Women’s Film Festival Returns March 2023

The Through Women’s Eyes International Film Festival will spotlight fresh voices and perspectives in films from around the world March 9-13, 2023. Now in its 24th year, the Sarasota-based festival features filmmaker conversations, an awards event, and an opening celebration at Ringling College of Art on Friday, March 10, 2023.

“We are delighted that the Through Women’s Eyes International Film Festival will return this year with both in-person and virtual events that allow a global audience to access these phenomenal films from anywhere,” said Scott Osborne, festival chair.

“We offer a carefully curated selection of films unlike what viewers see anywhere else.”

To date, the film festival selection committee has received more than 300 submissions from 43 countries. Each year, the committee chooses 30-35 films that reflect a diverse array of experiences by and about global women and the LGBTQ+ community. Many of the independent filmmakers attend the festival and meet with audiences to share what inspires them and how they created their films.

The festival will once again celebrate excellence with an awards ceremony on Saturday, March 11 from 1-4 p.m. at Fogartyville Community Media and Arts Center at 525 Kumquat Court in Sarasota. Awards include Best Feature, Best Narrative Short, and Best Documentary Short; local secondary students also participate in judging and presenting the Impact Award.

Shirin Ebadi: Until We are Free will be one of the films screened at TWE.

“Take the Ice” follows behind the scenes with the founder and commissioner of the first professional women’s hockey league.

Four of the chosen films highlight the quality and diversity of stories and perspectives.

Shirin Ebadi: Until We are Free is a timely film about the struggle for women’s rights in Iran.

Shirin Ebadi, the first Muslim woman to ever win the Nobel Peace Prize (2003,) continues to fight for justice. This is a gripping story about how quickly things can change and how fragile democracy and human rights can be. It is also a cautionary tale about one woman’s struggle to restore the

Continued on page 12

2023 Florida Legislative Session Preview

The Florida Legislature meets in session every year for sixty consecutive days. The 2023 regular session of the legislature will convene on March 7th and end on May 5th.

This Legislative Session will usher in a new Republican super-majority led by House Speaker Paul Renner (R-Palm Coast) and Senate President Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples). Speaker Renner and President Passidomo laid out their shared goals for the next two years following their swearing in ceremony in December. These goals include confronting the costs of rising inflation in Florida through the reduction of taxes, addressing the insurance market, identifying and developing affordable housing needs and focusing on fuel and utility bill relief. Speaker Renner and President Passidomo also emphasized the importance of long-term environmental and transportation infrastructure for the state. Here are some of the issues to watch:

Abortion
Currently, Florida law bans abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, but this could change. Following big gains in the state legislature for Florida Republicans, lawmakers and leaders in both chambers are weighing their options and considering potential, stricter bans.

ESG
Environmental, social, and governance investing—otherwise known as ESG—refers to a set of criteria or standards which are increasingly being used by corporations and socially conscious investors to screen potential investments. Florida has already pulled $2 billion worth of its assets managed by BlackRock Inc, and suggested banning its $186 billion pension fund, known as the Florida Retirement System, from investing according to ESG factors. Legislative efforts to curb the use of ESG as it relates to state funds can be expected. This is of particular interest to House Speaker Paul Renner.

Parental rights
Following the parental rights bill in 2022, which sought to prevent instruction on gender identity and sexuality in early grades, lawmakers and Governor DeSantis are expected to continue pursuing similar policies, including the use of gender-specific locker rooms in schools.

Affordable housing
Both President Passidomo and Speaker Renner have spoken at length about the need to create better housing solutions to compensate for the growing disparity between income and the state’s home prices and rental market. A legislative package that would include tax incentives for developers to create multi-use and multi-income properties in urban areas like Miami-Dade is expected.

Wildlife corridor
President Passidomo is interested in further...
Nonprofit Spotlight: SAACC

Formed in 2018, the Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition (SAACC) is an expansion of Newtown Alive, the Newtown history initiative jump-started by the City of Sarasota through an initiative called the Newtown Conservation Historic District. SAACC’s mission is to open and operate a cultural arts center and history museum that celebrates the legacy of African Americans locally and throughout the diaspora.

In May 2022 with the support of the City of Sarasota, the historic 1,400 square feet Leonard Reid house was moved to a Newtown site at Orange Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way. SAACC will retrofit the home for use as a temporary museum and ultimately construct a larger facility to celebrate the lives, accomplishments and culture of our region’s African American pioneers, artists, and leaders. After two hurricanes, there was no damage to the Reid House; only a few trees were uprooted. Repairs and renovations are underway in preparation for a spring opening at the historic house. A brick paver patio is now in place; and an entrance, a parking lot, and a dry pond for stormwater retention are under construction. Air conditioning units were installed, and city utility hookups are in the works. A landscape package and walkways are planned too. The house still needs exterior and interior painting, security and exhibit lighting, hurricane windows, interior design work, and an additional restroom.

Leonard Reid, the original owner of the house, played a significant role in the growth and development of Sarasota’s African-American community from the time of his arrival in 1900 until his death in 1952. Working for Colonel Hamilton Gillespie, Sarasota’s first mayor and an avid golfer, Reid assisted in laying out one of the first golf courses in Florida, and perhaps the United States. Reid helped organize the Masonic Lodge #314 in Sarasota where he eventually rose to a 33rd degree Mason and served for many years as the Worshipful Master. He also was instrumental in the organization of other fraternal organizations in which he enjoyed membership, including the Odd Fellows, the Household of Ruth #3538 in which he served as secretary, and the Knights of Pythias. He and his wife were also founding members and officers of Sarasota’s second oldest African American church, Payne Chapel, the AME Methodist Church, founded in 1906.

