



Newsletter

May 16, 2024

## Recent Headlines

### DeSantis signs bill erasing the term 'climate change' from state law

The legislation deletes more than 50 lines of previous state statutes dealing with climate change

Read the article here. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/15/desantis-signs-bill-erasing-the-term-climate-change-from-state-law/>

### Legal fights leave question marks over ballot access in presidential battleground states

More details here: <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/15/legal-fights-leave-question-marks-over-ballot-access-in-presidential-battleground-states/>

### FL's educator preparation programs may not teach 'identity politics' or distort historical events

Click here to find out more. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/02/fls-educator-preparation-programs-may-not-teach-identity-politics-or-distort-historical-events/>

### GOP politicians rush to Manhattan to line up behind Trump as hush money trial continues

Get the facts here. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/14/gop-politicians-rush-to-manhattan-to-line-up-behind-trump-as-hush-money-trial-continues/>

### Florida sues Biden administration for new regulations protecting gender-affirming care

Read more. <https://floridaphoenix.com/2024/05/07/florida-sues-biden-administration-for-new-regulations-protecting-gender-affirming-care/>

## Let's Get Fired Up

Is your heart rate up after just reading these headlines?

What can you do?

## Sign Up for Vote by Mail



Get your ballot in advance. Vote by Mail is your insurance that you can vote in the 2024 elections. You do not need to use your Vote by Mail ballot if you still want to go to the polls. **Sign up for Vote by Mail today!**

**The state has a new Vote by Mail form. You can still sign up for Vote by Mail on-line or call the SOE office. We have request forms at our office.** Here is the

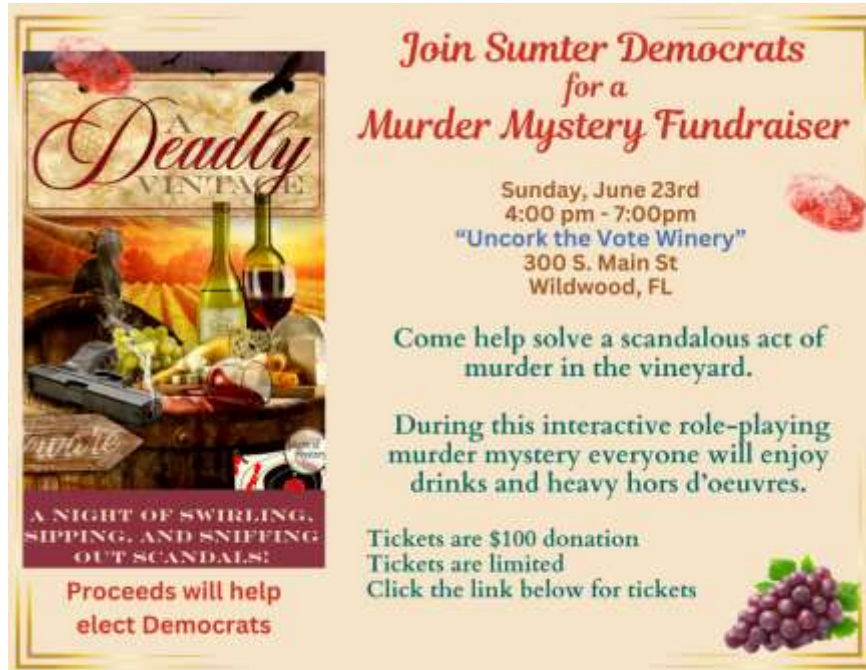
link to enroll in Vote by Mail <https://www.sumterelections.org/Ways-to-Vote/Vote-By-Mail-Online-Request-Link> You need the last four digits of your social security card or your driver's license number to request the ballot on-line.



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

## Come Have Fun at Our Murder Mystery Fundraiser

Be transported to a beautiful vineyard. You will not recognize our office. Each guest will play the part of character. No acting skills required.



*Join Sumter Democrats  
for a  
Murder Mystery Fundraiser*

Sunday, June 23rd  
4:00 pm - 7:00pm  
"Uncork the Vote Winery"  
300 S. Main St  
Wildwood, FL

Come help solve a scandalous act of murder in the vineyard.

