



# SUMTER DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Newsletter

August 10, 2023

## Trivia Fundraiser

**Join**  
**Sumter Democrats. TEAM TRIVIA!**

**Saturday, September 30, 2023**  
**Everglades Rec Center**  
**5497 Marsh Bend Trail, The Villages**  
**6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

Teams will compete to answer general trivia questions and a few political ones.

**Tickets are \$24 for 2024**  
**Click on the link below for tickets**

Teams of 8 friends can choose a Team Leader  
Or  
You can join a team of new friends  
**BYOB and snacks**

You do not need to be a Villager to join in the fun.

Get tickets here. <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/teamtrivia23>

## Blue Crew Returns

Blue Crew details for Thursday, Aug. 24

Live music, a chance to dance, refreshment nearby, and a passel of Democrats enjoying themselves, wearing blue.

What's not to like?

You can join the fun by showing up Thursday, Aug. 24, at Sumter Landing Square for our second Blue Crew gathering.

The band will be Blue Stone Circle, with music beginning at 5 p.m.

Email me, Villages Democratic Club Buzz editor and Sumter County Democrats State Committeeman Dennis Foley, so we can set up enough chairs: [dfd4242@att.net](mailto:dfd4242@att.net)

Let's see if we can assemble more than the 60 folks we had last month!



## Democratic Success



## In the News



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 9, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT  
[news@fldemocrats.org](mailto:news@fldemocrats.org)

### FLORIDA DEMOCRATS RESPOND TO POLITICALLY MOTIVATED SUSPENSION OF STATE ATTORNEY MONIQUE WORRELL

Tallahassee, FL — Today, the Executive Office of the Governor announced the unfounded suspension of Monique Worrell, State Attorney for Florida's Ninth Judicial Circuit. In response, the Florida Democratic Party has issued the following statement:

"Ron DeSantis has gone too far," said FDP Chair Nikki Fried. "Monique Worrell is a devoted public servant — one who was elected overwhelmingly by her constituents. This political hit job threatens our democracy and undermines the will of the people."

"Just days ago, Monique spoke out against Florida's new education standards; standards that would teach our children that there was some kind of benefit to slavery. Ron's extremist administration has consistently targeted the rights and freedoms of Black and brown Floridians, and the suspension of State Attorney Worrell — the only Black woman state attorney in Florida — is clearly racially and politically motivated."

"Ron's presidential campaign has been a disaster of epic proportions, but attacking law and order in service of his culture wars isn't the solution to his problems. On behalf of her constituents, the Florida Democratic Party demands the immediate reinstatement of State Attorney Worrell."

For more information about DeSantis' overreach, go here. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/08/09/desantis-ousts-another-democratic-prosecutor-monique-worrell-of-orange-county/>

From *Villages News* August 2, 2023

### Morse family and The Villages top brass pony up contributions for DeSantis' White House bid

The Morse family was among the leading local contributors to Gov. Ron DeSantis' presidential campaign this year, according to updated filings from the Federal Election Commission.

On Tuesday, the FEC updated its records to reflect political contributions made to candidates and super political action committees through the first six months of 2023.

Among the leading contributors is a collection of top brass in The Villages and multiple members of the Morse family.

That includes Mark Morse and his wife, M’lissa, who each donated the maximum contribution of \$6,600. According to FEC records, Morse has made a total of \$18,200 in political contributions this year, including \$6,600 to U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, as well as \$5,000 to the Let’s Get To Work Political Action Committee, which supports Scott’s political ambitions.

To read more go here. [https://www.villages-news.com/2023/08/02/morse-family-and-the-villages-top-brass-pony-up-contributions-for-desantis-white-house-bid/?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=Fast+food+restaurant+in+The+Villages+cited+after+inspector+finds+roaches&utm\\_campaign=Villages-News+-+Standard+-+Daily+Newsletter+-+5%3A30am&vgo\\_ee=LZSsotHe4g0wSPRAODBK1OmZN93o%2Fof0sVO5vmp1HmfrnA%3D%3ANSQAK5WGPWUG9NM3laP4Haz1px6mP2M2](https://www.villages-news.com/2023/08/02/morse-family-and-the-villages-top-brass-pony-up-contributions-for-desantis-white-house-bid/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Fast+food+restaurant+in+The+Villages+cited+after+inspector+finds+roaches&utm_campaign=Villages-News+-+Standard+-+Daily+Newsletter+-+5%3A30am&vgo_ee=LZSsotHe4g0wSPRAODBK1OmZN93o%2Fof0sVO5vmp1HmfrnA%3D%3ANSQAK5WGPWUG9NM3laP4Haz1px6mP2M2)