(Information on Leonard Reid excerpted from “Sarasota History Alive” - http://www.sarasotahistoryalive.com.)
Black Friday, the massive shopping-spree day completed with countless sales, markdowns, and offers, kicks off the holiday season. It also kicks off a season of consumerism, fast fashion purchases, and massive carbon footprints.

On Nov. 18, the student-run climate activism group Sarasota Students 4 Climate held a pre-Black Friday climate strike at Marina Jacks. Armed with posters with statements declaring “Consumerism Kills,” “End Fast Fashion!” and “Consumerism is Weighing Us Down with More Than We Can Carry,” the activists protested careless consumerism and urged shoppers to be conscientious of their purchases.

SS4C is a group run by students from a variety of high schools in Sarasota County. The organization strives to promote climate awareness and activism among the younger generation. The goal of this strike was to promote awareness about the upcoming season of consumerism.

Consumerism itself is defined as the “preoccupation of society with the acquisition of consumer goods.” In recent years, we’ve seen a large spike in purchasing and consuming, a prime example being the rise of fast fashion retailers like SHEIN. Retailers like these, that sell trendy, popular goods for extremely affordable prices, are an eye-catching draw.

However, what many fail to consider is the environmental implications of their purchases from these retailers. According to earth.org, fashion production contributes to up to 10% of total global carbon emissions. Fast fashion is exponentially more dangerous; many pieces purchased get thrown out after a ‘season’ or after a certain trend is ‘out’. Because so many of these retailers are focused on selling and producing what is viral and trendy at a certain point, a large number of their clothes will eventually be thrown away, polluting the planet as well as leading to more trendy purchases to replace them for the next season.

“I titled my poster “Consumerism is Weighing Us Down With More Than We Can Carry,” SS4C Lead Anja Schwarzbauer, senior at Sarasota High School said. “Consumers have become shackled to our ‘stuff’ at the planet’s cost…[the] message was when you’re shopping, be conscious of your carbon footprint.”

Your carbon footprint is the amount of greenhouse gasses that are generated by your actions. The United States has one of the highest average carbon footprints per person in the world (16 tons), compared to the global average of 4 tons. Learning about your carbon footprint and how to lower it is an easy way for everyone to get involved in the fight against climate change. In relation to holiday shopping, it’s smart to consider shipping methods and emissions in regard to the production of a product, as well as the longevity of said product.

Schwarzbauer recommends simply doing a bit of research. She understands that when someone starts thinking about whether they’re doing enough, “it can be a spiral of paranoia.” Instead, use one of the many resources online to calculate your carbon footprint, research sustainable alternatives for the purchases you’re interested in making this season, and simply, put thought into your purchases. Don’t panic; anything you can be doing to make an effort is wonderful, no matter the scale.

Shop with your planet in mind. Don’t purchase things simply to purchase them; instead, purposefully consider what it is you’re wanting to buy, consider the sustainability of the store and the product, and make informed choices.

To connect with Sarasota Students 4 Climate, visit https://www.facebook.com/sarasotaschoolstrike4climate/.
Addressing Noise Pollution

BY BILL WOODSON

Over the years, North Sarasota’s Newtown has faced a number of challenges that impact quality of life in this tight-knit community. One topic that has been the subject of recent community meetings is noise. Judith Williams, a leader in Newtown’s North County Community Coalition, observed that “noise pollution has been a persistent problem in the past and in some locations, it continues to be a problem.”

Loud car stereos have been singled out as a particular issue of concern. Mary Butler, president of the Amaryllis Park Neighborhood Association, said her members had this to say about loud car stereos disturbing an otherwise peaceful evening. “It’s like being awakened in the middle of the night by an explosive BOOM, BOOM noise.”

Few would disagree that the window-shaking bass of souped-up car stereos are annoying but reaching a consensus as to whether it’s a problem that demands a solution has been difficult. Questions about what can and should be done about noisy car exhausts and stereos have led community members to reach out to the Sarasota Police Department and the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office.

Further complicating questions of “Is it a problem?” and “What should we do about it?” is the fact that laws relating to public noise pollution are subjective, meaning that they are subject to interpretation. And the law is changing. The language of one state statute, 316.3045, seems fairly clear. It reads in part “It is unlawful... to amplify sound, primarily audible at a distance of 25 feet or more from the motor vehicle...” However this law is less than a year old, and is a successor to a sound control law that was determined to be unconstitutional and struck down in 2012.

Community members are also concerned about the possibility that the new law could be used to justify “pretext stops,” traffic stops where officers use their discretion to selectively enforce minor violations. Pretext stops can make some community members feel “singled out.” This type of traffic stop sometimes leads to vehicle searches, and potentially more serious consequences if car registrations have lapsed, controlled substances are found in the vehicle, etc. Increasing the number of reasons police have for pulling people over could even, potentially, lead to more tragic outcomes.

Those concerns are balanced against the concerns of citizens who are losing sleep or having their windows rattled by passing cars. It’s been challenging to find a way to meet these competing interests, but one thing that has received broad acceptance is increasing awareness of the new law—perhaps combined with increasing awareness of the adverse impact that window-rattling car stereos have on quality of life for community members.

Ms. Williams observed, “We should remember that this is an ordinance for all of Sarasota County...and all of Sarasota County is experiencing problems with noise pollution—from Newtown to Downtown to Siesta Key. As the city and county police work on a system for dealing with this problem, we are grateful we can provide input and be able to share with the community in a timely manner the impact the enforcement of the new ordinance will have on the people living in our community.”

The Sarasota Police Department and Sarasota NAACP president Trevor Harvey are working together with the North County Community Coalition (NCCC), the Amaryllis Park Neighborhood Association, the Greater Newtown Redevelopment Corporation, and the Robert L. Taylor Center to increase community awareness of the new law, and encourage people to voluntarily keep their volume down.