During this interactive role-playing murder mystery everyone will enjoy drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Tickets are \$100 donation  
Tickets are limited  
Click the link below for tickets

**Proceeds will help elect Democrats**

Click here to get your tickets. <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/mysteryparty>

## Encourage Others to Register to Vote

Republicans in Florida continue to make registering to vote harder. Voters must send in the form themselves. In the past, we could bring the application to the Supervisor of Elections. Now there is a new form that we did not anticipate. Need to register to vote? Here is more information on how to register to vote.

<https://www.sumterelections.org/Voters/How-to-Register-to-Vote>

From the Sumter County Supervisor of Elections site: NEW TO FLORIDA? DO NOT FORGET TO REMOVE YOURSELF FROM YOUR FORMER STATE'S ROLES. [CLICK HERE](#)

## Join Our Door-to-Door Efforts

Our next **Day of Action** Volunteer Door-to-Door Canvassing is **this Saturday, May 18**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be in **greater Sumter** registering voters and enrolling registered voters in Vote by Mail. Now is the time to step up. We must do the groundwork now, so we are ready for August and then, of course, **November**.



Please meet at the Party headquarters, [300 S. Main St., Wildwood](#). We provide a script, maps, and lists of addresses. Never gone door to door? It is not hard. We will teach you.

For more information and to sign up, click here. <https://www.mobilize.us/sumtercountydec/event/599569/>

When we do not have enough volunteers, we sometimes hire local people to help us in our door-to-door efforts.



**Knock-Knock. Who's There?**  
**Volunteer. Volunteer Who?**  
*"A Democratic Volunteer with election information!"*

Help us hire canvassers to knock on doors in Sumter County and  
**register DEMOCRATS and enroll DEMOCRATS in VBM.**

Every **\$18.50** is one canvasser knocking on doors for **1 hour.**

To donate

**Click on the link below**

or

**Mail your check** (Payable to SCDEC) to

Sumter Democratic Party

PO Box 1151

Wildwood FL 34785

The more money we raise the more canvassers we can hire and the more canvassers we hire the more doors we can knock on.

Donate here: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/24knock-knockcvr>

## Volunteer

We have additional door to door opportunities. We need to people to phone bank. We are also looking for members of the following areas:

- Community Outreach
- Data
- Voter Outreach
- Voter Protection including poll volunteers
- Legislative Watch



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 Your Local Democratic Candidates with Your Time and/or Money



Barbie Harden Hall, Congress  
<https://barbieforcongress.com/>



<https://holleranfordistrict11.com/>



Ash Marwah, State  
Representative

<https://ashfor52.com/>

## The Man with a Positive Plan for Americans



### Villages Democratic Club



May 11 Club meeting speaker: U.S. Senate candidate Stanley Campbell

Florida Democratic U.S. Senate primary candidate Stanley Campbell states his case

Former Navy flier and businessman Stanley Campbell emphasized his roots in Florida and his track record using technology he patented to prevent Medicare fraud, in his appearance Saturday at the Villages Democratic Club membership meeting.



Should he win the August primary election, he would face Republican U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, who was CEO of a company that paid a \$1.7 billion fine after allegations of massive Medicare fraud.

Campbell also took aim at Scott's proposal to sunset Social Security and Medicare, with other Republicans leaders chiming in to demand substantial cuts to both programs and annual Congressional re-authorization.

Campbell's other major issues include access to healthcare, reproductive rights, and helping veterans. You can hear his detailed proposals on these issues and more in his answers to members' questions on the meeting video.

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGPjszXblGc>

Meeting Slide Show: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhqsi25sxPw>

Candidate Website: <https://stanleyforflorida.com/en/>

**Blue Crew Gatherings will take a break during the summer and return in the fall.**

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/>

Their Sunday email newsletter has many activities and information about other Democratic groups in the Villages.



