

School Board Elections on August Ballot

BY OMAR GUERRERO

In the last two years, School Board meetings have become the center of national debates over mask mandates and social justice issues. Even though school boards are non-partisan, meetings have become a hotbed for political arguments. This is especially true in Sarasota where small but highly vocal groups like Moms for Liberty have dominated the meetings and engaged in divisive vitriol.

In the August 23 primary election, Sarasota voters will get to choose three seats on the Sarasota County School Board. Because it is a nonpartisan race, any candidate receiving over 50% of the vote will be declared the final winner. Since all seats are at-large, all Sarasota County voters can cast a vote for all three seats.

The race has already become highly contentious since results could either increase the current pro-public education majority or flip it to conservatives. So far, seven candidates have filed to run for the seats and an unprecedented amount of money has been raised in these early months. In District 1, newcomer Dawnyelle Singleton has raised more than \$56K which is over 37% more than incumbent Bridget Ziegler's \$35K.



Bridget Ziegler



Dawnyelle Singleton

Running for the District 4 seat being vacated by Shirley Brown, Lauren Kurnov has raised an unprecedented \$111K in the first two months for a school board race, nearly six times as much as opponent Robyn Marinelli's \$19K. Vying for the District 5 seat being vacated by Jane Goodwin, Nora Cietek has raised \$43K, more than double the amount of her two opponents, Timothy Enos (\$13.5K) and Gregory Wood (\$7.6K), combined.

District 1: Ziegler v. Singleton

Incumbent Bridget Ziegler from District 1 is an outspoken conservative who has gained national notoriety and an endorsement from Governor Ron DeSantis. Ziegler's political work goes far beyond the school board. She is also the co-founder of Moms for Liberty, a non-

profit that campaigns both locally and nationally against COVID-19 restrictions in schools, condemns school curriculum that supports LGBT rights, supports a ban on critical race theory, and advocates the removal of books from schools that do not align with their conservative agenda. Ziegler is a strong supporter of school choice and has lobbied for an expansion of charter and voucher-funded schools. According to Ziegler's campaign website, her platform focuses on the "protection of parental rights, opposing indoctrination – including Critical Race Theory – working for taxpayers and supporting our teachers & students." While Ziegler has raised considerably less than her competitor, nearly one-third of her contributions come from developers and related real estate interests, including two \$1000 donations from area developer Pat Neal and nine \$1000 donations from various holding companies run by area developer Carlos Beruff.

Ziegler's sole competitor is Dawnyelle Singleton, a Sarasota native and a graduate of Sarasota High School. Singleton, a graduate of Florida State University, is running on a platform to ensure that "all schools have the resources they need" so that "students can succeed." Singleton, a strong supporter of teachers, states

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Sarasota Organizations Condemn Hate-Filled Legislation

Community organizations, business owners, and concerned citizens came together in March to oppose passage of several bills that attack diversity and inclusion in education. These bills include:

The Individual Freedom Act (HB 7), popularly known as the Stop WOKE Act (Stop Wrongs Against our Kids and Employees), prohibits educators from teaching historical facts and employers from implementing diversity training if these actions would make students or workers feel uncomfortable or "guilty".

The Parental Rights in Education Act (HB 1557), often called the "Don't Say Gay Bill," prohibits instruction on sexual orientation and gender in the primary grades; forces schools to disclose information to parents against a vulnerable child's



Community groups organized a press conference at the Embracing Our Difference exhibit to oppose passage of several education bills.

wishes and encourages parents to enforce their rights through litigation with school districts picking up the tab if the parent prevails.

The K-12 Act (CS/HB 1467), the "Ban the Books Bill," contains requirements for public review of

library material, and establishes a mechanism for school districts to ban books based on complaints by the public including people who live outside the district, no matter how extreme their ideology.

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Towards a Healthier Community

BY DR LISA MERRITT AND DR MIKE WEDDLE

Novelist Zora Neale Hurston wrote ‘there are some years that ask questions and other years that answer.’ In the case of U.S. healthcare, the questions have piled up and answers have been hard to come



MHI Staffs a Resource Table at a Palmetto event

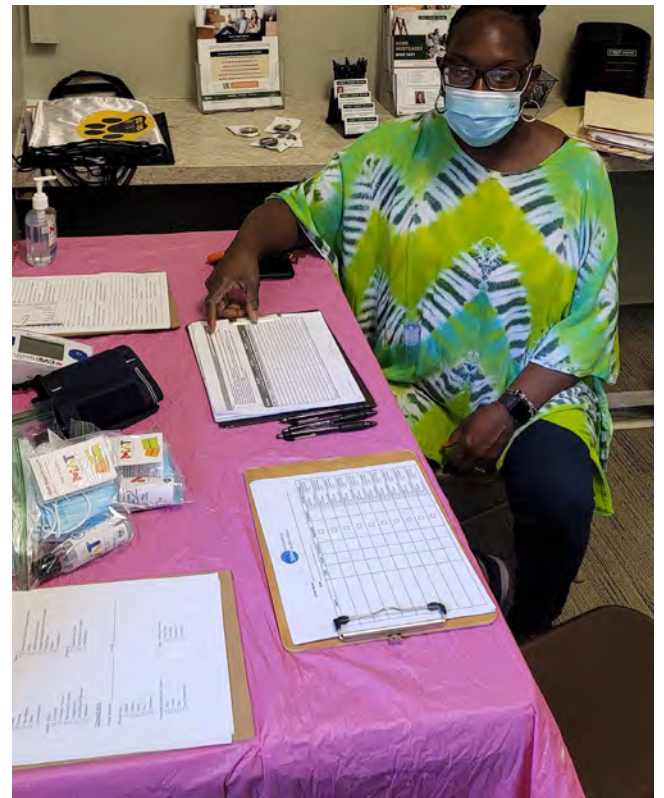
by. The Multicultural Health Institute based in SW Florida is ready to try finding one of those answers.

We know the major healthcare players and can count them on one hand. The medical industry, hospital industry, food producers, pharmaceutical companies and insurance companies. They are united by money. For example, Pepsi, Nestlé and Domino’s Pizza fund the American Heart Association. The AHA decides some of the things hospitals can charge for. And on it goes. Baked into this system is an underlying fact that treatments are chargeable and cures end treatments. Doctors David and Paul Belk lay it out clearly in “The Great American Healthcare Scam”.

Just as there are implicit biases around race and gender, there are biases that keep patients in a place between being dead and being well, two extremes that do not generate revenue. Environmental toxicities and disproportionate impacts of climate change further compound the complexity of the problems.

Self-care is free. In 1999 the editors of the Journal of the American Medical Association wrote ‘were the authors to have provided similar outcome evidence about a new drug, it would be in widespread use’. There are no lobbyists for free care. Self-care is empowering. Mind-Body Medicine teaches self-care. Studies have shown it can cut emergency visits in half, and decrease the need for all medical visits by 40%. In an often cited statistic, 80% of all primary care doctor visits in the U.S. are for stress-related illness, something medical schools are inadequate in training clinicians to deal with for themselves or the patients that they will treat.

The Multicultural Health Institute (MHI) has welcomed Dr. Mike Weddle, a certified Mind-Body Medicine practitioner, as their Director of Wellness. The Institute is sending 7 of their staff to begin training with the National Center for



Navigator Angela Miles at 1st Home Bank Financial literacy and wellness second Saturday events.

Mind Body Medicine to teach others these self-care skills. According to MHI Executive Director Dr. Lisa Merritt, “We hope to bring this healing to the community and empower people to create their own wellness paths.”