Ms. Williams offered this final thought; “It is important to educate the community about the Noise Ordinance. We will continue to provide information on this issue as it progresses through the system. NCCC meets 2nd Thursday each month at 6:00 pm at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church – 2504 Gillespie Ave. Sarasota. We encourage the community members to come out and talk about this issue.”
**PROGRAMMER SPOTLIGHT | SHARON PRESTON-FOLTA**

“Music is as essential as water, air, and food... It’s a part of my life, it’s in my DNA.”

Sharon Preston-Folta does not shy away from expressing her passion for music, with an extensive background in the many sides of radio, as well as a deep personal connection to musical excellence. Her father, the legendary Louis Armstrong, and mother, variety show performer Lucille “Sweets” Preston impressed upon her the significance of music in relation to community and expression at an early age. “It’s been with me since birth, music was always played in my home,” she explains as she details her youth. As a child growing up in New York, she continued the family legacy with an affinity and aptitude for music—learning seven instruments and developing a proficiency in reading sheet music. Preston-Folta details her relationship with her father and her upbringing in the 2012 book Little Satchmo: Living in the Shadow of My Father, Louis Daniel Armstrong and the 2021 documentary Little Satchmo: The Secret of a Legend. Her relationship with music and appreciation for community has led her down a variety of paths in life, one of which led to Sarasota’s own community radio, WSLR 96.5, as the host of two programs on the station, Radio RESET and TownTalk Tampa Bay.

Five years ago, during her job as an Account Executive at the Tampa Bay area’s local NPR station, WUSF, Preston-Folta received a call from the co-founder of WSLR-Fogartyville, Arlene Sweeting. The two sat down to follow up on business, along with WSLR’s Dave Beaton, in Fogartyville’s warehouse listening room. During the meeting, Preston-Folta happened to glance up at the walls, and noticed two painted portraits. The first was folk legend Pete Seeger, and the second portrait was her late father, Louis Armstrong. That coincidence changed the tune of the conversation, and at the end of the meeting, Beaton and Sweeting invited Preston-Folta to apply to be an on air programmer at WSLR. Preston-Folta came first, for which WSLR had a set intention of featuring playlists that were entirely composed of female artists. However, she soon realized that excluding male artists was not a necessity for highlighting female artists. In developing the style and genre selection of the show, she gained an understanding that “the best shows were the genres that I personally like, that I had more knowledge of.”

As a result, Radio RESET was destined to become an hour and a half feature of female artists in R&B, jazz, the American songbook, Broadway, Afro-pop, and Brazilian music. The show airs every Saturday from 9:30-11 a.m. and features a wide range of artists, including some of Preston-Folta’s favorites: Ella Fitzgerald, Laura Nyro, Barbara Streisand, Bette Midler, Carol King, The 5th Dimension, and much more. After three years as the host of Radio RESET, Preston-Folta began to notice a missing piece in WSLR’s weekly shows. “As I listened to the station and the public affairs shows, [I realized] none really focused on African-American voices. I asked management if I could start a show to focus on African-American voices in the wider Tampa Bay community.” Thus TownTalk Tampa Bay, an interview driven talk show with the intention of highlighting leading voices in Tampa Bay’s communities of color, was born. Preston-Folta details her goal for the show as a “plain-speak,” informative, personable resource for the listener. In seeking out individuals to interview, she places herself in the role of the consumer and considers what her listeners may need to hear during any particular month, week, or day. “I don’t want to throw out a bunch of data, none of my interviews are data driven because they’re in the morning on a Saturday. I want my interviews to lead with just a nugget or two of something that adds to someone’s knowledge during their day. Something that lifts them up or makes them think.”

Preston-Folta’s involvement in local politics, community action, the arts, and radio broadcasting creates a perfect mix of experience and passion within her programs at WSLR. Her unique childhood as the daughter of Louis Armstrong allowed her a different perspective toward music and performance, one that informs her mood and is integral in her day-to-day life. Her mother’s career as a vaudeville performer gave Preston-Folta an appreciation for community and equity in the treatment of others. These values persist in her programming, both in her cultivation of playlists for Radio RESET, and the conversations she develops on TownTalk.

**New Local Talk Shows for 2023**

*BY JESSE COLEMAN*

Bringing local voices to the airwaves and addressing local issues is part of our mission at WSLR, so we are excited to kickoff the following locally-produced public affairs programs in 2023!

**ArtBeat with Kathleen Murray**

Will be a one-on-one interview program with artists, arts non-profit workers, curators and art and design faculty. Guests will share the music that is getting their creative juices flowing and Murray will delve into big-picture conversation threaded through a social lens: Sarasota is known and touted by realtors and tourism officials as the “Cultural Coast” – the “city of artists and artists” but how do artists (especially young, emerging and/or artists of color) afford to live, work and stay mentally and physically healthy here and what (if anything) is being done about it? Tune in with Kathleen and find out Alternate Mondays 9-10am.

**Our Tuesday Morning** is packed with information that will focus on the health of our ecosystems and our bodies, with *Our Changing Environment and Healthy Living Hour* alternating from 9-10am.

Our Changing Environment will feature hosts Jon Miller and Julie Morris for a locally-focused look at how our natural and built environments are changing. Guests include activists, entrepreneurs, and non-profit leaders who will explore both the dramatic and subtle changes that affect the world we live in. Along the way expect some facts and musings about local natural and cultural history, geography, plants, and wildlife.

Healthy Living Hour hosted by Dr. Rebecca Acosta, will bring the focus back to our personal health by offering conversation on a wide variety of topics and guests to inform and educate the community on current health and wellness issues as well as local businesses and options including diet, lifestyle, prevention, graceful aging, and supportive care.