# Florida Democratic Weekly Talking Points



April 30, 2024

## LEADERSHIP BLUE 2024

*Last weekend, Florida Democrats gathered together at Disney for Leadership Blue 2024, our annual fundraising event and last statewide gathering before the 2024 elections.*

### **Florida Democrats are fired up and ready to Take Back Florida.**

- Over a thousand people joined together for panels, workshops, and town halls designed to prepare Florida Democrats for the fight ahead of us.
- From panels on gun violence prevention and reproductive rights to town halls uplifting the voices of people of color, Leadership Blue 2024 was a time to engage in the issues affecting the people of Florida.
- At the Leadership Blue Gala, Chair Nikki Fried [unveiled the Florida Panther](#) as our new mascot and called on Democrats to “answer the call of our generation” in the upcoming elections.
- To open the gala, Brevard School Board member Jennifer Jenkins starred as Sen. Katie Britt in an [SNL style spoof](#) to hold Florida Republicans accountable.

## REPUBLICANS FAILING FLORIDA

### **Republican leadership continues to fail the people of Florida.**

- MASS SHOOTINGS: This year, Florida [leads the nation](#) in mass shootings — a consequence of the culture of killing that Florida Republicans have enabled.
- TEACHER PAY: Florida is currently [50th in the nation](#) in teacher pay, intensifying our years-long teacher shortage and driving educators out of the state.
- KIDS LOSING HEALTHCARE: After [over half a million](#) Floridian children lost their health insurance last year, Ron’s administration has kicked [thousands more](#) off of Kidcare in a violation of federal law.
- Floridians deserve leaders who are less concerned about making Donald Trump happy and more concerned with protecting our interests.

## ABORTION BAN

*Women in Florida are now living under one of the most extreme abortion bans in the country. The six-week ban signed into law by Ron DeSantis went into effect on May 1st.*

### **Donald Trump, Rick Scott, and Florida Republicans are to blame for Florida’s extreme abortion ban.**

- Florida’s extreme six-week abortion ban has virtually no exceptions and puts women’s lives at risk.
- This ban goes into effect alongside Florida’s mandatory 24-hour waiting period — signed into law by Rick Scott — and a requirement to have two in-person doctor’s appointments before accessing abortion care.
- In November, Florida voters can reverse this extreme ban and restore reproductive freedom in our state by voting yes on Amendment 4 and re-electing President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

## RICK SCOTT

### **Rick Scott is fully behind Florida’s abortion ban but he’s running from his extreme anti-abortion record because he knows it could cost him his Senate seat.**

- Florida’s [abortion ban](#) is now in effect – Florida women are living under one of the strictest abortion bans in the country.
- Florida is ground zero in the fight for control of the Senate and the fight for reproductive freedom.

- Last week, Scott [pledged](#) to “[sign any anti-abortion bill](#).”
- Democratic leaders in [Tampa](#), [West Palm Beach](#), [Orlando](#), and [Tallahassee](#) have spoken out against Scott’s support of Florida’s abortion ban.
- Rick Scott is going to run from his support for the ban, but [take his own word for it](#) — he would’ve signed the bill into law himself if he was governor.
- Scott can’t help it – he’s doubled down on his support of the near-total ban, saying “[If I was the sitting governor, and the six-week abortion ban came in front of me, I would sign it. I’ve always said I would sign it.](#)”
- Rick Scott is hiding because his extreme anti-abortion agenda is at odds with Floridians, [nearly 70 percent](#) of which support reproductive freedom.
- This November, Floridians will reject this extreme abortion ban and send Rick Scott into retirement.