April is Health Equity month. We know that Black Americans have the highest rate of diabetes in the world. Africans have the lowest rate. It is a reminder that stress-related illness is not caused by race, but by multifactorial effects of racism. Elevated blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, depression, PTSD, often result from a stress response broken by living in unsafe spaces and navigating lives of deflecting perpetual micro and macro aggressions. Changing the world is a slow process. Self-care and Mind-Body Medicine teaches us to reduce stress and learn to live our best lives while getting there.



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PoetryLife 2022: Focus on Book Banning

Book banning and state directives over what materials teachers may bring into the classroom and what books librarians may place on the shelves is a fact of life now in Florida, Tennessee and Texas. The movement is spreading nationally like a vicious virus. It's time for serious activism to restore freedom of expression to our schools and libraries. Poets can lead the way.



Carolyn Forché

Those issues will be top of the agenda during PoetryLife 2022. Each year since 2012 PoetryLife, a project of Bookstore1Sarasota in collaboration with Florida Studio Theatre and Sarasota County Libraries, has been bringing the best of the world's poets to Sarasota to engage with the community. At the PoetryLife 2022 virtual event on **April 22nd at 8pm**, poet activists Carolyn Forché and Pádraig Ó Tuama will offer critical reflections of our present day world. As poets gifted with the clear-eyed ability to observe reality, they are in a unique position to address the troubling move toward censorship, including banning of books in schools and libraries. As poets they serve as the vanguard of intellectual freedom, drawing out the truth in words that touch both our hearts and minds.



Charlayne Hunter Gault

Their discussion will be moderated by award-winning journalist, Charlayne Hunter Gault.

Renowned as a “poet of witness,” Carolyn Forché is the author of five books of poetry. Her most recent collection, *In the Lateness of the World*, is a book of crossings, of migrations across oceans and borders but also between the present and the past, life and death. Forché's dark experiences in El Salvador, which inform her poetry, are memorialized in her memoir, *What*

You Have Heard is True, a devastating, lyrical, and visionary book about a young woman's brave choice to engage with horror in order to help others.

In 1998 in Stockholm, she was given the Edita and Ira Morris Hiroshima Foundation for Peace and Culture Award, in recognition of her work on behalf of human rights and the preservation of memory and culture. In 2013, Forché won the Academy of American Poets Fellowship for distinguished poetic achievement.

Irish poet Pádraig Ó Tuama, who is based in Belfast, is a theologian, conflict resolution mediator, and the author of four volumes of poetry including *Daily Prayer* with the Corrymeela Community, which draws on the spiritual practices of Ireland's oldest peace and



Pádraig Ó Tuama

reconciliation community Corrymeela—of which Ó Tuama was a leader from 2014-2019. Another collection, *Sorry for Your Troubles*, arose out of a decade of Ó Tuama's experiences hearing stories of people who have lived through personal and political conflict in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and other places where hostility is prevalent.

For Ó Tuama, religion, conflict, power and poetry all circle around language, that original sacrament. He has worked with groups to explore story, conflict, their relationship with religion and argument, and violence. Using poetry and group discussion, his work is marked both by lyricism and pragmatism, and includes a practice of evoking stories and participation from attendees at his lectures, retreats, and events. Currently, Pádraig guides the weekly podcast *Poetry Unbound* through NPR's *On Being*, which dives and immerses the listener into one poem every week.

The event is free. The Zoom link will be sent to those who RSVP at <https://poetrylife2022.eventbrite.com>

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Give Your Community a BOOST!
 CELEBRATE MINORITY HEALTH MONTH AND ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY



Saturday, April 9 • 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Newtown Farmers Market
 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park, 2523 Coconut Ave, Sarasota

Giveaways, Health Screenings, Health Info & Activities for All Ages

Walk There With Us! Join us for a fun group walk to the event. Step counters and market bags while supplies last!
 Meet at Bay First Bank, 10 a.m. Corner of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way and Osprey Ave.



Compost Awareness Week

BY TRACIE TROXLER

International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW) is right around the corner and Sunshine Community Compost will be hosting a range of community activities in honor of it again this year. ICAW is an international effort by the composting industry to amplify awareness about the benefits of composting for one week - **May 1-7**. The 2022 “theme” of the week is “Compost: Recipe for Regeneration”.

Historically, Sunshine Community Compost has held an annual “Compost-A-Thon” - a hyper-local initiative in honor of International Compost Awareness Week. Compost-A-Thon engaged residents in one week of composting practice to learn more about the food scrap collection process and gain personal perspectives on the ratio of garbage that is actually valuable nutrients that could be used for soil-making and future food instead of landfill waste.

This year, we will have opportunities for residents to engage in compost-related activities during ICAW. However, different from years past is that this year we will also highlight restaurants and businesses that are composting as well as program services and partners that help to meet these needs. During ICAW 2018, we did a restaurant composting pilot project in partnership with The

City of Sarasota. Ever since, we have been working to acquire capacity, equipment, permission and funding to offer a program that could meet needs of larger food scrap volume producers within the city. Now - to a gradually, growing capacity - we can. While there is not unlimited capacity to this

composting is education. Education provides the basis for informed action and it is our mission to provide education and action programs so more people can participate. We know the interest is here. We see it at all scales through our current programs and services ranging from the preschool education programs to residential backyard composters, to food scrap drop-off memberships, to youth organizations, churches, gardens, food trucks, and even to businesses as large as the local hospital - all are doing their part to add ingredients to the “Recipe for Regeneration: Compost”.

Residents and businesses who want to get involved in ICAW this year will have a range of activities to choose from. Sunshine Community Compost will be hosting food scrap drop-off stations at 2 different community gardens so residents can see up close and participate in the cycle of scraps-to-soil-to-food again, hosting a volunteer workday/compost station beautification effort at Orange Blossom Community Garden, hosting our online Co-benefits of Composting education series, a compost-making demonstration, participating in an in-person ReMake Learning Day at Southface Sarasota, while also spotlighting local restaurants, businesses and partners who are participating in composting initiatives. We hope that you will join us! Sponsorships are appreciated and available. Details, dates and times can be found at www.sunshinecommunitycompost.org.



The SCC compost team helping to recover resources and reduce waste at a recent community event.

program, nor permissions outside of city limits to offer these services, we hope that by working with key partners and tracking progressive successes, together we may be able to open more long-term visioning for local composting that removes barriers and supports further advancement of the composting movement in our region.

A key component to growing a culture of

End of Season Gathering for Brady Chapter

BY CAROL CONYNE RESCIGNO

Ryan Morales, who recently announced his candidacy for Florida Agriculture Commissioner, has agreed to be the guest speaker for the Sarasota Brady chapter’s end-of-season pizza gathering at **5 pm on May 19** at First Congregational UCC in Sarasota (1031 S. Euclid Ave).

Why do a bunch of gun-safety activists want to hear from someone who’s interested in agriculture? The Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services handles all background checks for those who wish to purchase a firearm in the state of Florida. Nikki Fried, one of the rare statewide officials who have backed safe-gun measures, is leaving that post to run for governor.

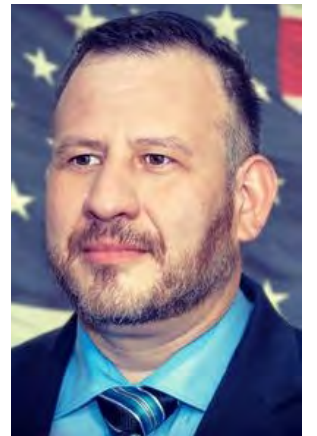
Morales is a businessman, a family man, an environmentalist and had this to say on his website about guns: “My administration will continue to check ALL applicants and run appropriate background checks before issuing permits. We need to continue to push for more gun safety education in our schools and among our constituents.” We at Brady want to ask him how we can help.