**Host of ‘Radio Reset’ and ‘TownTalk Tampabay’ Sharon Preston-Folta**

Julie Morris and Jono Miller

Kathleen Murray

Dr. Rebecca Acosta

New Year, New Music!

We are very excited about the New Year here at WSLR 96.5 FM. Our musical line-up will be enhanced with some fantastic new programs that will bring some fun vibes to the airwaves.

Longboat Luau with host ‘The Ho-dad’ promises to be a “shindig for your ears” alternating Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm. Selections of Tiki, Lounge, Surf Guitar, ‘60s Sunshine Pop, Reggae, Latin and Calypso provide an authentic Longboat musical experience. Sunny beaches come to life through The Ho-dad’s endless summer sets, and he encourages you to pull up a lounge chair, slap on some sunscreen, and pour yourself a cold one.

The Kick-Back with host Jeff Kuhnick will hit the schedule on Fridays 5-10pm with a fresh mix of alt and indie rock and a sprinkling of funk and classic jams especially designed to loosen you up and shed the stress of the week. Jeff brings his diverse musical knowledge, clever commentary, and radio experience from hosting shows for the University of Tampa as well as Radio Luwego in Mbala, Zambia, so kick back, relax and enjoy the tunes!

Dave Radio will be filling out our late nights on Fridays 10pm-1am to keep the party going. The show will focus on tunes that will get your body grooving to an eclectic mix of dance music and anything that makes you move and your mind feel free. Host Dave Wilkins will meander seamlessly through cohesive musical landscapes and keep the beat bumping into the wee hours - hardening back to his time deejaying PCPs at New College in the 80’s.

With these new changes, we have also moved a few favorite programs around the schedule, along with adding in some great new syndicated programs from the Pacifica network, so make sure you keep your copy of The Critical Times close by to keep up to date with the great stuff we are broadcasting out here on solar-powered Community Radio WSLR 96.5 FM! Don’t forget, you can hear your favorite programs anytime on our archives at wslr.org and on the WSLR App.

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Listen on the air
WSLR-LP 96.5 FM Sarasota
WSBP-LP 100.1 FM Sarasota

Listen online
WSLR.org (desktop)
WSLR app at wslr.org (mobile)

Listen on demand
archive.wslr.org

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MONDAY

12 mid. Deep Times Syndicated
1 a.m. Music Automated playlist
2 a.m. Midnight Special Syndicated
3 a.m. 3 a.m. 2 a.m.
4 a.m. 4 a.m. 2 a.m.
5 a.m. 5 a.m. 3 a.m.
6 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
7 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
8 a.m. Indie Psych Show Alecia Harper
9 a.m. Red Wednesdays
10 a.m. Pease & Justice Report Terry McKaig & Reid Centers
11 a.m. Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
12 noon Music of the World World Music Curator
1 p.m. The Blue Groove Mark Bagula
2 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
3 p.m. Second Wind Shay-Oh
4 p.m. Music Museum El Salvador
5 p.m. Synth Age 51
6 p.m. Economic Update - Occupants Report
7 p.m. The Real Collar WBAI, New York
8 p.m. Acoustic Waves James Armstrong
9 p.m. The End & Americas Football
10 p.m. Longboat Luau
11 p.m. Baptist Radio Music Notes
12 mid. Down The Road Syndicated

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TUESDAY

12 mid. Down The Road Syndicated
1 a.m. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
2 a.m. Music Automated playlist
3 a.m. SoyHurt Soul Syndicated
4 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
5 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
6 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
7 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
8 a.m. Ind. Psych Show Alecia Harper
9 a.m. Music with a Purpose Pete Rodriguez
10 a.m. The Detail Chris Martin
11 a.m. Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
12 noon Music of the World World Music Curator
1 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
2 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
3 p.m. Rhythm Revival Peso Black
4 p.m. Delta the Moment, On the Road Purple Mile
5 p.m. High Tide Sooze the 5harp
6 p.m. Everything But the Kitchen Sink Jillian & Jordan's
7 p.m. Everything but the Kitchen Sink Jillian & Jordan's
8 p.m. The Headlamp Rick Dempera
9 p.m. Music Automated playlist
10 p.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins

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WEDNESDAY

12 mid. Down The Road Syndicated
1 a.m. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
2 a.m. Music Automated playlist
3 a.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
4 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
5 a.m. In My Room Syndicated
6 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
7 a.m. Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
8 a.m. Music with a Purpose Pete Rodriguez
9 a.m. Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
10 a.m. Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
11 a.m. Democracy Now! Amy Goodman (Syndicated)
12 noon Music of the World World Music Curator
1 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
2 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
3 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
4 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
5 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
6 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
7 p.m. Thump Hartmaches Show Syndicated
8 p.m. The Headlamp Rick Dempera
9 p.m. Music Automated playlist
10 p.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. In My Room Syndicated

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THURSDAY

12 mid. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
1 a.m. Music Automated playlist
2 a.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
3 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
4 a.m. Synthetic Age Syndicated
5 a.m. Synthetic Age Syndicated
6 a.m. Music Automated playlist
7 a.m. Music Automated playlist
8 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
9 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
10 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
11 a.m. Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
12 noon Background Briefing for Mothers Syndicated
1 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
2 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
3 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
4 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
5 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
6 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
7 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
8 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
9 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
10 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins

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FRIDAY

12 mid. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
1 a.m. Music Automated playlist
2 a.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
3 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
4 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
5 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
6 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
7 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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9 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
10 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins

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SATURDAY

12 mid. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
1 a.m. Music Automated playlist
2 a.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
3 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
4 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
5 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
6 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
7 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
8 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
9 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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11 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 noon Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
1 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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4 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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7 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
8 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
9 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
10 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins

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SUNDAY

12 mid. Lamplighter! The Headland, Rick Dempera
1 a.m. Music Automated playlist
2 a.m. All Mixed Up Syndicated
3 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
4 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
5 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
6 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
7 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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9 a.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
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7 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
8 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
9 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
10 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
11 p.m. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins
12 mid. Dave Radio Dave Wilkins

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The Critical Times, Vol. 23 | January - March, 2023
LIVE FROM Fogartyville
COMMUNITY MEDIA AND ARTS CENTER
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.

