



Newsletter

May 11, 2023

Stand United Rally

About three dozen Sumter County Democrats were at the Stand United Rally in Tampa on Sunday. For more detailed information about the rally, go to the Florida Phoenix article here.

<https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/05/08/in-tampa-fl-democrats-vent-frustrations-following-bruising-legislative-session/>



Gathering at Headquarters



Our Group at the Rally



The Very Involved Crowd



Florida Democratic Party Chair Nikki Fried speaking at Centennial Park in Tampa on May 7, 2023 (photo credit: Mitch Perry)

Music Bingo

Tickets are selling fast. Don't miss out.

\$24 for 2024! Music BINGO!

Sumter County Democrats
Let's Have Some Fun!
Join us for Music Bingo
Sunday, June 4th
6:00-8:00 PM
Everglades Rec Center
Music by DJ Ric Mitchell
Tickets: \$24 for 2024! Donation

Join Us For A Fun Night.
Bring Your Friends or Come Make New Ones.
Guaranteed:
You Will Laugh.
You Will Smile.
You Will Sing.
And Just Maybe
You Will Win A Prize!
Let The Good Times Roll.
Come and Support the
Sumter County
Democratic Party
Go To
SumterFLDemocrats.com
To Get Your Ticket

Click here for Tickets

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/musicbingo2023>

Help Get Democrats Elected in Duval County

We are one week out from the Duval Elections! This is our chance to win municipal races in Duval! Please takes some time to make calls or canvass in Duval County so we can keep up the momentum and push our Democrats across the finish line.

Early voting is now until Sunday, May 14th. Election Day is Tuesday, May 16th. Currently Democrats have a lead in early voting and Vote-by-Mail. Join our GOTV efforts by clicking the links below.

Canvassing- Urgent need for more boots on the ground!

1. Weekend of Action: Community Canvass ([Click Here to RSVP](#))

Phone Banking

District 8 VBM Chase: https://www.openvpb.com/vpb_bycode/C32975E-781758

District 9 VBM Chase: FCCJ https://www.openvpb.com/vpb_bycode/622975Q-406793

District 11 VBM Chase: https://www.openvpb.com/vpb_bycode/922975C-462835

District 14 VBM Chase: https://www.openvpb.com/vpb_bycode/F22975I-465232

Countywide Phonebank: https://www.openvpb.com/vpb_bycode/20A475K-306908

Additional information: District Races

District 8 is a blue seat with two Democrats vying to be elected to Jacksonville City Council. The incumbent Council Member is Reggie Gaffney, Jr., and the challenger is Tameka Gaines Holly. Due to redistricting, the incumbent was drawn into District 8, while this is the second run for the challenger for this new District.

District 9 is a blue seat with an incumbent Democratic Council Member, Tyrona Clark-Murray. She is being challenged by a well-financed Republican with the support of the past Democratic incumbent. Historically this District has the lowest Democratic turnout in the city, which makes it competitive.

District 11 is a purple seat with a Democratic candidate, Ramon Day, challenging a Republican for this open seat. In the past 4-years, the District has voted for both Biden and DeSantis. Although it has a Republican voter advantage, NPAs comprise a third of the voter registration.

District 14 is a purple seat with a Democratic candidate, Rahman Johnson, challenging a Republican for this open seat. Due to redistricting, this new seat was created as a coalition District for minorities (Black, Hispanic/Asian). Although it has a Democratic voter advantage, NPAs comprise a third of the voter registration.

For more ways to get engaged, please visit: <https://www.duvaldems.org/>

In the News

Petitions to put reproductive rights on the ballot in Florida will soon be available.

Florida Phoenix News

Citizens' initiative is on to enshrine right to abortion in the Florida Constitution

An 'Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion'

BY: [MICHAEL MOLINE](#) - MAY 8, 2023 3:41 PM

Read more here <https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/05/08/citizens-initiative-is-on-to-enshrine-right-to-abortion-in-the-florida-constitution/>



Organizers of a citizens' initiative guaranteeing access to abortion held a news conference in May 8, 2023, in Tallahassee. The ACLU's Kara Gross is at the lectern. Credit: Michael Moline

We are currently circulating petitions to put constitutional amendments on the ballot for the right to clean and healthy waters and adult personal use of marijuana. More information on them next week.