Morales has the support of Fred Guttenberg of Parkland, whose daughter, Jaime, was killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School four years ago. Guttenberg is an adviser for national Brady organization.

The May 19 chapter event is free. It’s a way for current Brady members to gather in person, enjoy each other’s company and assess our recent efforts.

It’s also a way for new people to see what this group is all about and decide to get involved in making our society safer, so put it on your calendar now and bring friends.

Meanwhile, join Brady members at the southern end of the Bayfront parking lot, just south of Ringling Avenue, any and all Thursdays from 4 to 5 pm from now through May 12 as we rally for gun safety awareness.



Florida Agricultural Commission Candidate Ryan Morales will speak to Brady supporters on May 19th.

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WSLR Enters Partnership with Multimedia Alliance

WSLR is pleased to announce the newly created “OPEN STAGE” strategic partnership between WSLR+Fogartyville and the Multimedia Alliance of Parity Press, Inc., Total Package Media and Red Hot Reality Entertainment, LLC. The partnership was created to advance WSLR+Fogartyville’s mission to serve as a center for creative expression and community engagement. Toward that end



Ralph Barnette, YaYa Diamond, Malcolm Barnes, Arlene Sweeting, David Beaton. Photo credit: Malcolm Barnes

the Alliance will offer “OPEN STAGE” access to sponsors, organizations, and individual members to produce original creative content utilizing the Fogartyville performance space to amplify the diverse voices of our community.

The Multimedia Alliance team is led by Malcolm Barnes, Ralph Barnette and Yaya Diamond. Malcolm Barnes, the Managing Member of the new partnership, is a multi-media

professional. He previously served as Director of Special Projects with WPFW 89.3 FM Jazz & Justice, a Pacifica affiliate station in Washington, DC, and as the Howard University School of Business’ liaison with WHUR FM 96.4. Yaya Diamond is a local singer/entertainer and daughter of multi-platinum recording artist Evelyn Thomas. In 2008 she launched Dream Chasers Radio where she interviews Grammy award-winning artists, producers, authors, inventors, and celebrities. Ralph Barnette is an accomplished artist, writer, designer and filmmaker with a background creating projects in the arts, entertainment, environment, and mentorship.

To kick off the partnership, the Alliance hosted an Open House in March with a concert featuring Yaya Diamond and Mean Gene. On **April 14th**, Yaya Diamond presents the second in her live performance series featuring **OXIDATION**, a youth group that includes Caleb Adcock on vocals, Michael Hackney on lead guitar, Landon Bailey on



Oxidation



Yaya And Mean Gene perform at the Open House in March

bass Jonah Slovic on drums, and Random Goethe on keyboard.

OXIDATION is a product of The Music Compound AKA “The Cool Music School” that is an all-in-one academy for young talent to perfect their musical craft, meet new friends, and gain confidence and self-esteem. Doors Open at 6:00 p.m show starts at 7:00 pm.

Tickets are available at www.Fogartyville.org.

The Multimedia Alliance hopes to develop new and compelling programs to help activate the Fogartyville community space. Special emphasis will be placed on developing resources for creative young entrepreneurs in media, performance, fashion, and theater arts; building the capacity of community-based non-profit organizations that need training and human resource development space; and engaging senior citizens to contribute as advisors and investors in WSLR+Fogartyville’s human capital community. To learn more, contact Malcolm Barnes at malcolm.wslr@gmail.com.

Sarasota Organizations Condemn Hate-Filled Legislation

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Anti-Racism Working Group member Sharron Howard participated in the event

In a joint statement released by the groups, they expressed their concerns about the impact these bills would have in the classroom. “These culture war bills curtail the teaching of troubling aspects of American history, including such topics as slavery, racial injustices, the Holocaust and LGTBQ+ history. The proper teaching

of such subjects will no doubt make children feel uncomfortable but that is how we as a society learn to correct the wrongs of the past. These bills paint a false narrative about what educators are teaching and students are learning. These very subjective attacks on truth lead to book bans, limits on discussion, curtailment of civil liberties, and a decrease in critical thinking. Under HB 7, similar dynamics will be played out at the workplace leading to the halting of inclusion and diversity programs.”

As priorities of the DeSantis administration, these bills are sure to be signed into law. Knowing this, local groups are already formulating ways to respond to their impact on our community. Despite that fact, these local groups felt it was important to take a community stand against the legislation and formulate alternative ways to respond to the impacts of these bills on our community.

Kaitlin Johnston, founder of the locally-founded business KIND COTTON, is working in conjunction with Black Lives Matter and local Boys and Girls Clubs on a Literacy Initiative. She says, “Every child has the right to feel seen, loved and valued. We make sure that children are represented in the books we donate. We have a free library set up at the Desoto Boys and Girls Club that is full of books from BIPOC authors and we have another one being put in in Newtown. We recently started a campaign to purchase LGBTQ+ affirming books for children as well - to push back against this hate.”

Based on their experience working extensively with people in conflict, the Center for Religious Tolerance and Sarasota Strong also spoke out against the legislation. Annelise Adams shared, “We can say from direct experience that the solution to conflict between groups is NEVER to ban discussion or to legislate that one side’s position is incorrect or invalid. Trying to prevent discussion of differences – which these three bills do - is not only counterproductive, but it will also drive those differences underground, harming everyone and creating conditions for more overt forms of conflict to emerge.

Regardless of whether these bills pass we will continue to have monthly public conversations about trauma and resilience, including issues of racism and sexual and gender identity; we will continue to offer trauma-healing resources and workshops to individuals and leaders in our community; and we will continue to support other organizations in Sarasota doing similar work.”

Support our Schools is an organization founded by local Moms to advocate for all students and their right to a high-quality, equitable education. Earlier in the year they had encouraged concerned citizens

Groups Opposing Legislation:

ACLU, ALSO Youth, Anti-Racism Working Group, Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH); Center for Religious Tolerance; SRQ Strong; Lean on Me; Modern Marima; Protect our Public Schools; Support our Schools; Kind Cotton; Leaders Rights Organization; ANSWER Suncoast; Boxser Diversity Initiative; Unitarian Universalist Church of Sarasota; Progressive Sarasota; Peace Education and Action Center; Project PRIDE SRQ, Women’s Voices of Southwest Florida.

to stand with them and Take the Pledge to Support Our Schools. They continue to build local support for their initiative. You can learn more at <https://www.supportourschools.com>.

The Anti-Racism Working Group grew out of a series of community dialogues and an Undoing Racism workshop facilitated by the People’s Institute for Survival & Beyond in 2018. Working Group Member Sharron Howard says, “As part of our covenant we agree to push the growing edge. Learning & growth involves moments of discomfort. We cannot allow public officials to dumb down public school curricula because they are not comfortable with the truth of this country’s past & present.” The Working Group will be hosting an Undoing Racism Workshop for Faith-based communities in May 2022. For more information, you can visit: <https://www.sarasotapeacenter.org>.

LIVE FROM Fogartyville

COMMUNITY MEDIA AND ARTS CENTER

Sarasota's premier listening room, but concerts aren't all we do. In addition to our live concerts, we also host other arts and cultural events, educational events, and sponsor events in the community. at 525 Kumquat Court's West entrance. (in the alley, Sally)



ALL SHOWS: Student tickets available at 1/2 price (show ID at door); Kids 12 and under are free.