2pm 01/08/23 $15
FRANKIE JAY & THE CHICKEN PARADE
A little bit folk, a little bit bluegrass, and a smattering of rock-n-roll, what th’cluck? a curious group of like-minded musicians with a particular sense of humor & humanity.

7pm 01/10/23 $28/$32
CHUCHITO VALDES
Rescheduled from 2022, following in the footsteps of his famed father Chucho Valdes and grandfather Bebo Valdes, Chuchito continues the legacy of great piano players from Cuba. With influences of Caribbean rhythms and jazz, Chuchito creates an exciting and energetic blend of spicy music that drives audiences wild. This piano master captivates.

8pm 01/13/23 - $18/$21
The Byrne Bros.
A family band and Irish dancers from Dublin and one of the biggest names in traditional Irish music today. They are Luca 18 on Accordion, Finn 16 on Banjo, Mandolin + Guitar, Dempsey 12 on Bodhran & Whistle and Dad, Tommy on Uilleann Pipes, Bagpipes, Fiddle & Guitar. Accomplished is an understatement.

7pm 01/14/23 - $5
PORTS UNPLUGGED: VOICES OF POWER:
Cedric Hameed
Open Mic starts at 8pm and the featured performer will take the stage at 9pm. Growing up Cedric used words as an escape from his harsh realities; he believes the arts can be a catalyst for change. PLUS: It is STREETS OF PARADISE, A DAY IN PARADISE’ art exhibition’s Opening Reception.

7pm 01/15/23 - $28/$32
NELIE MCKAY
“Funny and touching, ceaselessly clever and scarcely talented.” - The New Yorker
Nellie returns to Fogartyville! We can’t wait to hear her original biting humor and a highly accomplished musicanship; her songs are catchy/comical observations of everything from dogs to relationships. And like hungry freaks, we’ll be expecting some quirky covers too!

7pm 01/19/23 - $18/$22
THE BLUE EYED BETTYS
Actors all, Daniel Emond on banjo, Sarah Hund on fiddle, + Ben Mackel on guitar, The B.E.B.‘s delight with their powerful vocals in 3-part harmony to create an indie-folk pop-grass sound.

8pm 01/20/23 - $25/$30
DAVID WILCOX
Lyric insight is matched by a smooth baritone voice, virtuosic guitar chops, and creative open tunings, giving him a range & tenderness.

“Wilcox’s ongoing musical journey is compelling and richly deserving of a listen.” — Rolling Stone

8pm 01/21/23 - $25/$30
KING MORKO
Rob Reinhart of Acoustic Cafe praises King Margo for “great stories in beautifully crafted acoustic songs with the sweetest harmonies you’ll hear this year.” Alice Howe & Freebo open the show bringing together a rising voice in Americana music and a venerable rock, folk, and blues icon.

8pm 01/27/23 - $15/$18
COLD CHOCOLATE & Pedro y Zooey
A genre-bending Boston-based Americana band that fuses folk, funk + bluegrass to create a unique sound all their own. Punctuated by tight harmonies and skillful musicianship, they have gained reputation for original music and high-energy shows.
Locals Pedro y Zooey bring you an eclectic blend of roots music from all corners of the globe, bringing a nostalgic atmosphere of timeless, soulful music with a contemporary twist.

8pm 02/02/23 - $20/$25
GRASS IS DEAD
A juggernaut of sound. Their live performances bring into view a traditional sensibility of bluegrass, swing, and folk music launched directly onto a psychedelic paintbrush of modern influences, most importantly, the music of the Grateful Dead.

8pm 02/03/23 - $20/$25
Steve Forbert
An icon in the Alt/Americana/Rock crossover, Forbert helped pioneer the genre’s mix of folk, roots-rock, + richly delivered storytelling.
He’s been a torchbearer of that sound for more than four decades since, navigating the twists and turns of an acclaimed career that’s taken him from NYC’s CBGB to Nashville’s Bluebird. We are happy to have him back.

8pm 02/05/23 - $18/$20
Michael Ross: Tribute To Now Band
Old friends/colleagues who have appeared with a variable who’s who of jazz greats, and played on “Ginger” this performance will be a happy reunion:
Michael Ross - Bass
Daniel Jordan – Saxophone / Flute
William Evans - Piano
Waite Hubbard - Drums

8pm 02/09/23 - $15/$20
OSHIMA BROTHERS
Maine-based duo creating dreamy melodies and a harmony-drenched blend of contemporary folk, acoustic pop, and Americana.

8pm 02/10/23 - $18/$21
House of Hamill
Whether they’re ripping through a set of original jigs+reels, adding lush three-part harmonies into traditional folk ballads or rock covers, or cracking up an audience with stories from the road, Holz puts on a show that captivates audiences from the very first note.

7pm 02/14/23 VALENTINES DAY - $22/$25
YOU’LL LOVE OUR CUBAN MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA
CALIXTO OVIEDO’S CUBAN MUSIC TRAIN
With a career spanning 38+ years, He was the drummer with NG La Banda during the period that produced many of their greatest recordings, including Santa Palabra, Echéale Limón, and El Trágico. In the mid-90’s, he relocated to Sweden, during which time he made an excellent Timba recording, “La Recompensa” with his son Yulién, and other key members of Charanga Habanera.