## Which side is working for YOU?

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**  
**INVESTING IN AMERICA**  
INVEST.GOV

**Florida**  
Investments in public infrastructure and clean energy  
Funding **\$10.5 Billion**

Private Company commitments to invest in 21<sup>st</sup> century industries like Clean Energy  
Funding **\$666 Million**

**Sumter County**  
Clean School Bus Program  
Funding **\$1.2 million**

Broadband Expansion  
Funding **\$604,000**

Senators Scott and Rubio and Congressman Webster voted "NO" on the Infrastructure Bill

**FLORIDA REPUBLICANS**  
CREATED THE INSURANCE CRISIS

**13 COMPANIES**  
have gone insolvent meanwhile...

Florida insurance company execs saw big payouts in years without hurricanes

**Insurance Companies Got \$3 BILLION Bailout. Homeowners got SCREWED!!**

Insurance Companies donated:  
\$2.2 Million to CFO Patronis  
\$4 Million to DeSantis  
\$9.9 Million to Florida Legislators  
*The Orlando Sentinel*

## Petitions to Place Potential Florida Constitutional Amendments on the Ballot

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INITIATIVE PETITION FORM – VOLUNTEER		CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INITIATIVE PETITION FORM – VOLUNTEER	
<b>Amendment Information</b>		<b>Amendment Information</b>	
<b>Ballot Title:</b>	Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion	<b>Ballot Title:</b>	Right to Clean and Healthy Waters
<b>Ballot Summary:</b>	No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider. This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.	<b>Ballot Summary:</b>	This amendment creates a fundamental right to clean and healthy waters. The amendment may be used to sue State executive agencies for harm or threatened harm to Florida's waters, which include aquatic ecosystems. This amendment defines terms, identifies affected constitutional provisions in Article IV governing the executive branch, provides for civil action enforcement, allows attorney's and expert witness fees to prevailing plaintiffs, and provides equitable remedies including restoration of waters.

Petitions are in circulation supporting abortion rights and ensuring clean water. The petition for the legalization of marijuana has enough signatures.

You can link to them below on the Sumter County Democratic Party website.

Petitions can be returned to the address provided, or you can bring them to party headquarters, 300 S. Main St., Wildwood. The office is open 1-4 p.m., Mondays, and 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays.

Petitions and more information about them can be found here. <https://sumterfldemocrats.com/local-issues/>

## Re-enroll in Vote by Mail



**--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](http://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/](http://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.

## Neighborhood Links

**Be a part of a group making a difference.** We need more Neighborhood Links. Connect with your Democratic neighbors.

Information and training sessions are being held at the Sumter County Democrats Headquarters, 300 S Main Street, Wildwood. More sessions are coming soon.

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).



**Looking for a few good neighbors**

A better world is possible. The people who will make it happen are already here.

You may be one of them

**BECOME YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LINK**

between the Sumter Democratic Executive Committee and the Democrats on your street, on your block or in your neighborhood

## Volunteer

Help enroll other Democrats in Vote by Mail and sign petitions. 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

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.



Adam Hattersley will talk about Florida's home insurance crisis and other pocketbook issues.

Hear him Saturday, Aug. 12, at Colony Cottage Recreation Center, 510 Colony Blvd.

Doors open at 8:30 for socializing; the meeting begins at 9:30.

Food pantry donations welcome.



### Villages Democratic Club Helps New Wildwood Intermediate School

Club members came through with \$300 in individual donations, which the Club board pledged to match up to \$250, for a total of \$550. The check will be delivered to the new Wildwood Intermediate School on Monday. The money will help purchase school supplies. Thank you!

## 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:

300 S Main Street  
Wildwood, FL 34785  
[352-794-1351](tel:352-794-1351)

Office Hours:

Monday 1 - 4 PM  
Wednesday 9 AM - noon

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

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



**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 and drop off petitions about clean water and abortion rights.
- 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.

**August 16** Democratic Breakfast, 9AM, Cracker Barrell Old Country Store, 13637 US 27, Lady Lake, RSVP to Susan Blalock: [sblalock742@aol.com](mailto:sblalock742@aol.com)

**August 24** Blue Crew Returns, see above

**August 28** Sumter County Democrats monthly business meeting, 4 PM at Headquarters, come find out more about us.

**September 30** Trivia Night, Everglades Recreation Center, see above

**January 5, 2024** Fired Up for 2024, fun evening with a meal, Lake Miona Recreation Center

**March 19, 2024** Florida Presidential Preference Primary

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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