



Newsletter

March 9, 2023

## Sumter County Democratic Fundraiser Gala

Nikki Fried, newly elected Florida Democratic Party Chair, will be a guest speaker. Popular entertainer Joe Hand will provide live music. The price of tickets is about to go up! Get your tickets now.



A delicious dinner will be a part of the evening. The choices are:

- Roasted boneless pork loin, Herb Polenta, Broccolini and Lemon-Thyme Jus (GF)
- Rosemary roasted French cut chicken breast, Haricot Vert, Roasted Corn Johnny Cake, Pan Jus (GF)
- Vegetarian

Trips for ranging from six to eight guests to Italy, France, the Caribbean, or Hilton Head will be part of the numerous silent auction opportunities.

Watch a video about Maxwell Frost and get your tickets at [SumterFLDemocrats.com](https://www.sumterflDemocrats.com)

## Democrats Deliver



Thank you @pascodem for the graphic.

# Neighborhood Links

Information Sessions dates are set. If you have already signed up to be a Neighborhood Link, you will soon receive this information via email, then you can select the day and time that best suits you. Sessions will be held at the Sumter County Democrats Headquarters, 300 S Main Street, Wildwood.

Saturday, April 1, 10 AM

Wednesday, April 12 at 10 AM or 3PM

Saturday, May 6 at 10 AM

Saturday, June 3 at 10 AM



This program is for all of Sumter County, not just The Villages. If you are interested and want to attend an information session, please email Kim Russell at [russellkmb@hotmail.com](mailto:russellkmb@hotmail.com).

We are also looking for precinct captains. They attend monthly meetings and work with Neighborhood Links to inform voters and elect more Democrats.

One of the roles of a Neighborhood Link is to work with precinct captains to inform and engage voters. Links in Precinct 117 met at a precinct captain's home last week.



## Volunteer Opportunities

We need your help! Go to <https://sumterfldemocrats.com/>

Click on **Get Involved** and then **complete the volunteer form**. If your computer is acting up, give us a call and leave a message at 352.794-1351.

We are looking for members of the following committees:

- Community Outreach Committee
- Data Committee
- Voter Outreach Committee
- Voter Protection Committee
- Legislative Tracking Committee



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ROTARY CLUB SPRING FLING CHARITY FUNDRAISER, SATURDAY, MARCH 18.

The Villages Rotary Club (Noon) is holding an all-day charity fundraiser, and we have been invited to attend.

The co-host is Don Wiley of Gold Wingnuts and the purpose is to raise money for a variety of national and local groups, including St. Jude's, the National Brain Tumor Society, Alzheimer's Association and Polio Plus. Proceeds will also support local food banks, elementary schools and other social services.

The event, Spring Thing 2023, will run from 11 am to 6 pm and include vendor sections for contractors, lifestyle services, arts and crafts, community service groups & charities.

Here is a link to the event:

<https://www.rotaryclubofthevillagesnoon.org/fundraisers/spring-thing/>

You can sign up to volunteer on our Mobilize sign up page:

<https://www.mobilize.us/sumtercountydec/event/553912/>

## Everyone Must Reregister for Vote by Mail

In Sumter County, unlike other places that have separate municipal elections, elections are held every two years. Please be aware no voter's Vote by Mail ballot status rolls over into the 2024 Election Cycle. The law has changed, and **everyone** must re-enroll in Vote by Mail.



Here is the link <https://www.sumterelections.org/Ways-to-Vote/Vote-By-Mail-Online-Request-Link> You need the last four digits of your social security card or your driver's license number to request the ballot on-line.

## Villages Democratic Club

If you live in The Villages, please consider joining the Villages Democratic Club. The Club's next meeting is Saturday, March 11, 2023, 9:30 AM at Colony Recreation Center.



At the meeting, officers' elections will be held. Guest speaker will be



John M. Dunn is an Ocala-based freelance, writer, journalist and author. In February, 2020, Dunn's book, *"Drying Up: The Fresh Water Crisis in Florida"* was selected as winner of the Florida Historical Society's Stetson Kennedy Award for writing about Florida's natural environment. Dunn will offer a wake-up call and a hard look at Florida's water future. Drainage projects, runaway sprawl, urbanization, pollution, failing infrastructure, toxic algal blooms, sea-level rise, and unsustainable groundwater pumping are all taking a toll. He will also investigate restoration efforts, including those using green infrastructure to mimic natural hydrology, the new economics of Virtual Water, and the rethinking of water as a precious life-source, not a commodity.