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Page 7
The Tannahill Weavers bring keyboard, mandolin, rhythm guitar, harmony vocals into the mix to make for a fun folk show.

Mike Block, cello/vocals, Christylez Bacon, rap/beat-box/guitar, and Patricia Ligia, on electric bass form a dynamic trio, blending original music with world fusion influences to form a fresh sound that highlights their improvisational spontaneity and high energy performance.

Chiara Izzi

One of New York’s busiest vocalists, she is an award-winning Jazz singer/songwriter from Italy, based in NYC. Quincy Jones awarded her 1st prize in the Montreux Intl. Jazz Fest Vocal Competition. In April 2020 she also won one Independent Music Award for Best Jazz song with Vocals with her composition “Circles Of The Mind”.

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8PM 02/12/23 - $15
Will McLean Foundation Audible Art Series Presents: Reckless Saints

Singer/songwriter/guitarist Roy Schneider and his multi-instrumentalist wife Kim Mayfield, bring keyboard, mandolin, rhythm guitar, harmony vocals into the mix to make for a fun folk show.

7PM 02/21/23 - FREE
Home From School documentary- “Kill the Indian in him, and save the man.” This was the guiding principle that removed thousands of Native American children and placed them in Indian boarding schools. Among the many who died at Carlisle Indian Industrial School were three Northern Arapaho boys. Now, more than a century later, tribal members journey from Wyoming to Pennsylvania to help them finally come home.

8PM 02/18/23 - $20/$24
Becky Buller Band

Bluegrass Multi-instrumentalist, singer/songwriter. A recipient of 10 IBMA awards++. Her compositions can be heard on records by artists like Ricky Skaggs and Special Consensus’ 2020 Song Of The Year for co-writing and fingering on “Chicago Barn Dance.”

8PM 02/03/23 - $25/$28
Mike Block/ Christylez Bacon/ Patricia Ligia

Mike Block, cello/vocals, Christylez Bacon, rap/beat-box/guitar, and Patricia Ligia, on electric bass form a dynamic trio, blending original music with world fusion influences to form a fresh sound that highlights their improvisational spontaneity and high energy performance.

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7PM 02/21/23 - FREE
Vanessa Rubin

Endowed with the kind of liquid phrasing and sheer wisdom that come from depth of experience on the jazz performance campaign trail. Vocalist Vanessa Rubin is the established torch bearer of the gifts bestowed upon the world from the likes of Sarah Vaughn, Ella Fitzgerald and Frank Foster.

8PM 03/26/23 - $18/$21
The World Fusion Orchestra

The ensemble features Guitarist Gustav Vihmeyer, Drummer Art Weiss and upright bassist Jack Berry. It’s Gypsy Jazz meets funk & classical in a hardcore fusion— an explosive shred-fest of music from ’round the globe.

8PM 03/24/23 - $30/$32
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BY DR. WILLIAM BRONSTON

Despite the universal alienation, angst, humiliation, and cruelty that our society has suffered, regularly assaulted by our profit-driven medical, wealth transfer system that people numbly and mistakenly refer to as “health care”, our victimization has become normalized. More than any other outrage we experience, changing our medical system to a rightful and publicly-funded care model would profoundly humanize and democratize our entire culture. Pushed backwards from the 1977 campaign to establish a socialized system during the era of then congressman Ron Dellums’ HR 1200, The American Health Security Act, the progressive movement has pursued the notion of a “single payer” reform that would guarantee medical care to all without any cost at the point of service. However, it did not challenge the structural racism, elitism, and medical empire corporate governance and economics that are the real deniers of “health care”.

Our growth-demanding capitalist economy has destroyed what we all imagined medical care to be, requiring non-medical administrative approval of most clinical professional decision-making, inserting a computer between every doctor and their patients to capture and bill for every transaction and examination. Medicaid, the third rate federal funding mechanism, has poured $6 trillion into universally institutionalizing care for all dependent family members since its establishment in 1965 with Title 19. In addition to atomizing families and creating a mass domestic refugee population, it forces the liquidation of personal wealth under $2600 for “service” eligibility and permanent impoverishment to continue receiving benefits. In alignment with corporate lobbyists, the Affordable Care Act, expanded Medicaid by providing over $278 billion to private insurance, pharmaceutical and hospital cartels blocking even consideration of expansion of Medicare, or what is perversely called the “public option”, to be discussed. This would have further complicated an already impossibly complex billing system, adding another layer of public care to the more than 1500 private insurance and corporate billers, each with its myriad of coverage options.

The ultimate result is the US holds a position of below 39th in the world of health indicators, does not insure or under-insures more than 1/3 of our population, and our “care” costs more than twice what any other developed country pays for the care of their people!

A group of 40 progressive health care leaders spent last year visioning and drafting an ideal policy model to show what must happen, despite taking on the limitlessly wealthy and corrupt wall street and corporate oligarchy, to establish a comprehensive, neighborhood planned, rightful health care system - www.ourhealth.pub - to drive a major conversation among activists for social and health justice. The stakes could not be higher.

We must:
• democratize all governance of the newly established, single trust fund that must contain 100% of all health care dollars to pay for negotiated provider rates
• establish the dominance of public health administration over all care planning and services
• buy out health debt that is drowning the public
• radically retrain, transform and aculturate the entire health workforce
• decentralize all the corporate health empires (vast hospital complexes)
• provide a 5 year just transition for all displaced workers
• coordinate social determinants - food, housing, employment, education, transportation to promote health
• guarantee complete choice of health care providers with no closed networks
• assure 100% comprehensive benefits and organized specialized clinical teams for special health needs populations in education, mental health, addiction, environmental health, rural and farmworker, disabled, incarcerated and homeless people.

In short “Everybody In Nobody Out”.