May 13, 2024

## **STORMS IN NORTH FLORIDA**

*On Friday, North Florida was ravaged by a fast-moving storm system that damaged hundreds of buildings and left over 100,000 people without power.*

*The Florida Democratic Party continues to monitor the recovery efforts, especially in Leon County, where one woman died during the storm and thousands are still without power. For up-to-date information on recovery efforts, please visit the Facebook pages for [Leon County Government](#) and the [City of Tallahassee](#).*

## **ABORTION BAN**

*Women in Florida are now living under one of the most extreme abortion bans in the country. The six-week ban signed into law by Ron DeSantis went into effect on May 1st.*

**For the first time in over 50 years, this Mother’s Day, women and children in Florida have fewer rights than their mothers and grandmothers.**

- On Mother’s Day, we are reminded of our obligation to both our own children and the generations ahead.
- Women have won and lost rights throughout history, and we have a chance to swing the pendulum towards progress this November.
- Florida’s extreme six-week abortion ban has virtually no exceptions and puts women’s lives at risk.
- The near-total abortion ban is even more extreme because of Florida’s mandatory 24-hour waiting period — signed into law by Rick Scott — and a requirement to have two in-person doctors appointments before accessing abortion care.
- Florida voters can reverse this extreme ban and restore reproductive freedom in our state by voting yes on Amendment 4 and re-electing President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

## **CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT**

*Last month (April 17), the Florida Democratic Party announced the launch of a targeted candidate recruitment campaign. Since the campaign launched, the Florida Democratic Party has successfully fielded candidates in all 28 congressional districts.*

*Qualifying is closed for federal races, but is still open for county offices, special districts, and state legislative races. The deadline to qualify by petition has passed, but the deadline to qualify for by filing fee is Friday, June 14 at noon.*

**Since the party launched our candidate recruitment campaign last month, Florida Democrats are running a full slate of congressional candidates and over 150 candidates have applied to FDP for support to run for office.**

- Florida Democrats are giving Republicans a run for their money — we refuse to let them walk into office without being held accountable.
- By contesting every race and competing everywhere, Republicans will have to spend hundreds of thousands — if not millions — of dollars defending their positions and unpopular policies.
- When we compete everywhere, we give Democrats from Pensacola to Key West a reason to show up and vote on Election Day.

## RICK SCOTT

**Rick Scott is a fraud who cares more about his own political ambitions than serving Floridians.**

- Last week, Rick Scott [skipped](#) voting on legislation to [improve](#) aviation safety and [address](#) the crippling aviation workforce shortage.
- Instead of doing his job, Scott was in NY kissing up to Trump and reminding everyone how he [oversaw](#) the [largest](#) Medicare fraud in history.
- Despite [not](#) being invited by Trump, Scott followed him around like a pathetic superfan.

## 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](http://SumterFLDemocrats.com)

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

Voting Information including voter registration, vote by mail, and polling locations

## 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)

Hours: Mondays 1-4PM, Wednesdays 9 AM- noon, Friday 1-4 PM, Saturdays 10AM to 1PM

Email: [info@sumterFLDemocrats.com](mailto:info@sumterFLDemocrats.com) Webpage: [SumterFLDemocrats.com](http://SumterFLDemocrats.com)

The office, which is funded by the Sumter County Democratic Executive Committee and The Villages Democratic Club, is located at 300 S. Main Street, Wildwood, in a stand-alone building shared with a doctor's office and facing Ace Hardware.



## Calendar

All Sumter County residents are welcome at events listed below.

**May 18** Day of Action, see above



**May 20** Sumter County Democrats monthly business meeting, changed due to Memorial Day holiday, come check us out, 4PM, Headquarters

**June 16** Pride Day, more details to come

**June 23** Murder Mystery Fundraiser, see above

### **2024 Election Dates**

**August 10 - 17, 2024** Early Voting, Primary 9 AM - 6 PM, Voters can vote at any Early Voting Location

**August 20, 2024** Election Day, Primary 7 AM - 7 PM, Voters must vote at their Assigned Precinct

**October 22 - November 2, 2024**, Early Voting, General Election 9 AM - 6 PM, Voters can vote at any Early Voting Location

**November 5, 2024**, Election Day, General Election 7 AM - 7 PM, Voters must vote at their Assigned Precinct

The weekly newsletter of the Sumter County Democrats comes out every Thursday at 10 PM via email. It is also posted on our website. Want to sign up for the newsletter. Click here. <https://sumterfldemocrats.com/>

The sign up is at the bottom of the page.

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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