Re-enroll in Vote by Mail

Vote by Mail does not automatically renew. **In October Vote by Mail is going to get more difficult. is Sign up now!**

---VOTER ALERT---
ALL Mail Ballot Requests Have EXPIRED!



Secure Your Vote! RENEW NOW!

To Vote-By-Mail in all elections through December 2024:
Sumter County, Florida:
Renew online at votevbm.com/sumter
Or Call the Supervisor of Elections Office at 352-569-1540

Elsewhere in Florida:
Find your Supervisor of Elections website and phone# at:
dos.elections.myflorida.com/supervisors/

Why 2.8 million Floridians voted by mail in the 2022 Election:

- ✓ It's quick, easy, and safe – no waiting in line at the polls
- ✓ Vote no matter where you'll be on voting days – working or traveling
- ✓ Insurance against emergency, illness, bad weather on voting days
- ✓ Can review your ballot and decide how to vote at home
- ✓ Drop your ballot at several locations if you prefer that to mailing
- ✓ Can verify online that your ballot has been received & counted

Check your Vote by Mail status at <https://www.sumterelections.org/Voters/Review-My-Registration-Status--Voter-Lookup>

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.

Become a Neighborhood Link

Connect with your Democratic neighbors.

Information and training sessions will be held at the Sumter County Democrats Headquarters, 300 S Main Street, Wildwood.

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.



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

Volunteer

Help enroll other Democrats in Vote by Mail. We are also looking for members of the following committees:

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



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.

Support Our Efforts with a Donation

<https://sumterfldemocrats.com/>

Villages Democratic Club



Hear what we can do to make communities and families safer at our May 13 meeting

Moms Demand Action, a nationwide grassroots movement, works to pass stronger gun laws and to close the loopholes that jeopardize the safety of our communities and families.



The closest MOMS chapter to The Villages is in Citrus County and our May 13 speakers will be its co-directors, Rosemary Nilles and Deb Daniels.

Find out what you can do to help curb the shooting epidemic.

<https://momsdemandaction.org/>

As usual, we'll convene at Colony Cottage Recreation Center, 510 Colony Blvd. Door open at 8:30 a.m.; the meeting starts at 9:30.

If you live in The Villages, please consider joining the Villages Democratic Club. Learn more about their meetings 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.

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://www.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:

300 S Main Street

Wildwood, FL 34785

[352-794-1351](tel:352-794-1351)

Email: info@sumterFLDemocrats.com

Webpage: [SumterFLDemocrats.com](https://www.sumterFLDemocrats.com)

Office Hours:

Monday 1 - 4 PM

Wednesday 9 AM - noon



Your party headquarters is open -- drop on by

The Sumter County Democrats/Villages Democratic Club office is open for YOU.

The office is located at 300 S. Main Street, Wildwood, in a stand-alone building shared with a doctor's office and facing Ace Hardware.

Current hours are Mondays from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m.- noon.

At the office you can:

- Find out more about the Sumter County Executive Committee, The Villages Democratic Club, and other Democratic organizations in the county.
- Volunteer and give money to support Democratic efforts.
- Purchase Democratic merchandise, such as car magnets, notepads, and bracelets.
- Sign petitions about clean water and legalizing marijuana.
- Fill out or drop off a card to re-enroll in Vote by Mail.

Calendar

All Sumter County residents are welcome at events listed below.

May 17 Democratic Breakfast, 9 AM, Cracker Barrel, 13637 US 27, Lady Lake, RSVP Susan Blalock: sblalock742@aol.com

June 4 Music Bingo, Everglades Recreation Center – see above

March 19, 2024 Florida Presidential Preference Primary

Have a comment or suggestion about this newsletter? Email Laura Goudreau, editor, at dems_newsletter@sumterfldemocrats.com

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