This demands the most creative, serious, political and lengthy mass discussion of these essential health care system elements to collectively redefine our political goal of universal rightful healthcare in America!

Editorial: HealthCare - Everybody In, Nobody Out

2023 COMMUNITY SCREENINGS & HEALTH FAIR

Saturday, January 21, 2023 · 10 am - 3 pm
Location: Osprey Ave. and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way
ALL ARE WELCOME
Come with friends and improve your health. Questions, answers & discussion on pregnancy, asthma, HIV, diabetes, heart disease, mental health, physical illness and men's health.
FREE health screenings for prostate, lung & diabetes diseases. FREE mammograms available*
Farmer’s market and food trucks.

PRESENTED BY:
The Gulf Coast Medical Society, Multicultural Health Institute, SHM Newtown Internal Medicine Residency Practice, and the Greater Newtown Community Redevelopment Corporation

*FREE MAMMOGRAMS FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY:
Live in Sarasota County • Aged 40 to 64 years • Low-income, uninsured or under-insured • Have not had a mammogram in the past year.
*All other health screenings at event are available via walk-up.
BY CATHY ANTUNES

The newly seated Sarasota School Board’s ignominious termination of Superintendent Brendan Asplen has many Sarasota voters experiencing buyers remorse. If the ZEM candidates - Ziegler, Enos, Marinelli - had been forthcoming with voters about their plan to fire Superintendent Asplen, it’s unlikely they would have been elected. Kicking off their terms with a vindictive dismissal of a successful Superintendent demonstrates a clear and present danger to civility, due process and effective collaboration with the community. When a board begins their community service by concealing their true intentions, public scrutiny and active oversight is warranted. Political funding is a good place to start.

The political committee “Friends of Bridget Ziegler” (FOBZ) was formed in May 2022, apparently to assist in Mrs. Ziegler’s re-election. Mrs. Ziegler is the committee’s Registered Agent and Chairperson, Eric Robinson is its treasurer. In my years of examining local political committees, I haven’t seen a candidate serve as the Registered Agent or Chairperson of the political committee tasked with supporting their election. What happened to the prohibition against candidate coordination with a political committee?

When I perused Mrs. Ziegler’s FOBZ committee in August, there were three donations from donors in Jacksonville, FL: $1000 from the Fraternal Order of Police in Jacksonville, $500 from a Mr. Eugene Stokes in Jacksonville, and $5,000 from Andrew Mayer of Jacksonville (see below). Why, you say, would donors from Jacksonville contribute to a political committee formed by, and in support of, a Sarasota County School Board member and candidate? Great question. When I revisited Mrs. Ziegler’s FOBZ committee this month, I found another development that I’ve never seen before. All those donations originating from Jacksonville were no longer present in the FOBZ financials. Why?

Three other Florida political committees, including Florida Conservatives United, contributed a total of $15,456.80. Here’s an interesting detail - the same political committee contributor to FOBZ, Florida Conservatives United, has paid Bridget Ziegler’s husband’s company (Microtargeted Media) $43,899.28 since April 2018.

Contributor Caroline Wetherington founded Women for Trump Sarasota/Manatee, Inc. in 2019. In 2021 she co-founded Defend Florida, a “grassroots” organization which claimed it had evidence of voter fraud in the 2020 elections (Manatee County Supervisor of Elections and law enforcement dismissed her claims).

For accepting a $10,000 donation from a gun shop…given school shootings, and community, parental and student concern about gun safety, why would any school board member believe accepting a $10,000 donation from a gun shop is a good idea?

Bridget Ziegler’s use of a political committee is an effective method to skirt campaign finance rules. Candidates are subject to donation limits, but political committees are not. Bridget Ziegler’s political committee hiring her husband’s company, Microtargeted Media, may raise eyebrows about ethical issues, but there may be nothing illegal about it (almost $22,000 of the $57,000 raised went to Microtargeted Media).

Maybe Ziegler can provide a reasonable explanation for what happened to all those Jacksonville donations, and why donors from Jacksonville care about a Sarasota County School Board race. Finally, Ziegler’s role as a co-founder of Moms for Liberty has been cited as a potential explanation for actions which appear to undermine, rather than enhance public transparency, collaboration and service.

All of these findings beg the question: exactly whose interests does Bridget Ziegler concern herself with? Given the public outcry against firing Asplen, she doesn’t appear to care what the community thinks. One thing is clear: Mrs. Ziegler’s affiliations and tactics are very unusual for a Sarasota County School Board member. It’s up to the public to pay attention and hold her and the board she leads accountable.
expanding the Florida Wildlife Corridor, a statewide network of nearly 18 million acres of connected lands and waters supporting wildlife and people. The connected greenspace allows species to migrate, hunt, breed, and maintain genetic diversity.

Workforce education
Governor DeSantis and lawmakers continue to make the case for strengthening Florida’s workforce pipeline, through the use of apprenticeships, pre-apprenticeships, rapid credentialing, better screening and assessment tools, and expanded partnerships among K-12 and higher education institutions, labor, and industry.

Prescription costs
Nationally, concerns continue to grow over the rising cost of prescriptions. Governor DeSantis has signaled that he wants to find solutions for consumers at the state level. Expect a broad healthcare package that addresses hospitals, health insurers, and pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs).

Disney/Reedy Creek Improvement District
In 2022, the legislature dissolved a controversial special taxing district, known as Reedy Creek Improvement District, which controls and funds Walt Disney World. Legislators will likely readdress this issue in 2023.

Resign to run
In most cases, statute dictates whether an elected official must resign from their current position in order to run for a new office. Florida state law is silent on this in reference to a governor running for president. With expectations high that Governor DeSantis will seek the Republican presidential nomination, legislative leaders have indicated an interest in clarifying the law to allow him to continue to serve as governor if he runs.