7pm Thursday, April 7

\$15 members/\$18 non

an innovative force in the midwest folk scene...

GOOD MORNING BEDLAM

resplendant with soaring three part harmonies, and thumping kick-drum beat, they captivate with haunting waltzes, whistling, jazz scatting, the euphoria of the violin melodies and lyrical storytelling



7pm Saturday, April 9 7p Sat., May 14

\$5 General Admission

Poets Unplugged:
An Evening of
Spoken Word
& Music



BLACK N BLACK RHYME POETRY SOUL & ENTERTAINMENT

\$5 General Admission

Poets Unplugged:
An Evening of
Spoken Word
& Music

7pm Sunday, April 10

\$18 members/\$20 non

Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas

Scotland's premier fiddle ambassador, and the sizzingly-talented Californian cellist. explorations of Scottish and global music



8pm Saturday, April 16

\$15 members/\$18 non

Rev. Billy C. Wirtz & FRIENDS

no theme is too extreme, taboo, or undignified for the Reverend, so long as it garners a good laugh. There are few people who have as interesting a life story or such an encyclopedic knowledge of music as he does. joined by Steve Arvey, Anna Van Atta, and Sandi Grecco.



8pm Saturday, April 23

\$18 members/\$20 non

JORDAN TICE

singer, songwriter and guitarist who combines witty, well-crafted songs with deft fingerstyle and flatpick guitar playing often compared to Leo Kotke, John Hartford, and David Bromberg with a healthy dose of John Prine. SYCAMORE SHADE opens



7pm Sunday, April 24

\$25 members/\$30 non

The Soulful DENISE KING

jazz interpretations of rock and soul hits she is brimming with energy, good humor, and swings with authentic jazz expression! As part of a tradition rooted in the history of jazz, she fully lives the songs she sings.

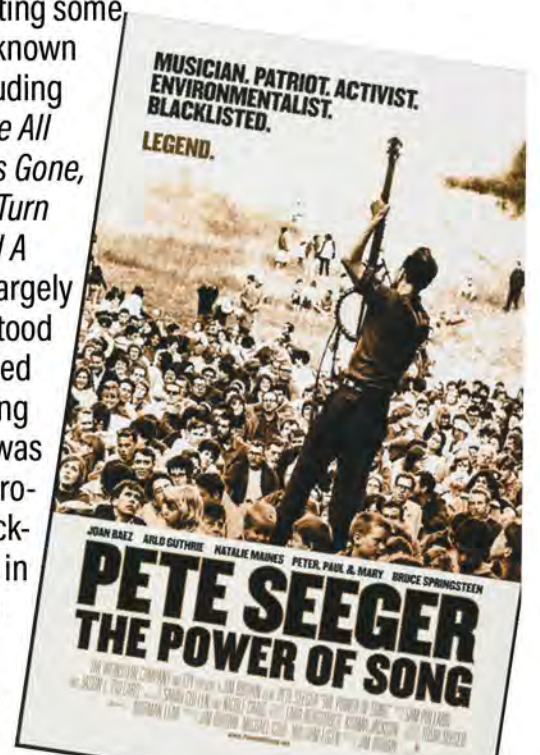


7pm Tuesday, May 3

\$10 members/\$12 non

We celebrate Pete's birthday with local musician Robert Killian Pete was the architect of the folk revival, writing some

of its best known songs including *Where Have All the Flowers Gone*, *Turn, Turn, Turn* and *If I Had A Hammer*. Largely misunderstood and criticized for his strong beliefs he was picketed, protested, black-listed, and, in spite of his enormous popularity,



8pm Saturday, May 21

\$15 members/\$18 non

The Whole Band Quatro

A creative and tight-knit group of musicians make up The Whole Band. Callie Chappell, lead singer and acoustic guitar, fronts the group which plays both original and covers that will surprise you with their treatment of familiar songs.





PATIO UPDATE:

It's been a long time coming and you all have been hearing us talk about it for almost a year - but we hope the time has finally come that our patio renovations will get underway. We've had the permit in hand for a couple months but have been unable to get a construction crew scheduled to build the outdoor pavilion that will be the first step in the renovations. Step two will be installing pavers and step three will be enhancing the landscaping.

Materials are scheduled to be delivered on April 4th and construction should begin within two weeks. The engraved bricks that community members purchased to support the renovations have arrived and we can't wait to get them installed! We're looking forward to throwing a patio party to celebrate when the project is finished.

Big thanks go out to the **WILLIAM G. & MARIE SELBY FOUNDATION** whose generous grant made this project possible.

If you have an idea for a radio show, let us know.

You can find our application online at WSLR.org under the **Support Tab (Volunteer at WSLR+Fogartyville)**. As we progress into 2022, we'll be inviting you to fill out our **Listener Survey**. Your input in this survey will aid us in offering radio programming that meets the needs and interests of our community.

wslr lp 96.5 fm

WEEKLY PROGRAM GUIDE

listen on the air

- WSLR-LP 96.5 FM Sarasota
- WBPV-LP 100.1 FM Sarasota

listen online

- WSLR.org (desktop)
- [WSLR App](http://WSLR.org) at wslr.org (mobile)

listen on demand

archive.wslr.org Music shows are archived for two weeks. News and public affairs are available for download, and expire later.

Americana - Folk - Cajun - Acoustic - Bluegrass
Blues - Roots - Jazz - R&B - Soul
Electronica - Dubstep - Club - Hip-hop
Freeform - Eclectic
Rock - Punk - Jam - Indie - Pop
News - Public Affairs
World - Spiritual

Find out what's playing On Air on the website. You can also find a playlist for the day, all playlists, AND NOW you can leave a "tip" for your favorite show! Instant Karma!

