed the SAVE Act!
 - Unite and Rise to defend democracy!
 - Tell Congress to stop interfering with DC!
 - Reject the anti-voter SAVE Act suite of bills!
 - Demand that the Census count all people!
 - Tell your representative to protect equal voting rights!
 - Urge Congress to stand up for our democracy!
 - Demand passage of the Equal Rights Amendment!
 - Support voting rights expansion!
-

