



SUMTER DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Newsletter

August 24, 2023

Florida Democratic United States Senate Candidates

Former Democratic Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell is running for U.S. Senate



BY: [MITCH PERRY](#) - AUGUST 22, 2023 11:36 AM

Former South Florida Democratic Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell is now a candidate for U.S. Senate, announcing Tuesday morning that she is seeking to unseat Republican incumbent Rick Scott in 2024.

“I’m an immigrant, a Latina, a mother and we made history together when I became the first South American immigrant ever elected to Congress,” Mucarsel-Powell proclaimed in a two-minute and twenty-one second [video](#) announcing her candidacy. “I’m not afraid to take on Rick Scott, or anyone who doesn’t put Florida first.”

If elected, Mucarsel-Powell would become only the second woman elected by Florida voters to the U.S. Senate. The only previous woman was Republican [Paula Hawkins](#) from the Orlando area – who served a single term from 1980-1986.

Read more here. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/08/22/former-democratic-congresswoman-debbie-mucarsel-powell-is-running-for-u-s-senate/>

Source: Florida Phoenix

Three other people have filed to run in the August Democratic Primary to face Scott in November 2024.

- Fort Lauderdale businessman Matt Boswell filed to run in July.
- Seminole County combat veteran Joseph Rod submitted paperwork in January.
- And Jason Williams of Vero Beach filed papers with the Secretary of State office to run last month

Source: Tallahassee Democrat

Door to Door Democracy

Tired of the news? Do something that can make a real difference.

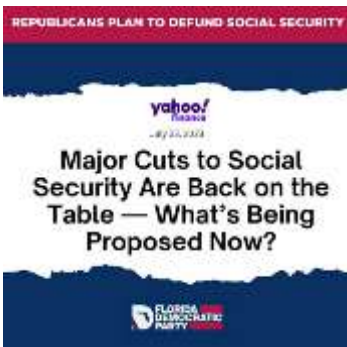
Starting September 9, 2023, we will be scheduling door to door canvassing in Bushnell, Center Hill, Coleman, Lake Panasoffkee, Oxford, Royal, Webster and Wildwood. Our starting point will depend on where we are canvassing and that information will be sent to you via email 3-days before the canvas.

We will try to register the unregistered residents and enroll the registered voters in vote by mail. We will canvass in teams of at least two and shifts will be up to 3 hours. We will provide a short training and all of the canvassing materials.

<https://www.mobilize.us/sumtercountydec/event/574320/>



Happy 88th birthday, Social Security!



August 14 was the 88th anniversary of Social Security, which provides a lifeline to nearly five million Floridians who have earned these benefits and rely on them in retirement. Republicans are still trying to cut or eliminate this essential program, as they have since the day FDR signed it into law.

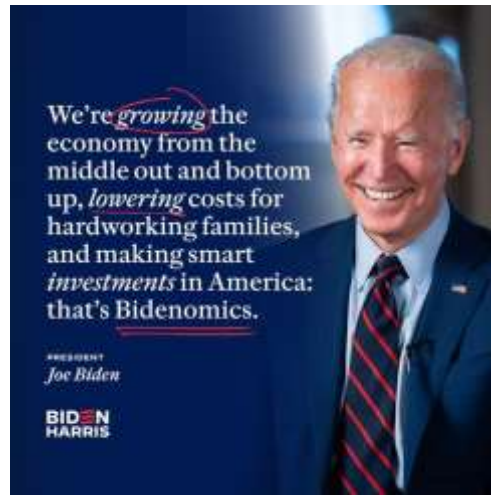
Trivia Fundraiser



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

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

Democratic Success



In the News

Commentary from Floridaphoenix.com

In DeSantis' Florida, we're raising our children to be closed-minded and ignorant

However, right-wing indoctrination is just fine

By [DIANE ROBERTS](#)

AUGUST 21, 2023 7:00 AM



Christopher Columbus plays down slavery's evil in this PragerU animation. Source: Screenshot/PragerU

School's in session. The kids have their new shoes and backpacks. The teachers have their new marching orders.

In Ron DeSantis' Florida, teachers are expected to present a version of the world in which "gender" is not to be spoken of, "gay" likewise, there's [no climate crisis](#) — the weather's always changing! — [Shakespeare](#) needs to be toned down, the human body is disgusting, slavery had an upside, America is the best country that ever was and ever will be, and books that challenge any of these self-evident truths must be banned.

In other words, educators are now expected to miseducate Florida children.

If they don't, they can lose their teaching license. In addition, they could be charged with a third-degree felony.

Read more here. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2023/08/21/in-desantis-florida-were-raising-our-children-to-be-closed-minded-and-ignorant/>

Video about Insurance Crisis

The insurance crisis in Florida lies squarely in the hands of the Governor and the Republican dominated legislature in Tallahassee. Here is a brief video to help understand the issue.



<https://sumterfldemocrats.com/local-issues/>

Petitions to Place Potential Florida Constitutional Amendments on the Ballot

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INITIATIVE PETITION FORM – VOLUNTEER	
Amendment Information	
Ballot Title:	Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion
Ballot Summary:	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.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT INITIATIVE PETITION FORM – VOLUNTEER	
Amendment Information	
Ballot Title:	Right to Clean and Healthy Waters
Ballot Summary:	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.

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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



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 for 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.



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.

Save New College speakers will address the Club at its Sept. 9 meeting

The meeting is at Colony Cottage and starts at 9:30 AM

Most of you probably know the attacks by Gov. DeSantis on New College.

This attack isn't about the quality its liberal arts education. DeSantis is attacking schools and universities across the state in an attempt to control our freedom of speech, our freedom to learn, and our freedom to thrive in our communities.

<https://savenewcollege.org/>



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

October 21 Bushnell Fall Festival <https://www.facebook.com/people/City-of-Bushnell-Annual-Fall-Festival/100057516375461/> Sumter Democrats will be there.

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

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