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
12 mid.		Down The Road Syndicated	Lumpytunes! The Head Lump, Rob Demperio	Music Automated playlist	All Mixed Up Syndicated	And You Don't Stop Syndicated	In My Room Syndicated Midnight Music Education The Musician's Son
1 a.m.	Deep Threes Syndicated					Synthelectico Syndicated	
2 a.m.	Music Automated playlist	Midnight Special Syndicated	Music Automated playlist	Upfront Soul Syndicated	Music Automated playlist		
3 a.m.							
4 a.m.	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Music Automated playlist	Music Automated playlist
5 a.m.							
6 a.m.	Background Briefing Ian Masters (Syndicated)	Background Briefing Ian Masters (Syndicated)	Background Briefing Ian Masters (Syndicated)	Background Briefing Ian Masters (Syndicated)	Background Briefing Ian Masters (Syndicated)		
7 a.m.							
8 a.m.	Blues to Bluegrass John D.	Gotta Get Up David Young	Generation X Alecia Harper Music with a Purpose Pat Monahan	Eclectic Blender Dave Pedersen	Latin Explosion Juan Montenegro	Saturday Morning Gospel Jonah	A Way With Words Syndicated Wings of the Heart Carol or Salima
9 a.m.	Shortwave Report Critical Times Week in Review	TUC Radio Sea Change Radio	Peace & Justice Report Tom Walker & Bob Connors	The Detail Cathy Antunes	Surreal News Lew Lorini & Steve Norris	TownTalk TampaBay Manasota Arts	The Detail Cathy Antunes (Rebroadcast)
10 a.m.	Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)	Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)	Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)	Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)	Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)	Radio Reset Sharon Preston-Folta	Law and Disorder Syndicated
11 a.m.		Nuestra Musica Mariano Afro Cuban Jazz Frankie Piniero	Bop & Beyond Bill Ewell Vibrational Journeys Perette Cannady	Metropics Carlos Pagan	Complex Waveforms Mark Zampella	Juke In The Back Syndicated	Folk Alley Elena See Syndicated
NOON	Music of the World Marco Ciceron					Hard Knock Radio Syndicated	
1 p.m.	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated		Dadee-O's Collector's Corner Dadee-O
2 p.m.						HipRawk Nation Syndicated	
3 p.m.	Positive Friction John Haupt	Second Wind Seany G	Rhythm Revival Rev. Billy C Wirtz Jazz & Broadway Swirl Donna B	Basement Boxes & More Purple Mike High Tide Susan Runyan	Everything But the Kitchen Sink Jazz Edition Art on the Air Everything But the Kitchen Sink Art on the Air	Train to Skaville Syndicated	Velvet Hammer Blues Beth Hammer
4 p.m.							
5 p.m.	Music Museum Ed Foster	Synthetic Age JR Indie-licious Sheila Jane	Jazz And More Brian Jones	Ted's Head Ted	Friday Happy Hour Bartender Tommy D.	Upfront Soul Syndicated	Global Village Syndicated
6 p.m.	Economic Update Richard Wolff Capitol Update State News	Ralph Nader Radio Syndicated	Ruthless Truth/Critical Times Laura Flanders Show	Alternative Radio Syndicated	Critical Times Week in Review Counterspin/Cannabis Connection	AfroSonic Taxi Syndicated	Donne Del Mondo Syndicated
7 p.m.							
8 p.m.	Yesterday's Dead Today Mark Binder	The Root Cellar Roger & Peter	Acoustic Waves James Hawkins The Old Folk & Americana Festival	Retro Cocktail Hour Syndicated Velvet Radio Elissa Bello	Ripper's Rarities Russ Yodice	New Radio	Blue Groove Mark Gruder
9 p.m.							
10 p.m.	First Voices Syndicated Indigenous Nation Syndicated	Bullwinkle's Corner Keith Winkle	Random Precision Alex	Music Is The Best Mark Markus	Songs for Knitting & Mayhem Laura New Radio	New Radio	Soul Kitchen Paul Junior Lounging After Dark Syndicated
11 p.m.							
12 mid.	Down The Road Syndicated	Lumpytunes! The Head Lump, Rob Demperio	Music Automated playlist	All Mixed Up Syndicated	And You Don't Stop Syndicated	In My Room Syndicated Midnight Music Education The Musician's Son	Cafe Chill Syndicated

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A Look Back at the 2022 Legislative Session



This year's legislative session was largely driven by Governor DeSantis' agenda on cultural issues and featured debates on some of the state's most contentious issues, including abortion, limiting the way race can be discussed in classrooms, immigration and elections

Here's a recap of 10 big issues addressed during this year's legislative session:

ABORTION (HB5): The Republican-controlled House and Senate passed a proposal that would outlaw most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy without exceptions for victims of rape or incest. The measure does carve out limited exceptions if “two physicians certify in writing that, in reasonable medical judgment, the termination of the pregnancy is necessary” to save a pregnant person's life or avoid a pregnant person's serious risk of “irreversible physical impairment of a major bodily function” that does not include a “psychological condition.” The

schools or at any level “in a manner that is not age-appropriate” and by creating broad and costly new liabilities for school districts. Passage of the bill has fueled activism across the state with scores of students staging school walkouts, holding rallies and protesting in the halls of the Capitol. Backlash from employees and fans over passage of the bill prompted Disney, a major campaign donor, to pause political donations in the state.

ELECTIONS (SB 524): In the latest round of battles over elections laws, the House and Senate passed a measure that would create a new office in the Department of State - the Office of Election Crimes and Security - to investigate voting irregularities. The bill would also require county supervisors of elections to annually scour voter rolls for potentially ineligible voters (currently required every other year) and increase penalties for the collection of completed ballots by a third party, often referred to as ballot harvesting, to a felony.

Tucked into the SB524 was a little-reported or debated element that prohibits ranked-choice voting (RCV) for local, state, or federal elective office.

rules and regulations hurt their profits by 15 percent or more. Businesses would be able to recoup up to seven years' worth of lost profits from local governments if the bill becomes law. There is no cap on damages that taxpayers might have to pay. That means taxpayers could have to subsidize millions of dollars of losses to businesses.

REDISTRICTING: Lawmakers passed new maps for state House and Senate districts, but new congressional lines remain unresolved. DeSantis has vowed to veto a congressional plan passed by lawmakers, while pushing for changes that could be more favorable to Republicans. DeSantis's proposed map would eliminate two of the state's four Black congressional seats and boost the Republican seat advantage to 19-9. Lines need to be set by a June election qualifying period.

SOLAR POWER (HB781): After heavy opposition from the solar industry and environmental groups, lawmakers passed a measure that would revamp rules for rooftop solar energy. Backers said the bill, which involves “net metering,” would phase out subsidies from other utility customers to rooftop solar

How They Voted

Bill Number	Senator Gruters	Senator Boyd	Rep. Rayner (Dist. 70)	Rep. Robinson (Dist. 71)	Rep. McFarland (Dist. 72)	Rep. Gregory (Dist. 73)	Rep. Buchanan (Dist. 74)
Abortion (HB5)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Education (HB7)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Education (HB1557)	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Elections (SB524)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Immigration (SB1808)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Local Govt (SB 620)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Solar (HB741)	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES

heavily debated proposal, which Gov. Ron DeSantis is expected to sign, is similar to a Mississippi law under review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

BUDGET: Lawmakers passed a \$112.1 billion budget and a tax package that were bolstered by \$37 billion in federal stimulus money and higher-than-expected state tax collections. The budget includes such things as funding increases for public schools and pay raises for state employees, while the state is slated to hold a series of sales-tax “holidays.”

EDUCATION: Perhaps the session's most-controversial bills involved restrictions on teaching about race-related issues, sexual orientation and gender identity in schools. Lawmakers passed HB 7 Individual Freedom (aka the “Stop WOKE Act”) that is an outgrowth of DeSantis' effort to bar critical race theory. HB 7 would ban school districts from teaching critical race theory, along with any other classroom discussion that could make students feel “guilt” or “anguish” about things for which they played no role. Notably, the bill would also ban feelings of guilt or anguish in corporate training scenarios, potentially impacting how businesses address issues of racism and sexism.

Lawmakers also passed HB1557 Parental Rights in Education, referred to by opponents as the “don't say gay” bill. It will have a chilling effect on support for LGBTQ youth by banning classroom discussion about sexual orientation and gender identity in

RCV was passed by Sarasota voters in 2007 and has yet to be implemented due to roadblocks at the state level. This effectively stops this grassroots reform from being implemented in Florida.

HEALTH CARE: Lawmakers passed a measure that would revamp staffing standards in nursing homes, as the industry says it faces worker shortages. Also, they passed — and DeSantis signed — a measure that extends COVID-19 legal protections for hospitals, nursing homes and other health-care providers to June 1, 2023.

IMMIGRATION (SB 1808): Republican lawmakers backed DeSantis' push to increase immigration enforcement. They passed a controversial bill that, in part, would penalize companies that transport undocumented immigrants into Florida. Also, the bill would expand a 2019 law that sought to ban so-called “sanctuary cities.”

INSURANCE: Lawmakers could not reach an agreement on a plan to address problems in the property-insurance industry, as homeowners see large rate increases and lose policies. Also, lawmakers scrapped proposals to repeal the state's longstanding no-fault auto insurance system, after DeSantis vetoed a similar bill last year.