Our volunteer testimony: Bob Janson

Club member **Bob Janson** will talk about My Time for Free Time, a respite-care program whose volunteers give caregivers a break by spending time with their loved ones.

He'll also talk about the work of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Scholarship Committee, which raises money to help area students attend college.

Learn more about the meeting and the club at <https://thevillagesdemocrats.com/>

They also have a newsletter that comes out on Sundays. There are many groups with activities listed there.

## Support Our Efforts

Cat Lovers and Democrats: Get your 2023 calendar



**Our 2023 Cat Contest is over and the voters have decided.** Every cat photo entered appears on a calendar page along with nuggets of Democratic information. Calendars are \$23.

**Order your calendar today!**

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2023catcalenar>

## From the Florida Democratic Party on March 7, 2023

### FACT SHEET: Florida Republicans Propose More Extreme Near-Total Abortion Ban

Today, as the state's legislative session began, Florida Republicans introduced an extreme abortion ban that goes even farther than the state's current 15-week ban that has no exceptions for rape or incest. Florida Republicans were encouraged to put forth an even more extreme abortion ban when Ron DeSantis [promised](#) to sign what the legislature brought forward.

#### HERE ARE THE FACTS ABOUT REPUBLICANS' EXTREME NEW ABORTION BAN:

- **Florida Republicans' new proposed abortion ban still prohibits abortions in the case of rape or incest after 15 weeks.** The new [bill](#) allows exceptions for rape and incest victims, but only if they obtain care before the 15-week mark. After that, the ban still applies, further traumatizing victims of rape and incest. This makes the bill's exceptions stricter than laws passed in South Carolina and Georgia.
- **Victims of rape and incest will be required to provide documentation proving their claims before obtaining an abortion.** Victims of rape and incest who seek an abortion after the six-week deadline will be required to [provide](#) a "copy of a restraining order, police report, medical record, or other court order or documentation providing evidence that she is obtaining the termination of pregnancy because she is a victim of rape or incest."
- **This new ban would require patients to receive medication abortions in-person by a doctor.** This would [end](#) the ability of women to receive their medication abortion prescriptions through the USPS or other shipping methods.
- **Under this ban, doctors would be prohibited from providing telehealth abortions to their patients.** This would [limit](#) the options available to women seeking care and deny them the ability to be seen sooner via telehealth appointments and virtual visits.
- **The new ban could penalize anyone violating the ban with a third-degree felony.** The new, more extreme ban broadly [states](#) that any person "who willfully performs, or actively participates in, a termination of pregnancy in violation of the requirements of this section" is committing a third-degree felony.

#### Stay Informed

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SumterFLDemocrats>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/sumterflyoungdems/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/SumterFLDems>

Sign up for the email newsletter [SumterFLDemocrats.com](https://SumterFLDemocrats.com)

Sumter County Supervisor of Elections <https://www.sumterelections.org/>

#### Sumter County Democrats

The Mission of the Sumter County Democratic Executive Committee is to achieve an inclusive society by electing qualified and responsible candidates who effectively represent the diverse population of Sumter County, Florida.

Headquarters:

Office Hours:

Mondays 1-4 PM

Wednesdays 9-12 AM

300 S Main Street

Wildwood, FL 34785

352-794-1351

Email: [info@sumterFLDemocrats.com](mailto:info@sumterFLDemocrats.com)

Webpage: [SumterFLDemocrats.com](http://SumterFLDemocrats.com)

## **Calendar**

All Sumter County residents are welcome at events listed below.

March 26      **Democratic Gala Fundraiser** - March 26 at Brownwood Hotel and Spa, see above

Have a comment or suggestion about this newsletter? Email Laura Goudreau, editor,  
at [dems\\_newsletter@sumterfldemocrats.com](mailto:dems_newsletter@sumterfldemocrats.com)

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