Tune in to Capitol Update on WSLR 96.5 Mondays at 6:30pm for updates on what’s happening in Tallahassee.

Editorial: Say Yes to Ranked Choice Voting

BY JOHN SCHÜSSLER

The way we elect our leaders is deeply flawed, giving us a scarred-earth politics and gridlocked government. Congressional and state legislative approval ratings are in the toilet, hovering between 10 percent and 30 percent. At the same time, incumbents win more than 90 percent of the time.

That is because incumbent congressmen choose their voters by gerrymandering voting districts so their party will win the General Election. Incumbent congressmen are only worried about being challenged in their closed primary elections, so they appeal to the extreme elements of their party who make up the core of their party’s closed-primary voters. Then, after the incumbent wins the primary election, they change their campaign speeches to appeal to more centrist voters, until the general election. After they win the general election, they go back to being primarily worried about being challenged in the party’s closed primary election by someone more extreme than them.

After elections, Left and Right political parties first try to purge their in-group moderates. Then they go after the other side with a more united front. Some congressmen fear they will be criticized as disloyal if they compromise on legislation with congressmen of the other political party, so they vote party-line in Congress regardless of the merit of the proposed legislation. They support whatever the other party opposes and oppose whatever the other party supports, even if the proposed legislation is the same. Our two-party system is not working for the voters.

Currently, you can choose only one candidate. If your favorite isn’t a clear front-runner, you could waste your vote by picking them, helping elect someone you really disagree with.

One simple change called ranked choice voting gives power to voters. You rank the candidates: your first choice, your next preference, etc. If your favorite doesn’t have enough support to win, your ballot counts for your next choice. You never throw your vote away.

With ranked choice voting:
1. Multiple candidates can run without being “spoilers”, who split votes away from similar candidates, causing both to lose.
2. People get more choices.
3. Politicians get more healthy competition.
4. Candidates need to win the broad support of a majority of voters, not just a narrow, passionate base. To do this, they must earn second or third rankings from their opponents’ supporters and avoid toxic mudslinging which would alienate them.

In 2007, Sarasota voters approved a local ranked choice voting initiative, then called “instant runoff voting” with 77 percent voter support. Its implementation has been thwarted by our state government who may falsely believe ranked choice voting is a threat to their one-party rule. Not true, it elects the most popular candidates. If it’s a Right-leaning area it will elect Republicans. If it’s a Left-leaning area it will elect Democrats. We believe that when Florida voters learn about ranked choice voting and how it has been successfully implemented in other states and municipalities, they will encourage their legislators to allow it to be used in Florida.

Please go to rankmyvoteflorida.org and join Rank My Vote Florida in spreading the word about ranked choice voting in Florida to get our government aligned with the voter’s needs.

John Schuessler has lived in Sarasota since 2005. He recently retired from airport management and wants to help our government function better.
that women have lost - the women of Iran, and the women of the world.

The Bond, a short about the experience of giving birth while incarcerated, is also a gripping true life tale inspired by director Jahmil Eady’s own birth experience. Ms. Eady is also an associate producer on documentary projects for Oprah Winfrey Network.

Take the Ice follows behind the scenes with the founder and commissioner of the first professional women’s hockey league and the athletes competing to win its first championship. As the commissioner struggles to keep the league afloat, the players must come together in the wake of an on-ice accident that leaves their teammate paralyzed. “Take the Ice” is a moving look at elite athletes making strides for recognition and equality within their sport, and in the process, making history.

And #NoRegrets addresses abortion rights – across the nation and across generations. You won’t want to miss this one.

Through Women’s Eyes is an advocacy organization dedicated to women’s rights and gender equality. Learn more at throughwomenseyes.org. Festival proceeds support women’s rights and gender equality programs and the work of like-minded organizations.

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**2023 MLK Day Activities**

**Saturday, January 14, 2023**

**Community Health Care at Goodwill Manasota** Job Connection located at 1781 Dr. Martin Luther King Way in Sarasota, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prostate testing, blood pressure, etc.

**Sunday, January 15, 2023**

**Tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** at Temple Emanu-El, located at 151 McIntosh Road in Sarasota. The tribute starts at 2 p.m. and features music by the Soul Sensations. Program participants include Rev. Charles McKenzie and Lonnetta Gaines. A memorial service will also be held to remember the victims of the 2015 shooting at Emanuel African Methodist Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and the 2018 shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Register for this free event online at www.sarasotatemple.org. Donations are gratefully accepted. For additional information, contact Don Malawsky at 941-359-2890.

**Monday, January 16, 2023**

**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast and Community Awards**

This event will be held at the Robert L. Taylor Community Complex at 1845 34th Street in Sarasota. It will begin at 7:30 a.m. This year’s theme is “Truth, Light and Hope.” The keynote speaker is Rabbi Michael Shefrin, Associate Rabbi, Temple Emanu-EL. Tickets are $30 per person, an eight-person table is $240 and a ten-person table is $300. Seating is limited. All tickets must be purchased in advance; no tickets will be available at the door. To purchase tickets, contact Cynthia Howard at 941-724-4205 or visit the Eventbrite page at 2023mlksrqbreakfast.eventbrite.com.

Unity and Historical Walk to immediately follow the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast and Community Awards at 11 a.m. Transportation will be provided. The walk will travel to Booker High School, where activities will be in the courtyard. Next, the walk will leave Booker High School and travel to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park on Cocoanut Avenue in Sarasota for festivities.

**Saturday, January 21, 2023**

**Alpha Phi Alpha Foundation of Manasota, Inc.’s 20th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Benefit Dinner / Dance** at 7 p.m. inside the Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club, located at 7650 Legacy Blvd in Lakewood Ranch.