BUSINESS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: In a closely watched issue for local governments, lawmakers passed S.B. 620 which allow businesses to sue local governments for damages if new local

owners, while critics said it would hurt the industry.

Who Is Thomas Paine?

Florida Veterans for Common Sense continues to blaze the trail explored by Thomas Paine, the author of “Common Sense”, a pamphlet that outlined our form of government. Paine also served as citizen soldier during the American Revolutionary War.



Paine struggled advancing the promise of America. He was one of the first abolitionists, the father of Social Security, an advocate for efficient and peaceful government. He loathed war profiteers and unnecessary war.

As Veterans of the American military, our mission is to inspire Americans of today with the spirit of Thomas Paine.

FLORIDA VETERANS For Common Sense **Are You A Veteran? Write for a Membership Application Today! Dues are \$45 annually.**
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www.flvcs.us □ **contact@FLVCS.US**

Florida Veterans for Common Sense, Inc. is a non-partisan/non-profit 501(c)(4) corporation.

Atkins Enters District 2 County Commission Race

BY BECCA HADWEN

This Fall, the Sarasota County Commission District 2 and 4 seats are up for election. So far, four Democrats have filed to challenge Christian Ziegler for the District 2 seat. Hagen Brody, Andrew Bevan, Fredd Atkins and Mike Cosentino will face off in the August primary. Although Ziegler has not filed to run yet, he told the Sarasota Herald-Tribune he intends to do so. Republicans Mark Hawkins and Joseph Neunder have filed to run for the District 4 Commission seat currently held by Alan Maio (Maio is term-limited). At this point no Democrat has filed to run. **The filing deadline is June 17.**



Hagen Brody

Hagen Brody has served on the Sarasota City Commission since 2017. Brody is a Sarasota native and worked as a state prosecutor before being elected to the City Commission. His tenure on the City Commission has not been without controversy. He frequently butted heads with former City Manager Tom Barwin and in 2021 he got into a shouting match with City Manager Marlon Brown over the City's failure to include Brody in a promotional video related to a Covid vaccination clinic. Three staff members filed complaints with HR after the outburst saying they felt intimidated, threatened, with some equating the incident to a violent "hostage situation." Brody has received endorsements for the County Commission race from School Board Members Jane Goodwin, Tom Edwards, and Shirley Brown. As of March 18, he has raised over \$25,000 for his campaign. Brody did not respond to interview requests.

Andrew Bevan filed to run on February 14th. He does not have contact information listed, nor does he have a presence online. His campaign treasurer's report for February lists no



Mike Cosentino

contributions and no expenditures. Like Brody, Mike Cosentino is a Sarasota native. He works as a general contractor and owns a construction company. Cosentino first became active on the local political scene during his campaign to re-open Beach Road after the County vacated it in 2016. The campaign is what inspired Cosentino to run for County Commission. He ran for a County Commission seat in 2018 but lost in the Democratic primary to Wesley Beggs. Cosentino explained, "Litigating against the County for five years has basically shown me that ... we have no representation. I want to give the people a voice. I want to be the people's voice in the community."

Cosentino sees unregulated development as one of the County's top issues, and one interconnected with two other key concerns. In his words, there are "three issues in Sarasota County, and they're



Fredd Atkins

all basically peas in the same pod: lack of infrastructure, overdevelopment, and environmental degradation."

The latest Democrat to enter the race is Fredd Atkins. A

native of Sarasota, Atkins served on the Sarasota City Commission for 18 years. He lost three previous races for a County Commission seat, but in the previous county elections Atkins had to run countywide. Atkins was set to run against Commissioner Mike Moran in 2020, but the County Commission made the decision to redistrict in advance of the 2020 census and the new boundaries moved Sarasota's Newtown neighborhood (where Atkins lives) from District 1 into District 2 thus taking him out of the race. In explaining why he was running for County Commission, Atkins said, "For too long this commission has turned its back on the citizens of the county by allowing overdevelopment, ignoring key environmental issues and not facilitating access to attainable housing for everyone."

Current Commissioner Christian Ziegler was elected in November 2018. He currently serves as the vice chair. He is also the Vice Chairman of the Republican Party of Florida. Ziegler has worked for the Florida House of Representatives and for U.S. Congressman Vern Buchanan. He also started the small business Microtargeted Media. Ziegler did not respond to interview requests.

For information on other races coming up this Fall, as well as voter registration and information, visit sarasotavotes.gov.

City Charter Review Committee Recommendations

On March 7, the Sarasota City commissioners formally accepted the report of the Charter Review Committee. The ten members of the Committee were appointed last year to complete the once every ten-year review of the city Charter. Citizens serving on the Charter Review Board were Dan Clermont, Crystal Bailey, Kim Githler, Jeff Jackson, Eileen Normile, Cathy Antunes, Peter Fanning, Wayne Ruben, Carolyn Mason and Phillip DiMaria. The City Commission held a special meeting on March 28 to review the recommendations and decide how to proceed

with placing proposed Charter changes on the November General Election ballot. Look for more complete coverage of this issue (and other items that will be on the November ballot) in the October edition of the Critical Times.

The complete report of the Charter Review Board can be viewed here: https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/1254731/3-7-22_Charter_Review_Report_to_CC.pdf

Article III. City Commission

Section	Proposed Recommendation:
Section 1. Composition/District Boundaries; eligibility & term of members	Recommendation to amend the Charter to include a 5 person City Commission consisting of 4 single member district Commissioners and 1 at large elected Mayor
Section 3. Compensation	Recommendation to amend the Charter to set the Elected Mayor salary at \$45,000 a year with a 2% annual increase and to set the City Commissioners salary at \$40,000 a year with a 2% annual increase. The 2% annual increase shall be based on the original principal and accumulated prior increases.
Section 7. Mayor, Vice Mayor, Acting Mayor	Recommendation to amend the Charter to provide that the Vice Mayor shall be selected annually at the 2nd Regular Meeting in November on Non-election years rather than holding a Special Meeting

New Issues:

Issue	Proposed Recommendation:	Applicable Article & Section
Require yearly training on the City Charter	Recommendation to amend the Charter to add language to require that City Commissioners participate in yearly review of the City Charter	Article IV. Powers & Duties of City Commission. Section 19.
Require super majority vote for the sale of city owned property	Recommendation to amend the Charter to add language to require a super majority vote of the City Commission for the sale of any city owned property excluding properties included on the affordable housing list	Article IV. Powers & Duties of City Commission. Section 13. Grant of franchises; approval of written contracts, leases, changes to pension plan and sale of city owned property

Changes proposed by the Charter Review Committee.

To the Board of Sarasota County Commissioners

While fresh in mind, here's one voter's view of the takeaway from the March 8 Special Election:

Elections are -- or can be -- teachable moments. The election results can help you understand what's driving the people of Sarasota to change our electoral relationship to the Board. It has nothing whatsoever to do with party affiliation or business interests, but a great deal to do with what we all experience in living here: Growth.

You brought this change upon yourselves -- thanks to years of privileging private property over public good. No one is saying, "halt growth." The aim is to bring back the public dimension -- which looks at the health, safety, and welfare of the people as a key determinant of the quality of developments -- especially those that put intense pressures of density upon neighborhoods, schools, roads, and taxes.

Yes, you think your magico-legal power to enhance the value of land yields greater tax income -- but where is the external, reliable analysis that shows that "mobility" fees (ironic name, given our traffic) fairly and adequately pay the developer's share of future services, roads,



and increased population? The Tischler Report of 2000 showed the opposite is true.

You have become distant from the people because you are willfully enabling Sarasota to grow too fast, without the rigorous guidance and temperance of an overall plan. You have shredded the Comp Plan, and now have warmly accepted Mr. Jensen's offer to write a new chapter of it for you.

What can be learned from your special election (expected to cost taxpayers \$315,000) is that you have walled yourselves inside a vision of your jobs that leaves out what most matters to the people whose votes entrusted you to look out for everyone.

To us, the land of Sarasota County is not merely a commodity to parcel up, rezone, and profit from. It is the entire natural and social realm in which we dwell.

It's time to ask how you can reconceive your roles, your jobs, your access and accountability to your districts. To make yourselves available for town hall meetings, scientific understanding of climate change, and to all the considerations that accompany your stewardship role.

Until you stop pretending we were confused; until you stop believing that slick, dark money-funded messaging will turn the trick; until you each take a hard look at your approach to civic duty, you have not begun to accept or implement the changes required by Single Member District Voting.

It's time to open your minds and hearts to a different vision with grace and good will, and to work with the people of Sarasota as a government, of, by, and for those people..

Tom Matrullo

Editorial: Lessons Learned from Attack on Net Metering

BY COTY KELLER

The Florida state legislature passed House Bill 741, which phases down the value of net metering, and opens the door for utilities to add fixed charges to rooftop solar customer bills. This legislation will negatively impact tens of thousands of jobs and scores of small businesses. Utility customers will lose opportunities to save money on electric bills and reduce carbon footprints. It's bad.

Assessing the lessons learned from this disaster yields two silver linings.

Lessons:

1. Most of the Florida legislature is married to special interests and deny the causes of global warming. We cannot count on support from this incorrigible lot to adopt sensible solar energy policy.

2. While net metering is a beneficial policy, it has shortcomings. At night or during cloudy days, the solar rooftop system (until it is equipped with battery storage) takes electricity from the grid. Grid electricity is generated, for the most part, with fossil fuels, which emit heat trapping gases. We tend to forget that the "net zero" concept is not that great. Instead of striving for net zero, we need to think of stopping all emissions.

3. Batteries improve rooftop solar. They allow us to produce our own electricity and store it for use during the evening and on cloudy days, thereby reducing the use of "dirty" grid power. Batteries also provide us security from grid power losses.

4. We have bigger fish to fry. Looking at projections for solar energy in Florida we can see that even with full retail rate net metering, rooftop solar will only achieve 1% of generated power this year. And not even 2% by the end of the decade. This is small potatoes.

Meanwhile, total solar in Florida will only be 25%

Florida Electricity Generation 2022 Projections (MW)			
Utility Solar	Distributed (Rooftop) Solar	Total Solar	Total Capacity
3,254	308	3,562	31,870
10.2%	1.0%	11%	100%
2029 Projections (MW)			
Utility Solar	Distributed (Rooftop) Solar	Total Solar	Total Capacity
8,500	600	9,100	36,000
23.6%	1.7%	25%	100%

Source: FP&L, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE)

in 2029. Add 20% for nuclear power, and Florida will not even be at 50% zero emission energy. This is way short of what we need as a society to stay below the 1.5 degree C threshold for preserving life as we know it. We must instead generate electricity with 70-100% zero emission energy by the end of the decade.

The only policy that can put Florida in the game is the "Low Carbon Portfolio Standard (LCPS)." The standards require electric utilities to generate a certain percentage of their power from non-emitting sources by specific dates.

LCPSs allow utility companies to use all sources of low carbon electricity, including solar, wind, nuclear and small hydro-electric power. Because nuclear and hydro can generate electricity 24/7, they are more reliable sources for filling electricity gaps. Emissions will be reduced since coal and natural gas won't be as needed to make up the difference. Another added benefit is that by giving utilities more choices, they end up saving money, which inevitably lowers costs for the consumers.

The presence of a portfolio standard does not automatically increase rooftop solar. Unless the standard has a "carveout" for distributed (rooftop) solar, the percentage of zero-emission energy may be met totally by utility-scale solar. We must assure lots of rooftop solar for customer choice, savings,

and resiliency. Rooftop also saves land otherwise used for industrial solar farms.

How do we enact such a policy in a state where our leaders don't acknowledge the cause of global warming and are bound to special interests? Section 3 of Article XI of the Florida Constitution, with some limits, grants the people the right to initiate constitutional amendments. We would have to collect signatures equal to 8% of the total number of votes cast in the last presidential election. To be approved, a proposed amendment must garner 60 percent or more of the vote.

The net metering battle has been lost in Florida. In defeat, we have discovered two silver linings. Rooftop solar customers have been reminded that besides making money on our PV systems, we can reduce our carbon footprint and enhance our resiliency against losing grid power by adding battery storage. We can make Florida the real sunshine state by amending the state constitution to implement a Low Carbon Portfolio Standard, requiring utilities to generate 70-100% of electricity from zero emission energy by 2030, including a generous carveout for rooftop solar.

William "Coty" Keller is a local ecologist who lives and works in Port Charlotte. <https://www.ecopapak.org/>.

School Board Elections on August Ballot

continued from 1

on her website that “we need to protect our public schools and teachers, especially from those looking to profit off our kids ‘education and privatize schools.’” Singleton is also a staunch supporter of mental health initiatives for students. She has served as an administrator in area schools, including the Bradenton-based Visible Men Academy and Forty Carrots Family Center in Sarasota where she is presently employed. Singleton is a member of the Sarasota Black Caucus and the local NAACP chapter. While a newcomer to local elections, she has already gathered \$56,196 in contributions as of March 14th, mostly in amounts under \$100.

District 4: Kurnov v. Marinelli

Shirley Brown’s seat, District 4, is up for grabs as Brown is term-limited out. The two contenders for her seat are Lauren Kurnov and Robyn Marinelli. Both candidates have extensive background in education.

According to her website Martinelli has over 20 years working directly with local students and has spent the last 15 years of her career as a district-level administrator, overseeing Student Services for the Sarasota County School District. As stated on her election website, Martinelli will “bring accountability and transparency to the school board, support fiscally responsible budgets, attract world-class teachers and always put our students first.” The Republican Party of Sarasota is listed on her website as her sole endorser.



Lauren Kurnov

Lauren Kurnov, a native of Sarasota, graduated from Sarasota schools and currently has two children enrolled in district schools. An MSW social worker, Kurnov recently received a doctorate in education. She has an extensive background in higher education. She worked in Student Outreach and Success for two local universities: University of South Florida-Manatee and New College of Florida.



Robyn Marinelli

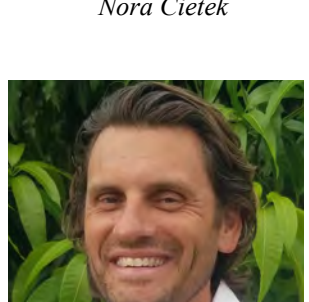
Kurnov is running on a student-first platform that focuses on career opportunities, college placement, and maintaining Sarasota School’s “A” rating. Regarding recent School Board controversies, her website states: “Lauren is committed to running a positive, no-nonsense campaign that focuses solely on the success of our schools, not on fighting a proxy battle in a culture war.”

District 5: Cietek v. Wood v. Enos

Current board chairwoman Jane Goodwin is retiring at the end of year as well, and her District 5 seat has already attracted three aspiring board members.

Nora Cietek is a retired principal and special education administrator from upstate New York who began her education career as a teacher assistant and worked her way up the ladder over 30 years. Cietek received a direct endorsement from Goodwin. According to her website, Cietek has a no-nonsense approach to school board politics: “We have been distracted by political issues that have prevented us from doing the real work of the school board. This is a huge disservice to our students.” Cietek is a self-declared fiscal conservative who aims to ensure that school board spending is efficient and serves the interests of the community: “If elected, my job, and the job of every school board member will be to balance the needs of our students, teachers, and staff against our responsibility to be prudent stewards of county taxpayer dollars.”

Opposing Cietek is Gregory Wood, a local business owner who runs a campaign focused on parental rights, classical education, and accountability. On his website, Wood writes: “Parents and families must retain the right to make all decisions regarding their children’s health, education, and future; not teachers’ unions, nor administrators, nor school board members. We parents raise our kids.” Wood promises to advocate for increased parental oversight over schooling, as well as a new approach to education that emphasizes the teaching of classical texts to increase student’s critical thinking.

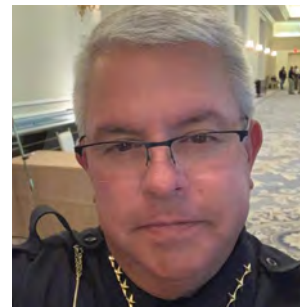


Nora Cietek



Gregory Wood

Timothy Enos, the former chief of the Sarasota County Schools Police Department is a latecomer to the race. Enos has received endorsements from State Rep. Tommy Gregory and the Sarasota Republican Party. He also lists on his campaign website, endorsements from Sarasota County Sheriff Kurt Hoffman and Sarasota School Board members Bridget Ziegler and Karen Rose. Enos, who has lived in Sarasota for over 40 years and is a graduate of Sarasota district schools, has stated that his 30 years of experience working with local students has allowed him to fully understand the mental health and security needs of local students.



Timothy Enos

The voter registration deadline for the August 23 primary election is July 25th and early voting begins August 13th. To request a vote-by-mail ballot, click on the following link: <https://www.sarasotavotes.gov/Voter-Information/Vote-by-Mail>

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People Have the Power

Arlene Sweeting



The Patti Smith and Robert Mapplethorpe exhibit at Selby Gardens kindled renewed interest in the music, art and poetry of these artists. My partner David Beaton and I both read Patti's book "Just Kids" (thanks to being gifted a copy by WSLR programmer John Haupt!). We saw the photos and posts of those that attended the talk/concert, and we again heard Patti sing the anthem "People Have the Power".

It is something we believe and have chosen to act on even when it was easier not to. *It is why we believe in community radio.* It is why we have invested almost two decades in building the community that we have here at WSLR + Fogartyville.



WSLR's Friday night DJ Russ "Ripper's Rarities" with Patti

In an interview, Smith explained how she and her late husband Fred 'Sonic' Smith tried to infuse the spirit of the '60s into a modern protest song: "And what we wanted to do was remind the listener of their individual power but also of the collective power of the people, how we can do anything. We wrote it consciously together to inspire people, to inspire people to come together."

WSLR is here to inspire people to action, to give individuals a voice and build the collective power of our community to bring about positive change. These are truly dangerous times. Fascism is on the rise around the world. Our assumptions

care of a community station. That's the power of local journalism and community media. WSLR brings new voices and perspectives to the media - highlighting our local arts and culture, enabling neighbors to share local news and events, and helping residents participate in decisions that impact



Melanie Lavendar and the young poets of her spoken word series Poets Unplugged.

their lives. **Fogartyville** enriches our community by supporting independent artists and musicians and providing a space for important conversations.

As Dave steps out of his management position in June, he will continue to contribute to the organization in a myriad of ways. WSLR is currently in the process of hiring our first full-time Station Manager, and is also looking to **hire a General Manager** that will oversee the entire organization within the next year. This is an exciting time for the organization and we want you to be a part of it! If this media and community space is important to you - support it with your financial contributions, your energy and your attention. **Attend a Board meeting. Become a volunteer.** Consider *writing a story* for the **Critical Times** or reporting on a government meeting for our local news broadcast. There are so many ways you can strengthen this organization and help it better serve our community.



Just one of those opportunities is coming up with the **2022 Giving Partner Challenge**. From **noon April 26th to noon April 27th**, online donations of \$25-\$100 made to WSLR through the **Giving Challenge** website **will be matched**. I will be making my \$100 contribution and hope that you will be too!

Help us build the collective power of our community!

I was dreaming in my dreaming
Of an aspect bright and fair
And my sleeping it was broken
But my dream it lingered near
In the form of shining valleys
Where the pure air recognized
And my senses newly opened
I awakened to the cry
That the people have the power
To redeem the work of fools
Upon the meek the graces shower
It's decreed the people rule
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
Vengeful aspects became suspect
And bending low as if to hear
And the armies ceased advancing
Because the people had their ear
And the shepherds
and the soldiers
Lay beneath the stars
Exchanging visions
And laying arms
To waste in the dust
In the form of shining valleys
Where the pure air recognized
And my senses newly opened
I awakened to the cry
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
Where there were deserts
I saw fountains
Like cream the waters rise
And we strolled there together
With none to laugh or criticize
And the leopard
And the lamb
Lay together truly bound
I was hoping in my hoping
To recall what I had found
I was dreaming in my dreaming
God knows a purer view
As I surrender to my sleeping
I commit my dream to you
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
The power to dream, to rule
To wrestle the world from fools
It's decreed the people rule
It's decreed the people rule

Listen
I believe everything we dream
Can come to pass through our union
We can turn the world around
We can turn the earth's revolution
We have the power
People have the power
The people have the power
The people have the power
The power to dream, to rule
To wrestle the world from fools
It's decreed the people rule
It's decreed the people rule
We have the power
People have the power
We have the power...
Songwriter: Patti Smith

about the inevitable forward progress of humanism and freedom have been seriously disrupted by actions here at home - in Tallahassee, in DC - and around the world.

In his first speaking role in *The Great Dictator*, Charlie Chaplin makes one of the most moving and thought-provoking speeches in cinematic history.

He says:

Greed has poisoned men's souls, has barricaded the world with hate, Has goose-stepped us into misery and bloodshed.

We have developed speed, but we have shut ourselves in.

Machinery that gives abundance has left us in want.

Our knowledge has made us cynical. Our cleverness hard and unkind.

We think too much, and feel too little.

More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness.

Without these qualities life will be violent, and all will be lost.

The aeroplane and the radio have brought us closer together.

The very nature of these inventions cries out for the goodness in men, cries out for universal brotherhood for the unity of us all.

The pandemic has changed the way we see our work, our lives, our world, and each other. It has given us the opportunity to do things differently. We must seize this opportunity to build a more caring, more just, more inclusive society. We must continue to come together to fight the politics of hate; we must slow down to save the planet; we must feel more to save ourselves.

The value of local community stations cannot be underestimated. Community radio stations know the challenges, the stories, the needs, the celebrations, the joys, and the history of the neighbors they serve. A large newsroom hundreds of miles away can never replicate the knowledge, intimacy, and

2022

GIVING CHALLENGE

Be The One

Presented by the
Community Foundation of Sarasota County

5:30p Tuesday, April 26 in addition to the **Giving Challenge**
(Please make all pledges at www.GivingChallenge.org)
WSLR+Fogartyville is hosting a
POP-UP! GIVING STATION
with film screening of
LILY TOPPLES THE WORLD
with a Domino Demonstration
+ reception at 5:30pm

Participating Nonprofits:
WSLR
Peace Education & Action Center,
Multicultural Health Institute,
Transition Sarasota,
Sarasota Chinese Academy
Sunshine Community Composting