

# 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



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



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

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.

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 rights

*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



Kathleen Passidomo



Paul Renner

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:

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

*Continued on page 11*

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Nonprofit Spotlight: SAACC.....Page 2
- Students 4 Climate.....Page 3
- Gun Safety.....Page 4
- Programmer Spotlight.....Page 5
- WSLR Program Schedule.....Page 6
- Fogartyville Events.....Page 7
- Fogartyville Events.....Page 8
- Editorial: Health Care.....Page 9
- Editorial: Ziegler.....Page 10
- Editorial: RankedChoice Voting.....Page 11
- MLKActivities.....Page 12

### 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

### 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.

# 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 foot 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.

Once open, the Sarasota African American Cultural Center will host exhibitions, performances, workshops, film screenings, talks, and cultural arts programming. The Sarasota African American Coalition has been approved to receive matching donations through the Louis & Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust. The Flanzer Trust will provide a 1:1 match for donations between \$5 and \$500 from each household per month. For instance, if you give \$100, SAACC will receive a total of \$200. To learn more or to donate, visit [thesaacc.com](http://thesaacc.com).

### More on the Leonard Reid House

A frame vernacular residence, the Leonard Reid House was built in 1926 on Coconut Avenue in what was then Sarasota's Overtown neighborhood.

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.



Vickie Oldham, SAACC President and CEO

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>.)



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Robert Vodnoy, Music Director  
2023 Season

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Order tickets online. Available at box-office one hour before the concerts.

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Call: 219-928-8665



*Making Music Together*—Friday, January 13, 2023, 7:00 pm

Venice Performing Arts Center  
Side-by-Side concert with the Venice HS Orchestra  
Free Concert, sponsored by the MPTF

*Virtuoso Night*—Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 7:30 pm

St. Boniface Episcopal Church  
featuring Joseph Kingma, piano  
Tickets: \$35

*Celebration*—Thursday, March 23, 2023, 7:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church  
featuring Christina Adams, violin; Robert Smith, trumpet  
Ann Stephenson-Moe, piano  
Tickets: \$35

# Students Strike for Climate - Urge Conscious Shopping

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.”



Sarasota Students 4 Climate Rally for Change

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/>.

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# BRADY: Working for Gun Safety

BY CAROL RESCIGNO

Brady works across Congress, the courts and communities, uniting gun owners and non-gun owners alike to take action, not sides, and end America's gun violence epidemic. The local chapter, Brady Sarasota, has invited Patti Brigham, president of Prevent Gun Violence Florida, to



Patti Brigham

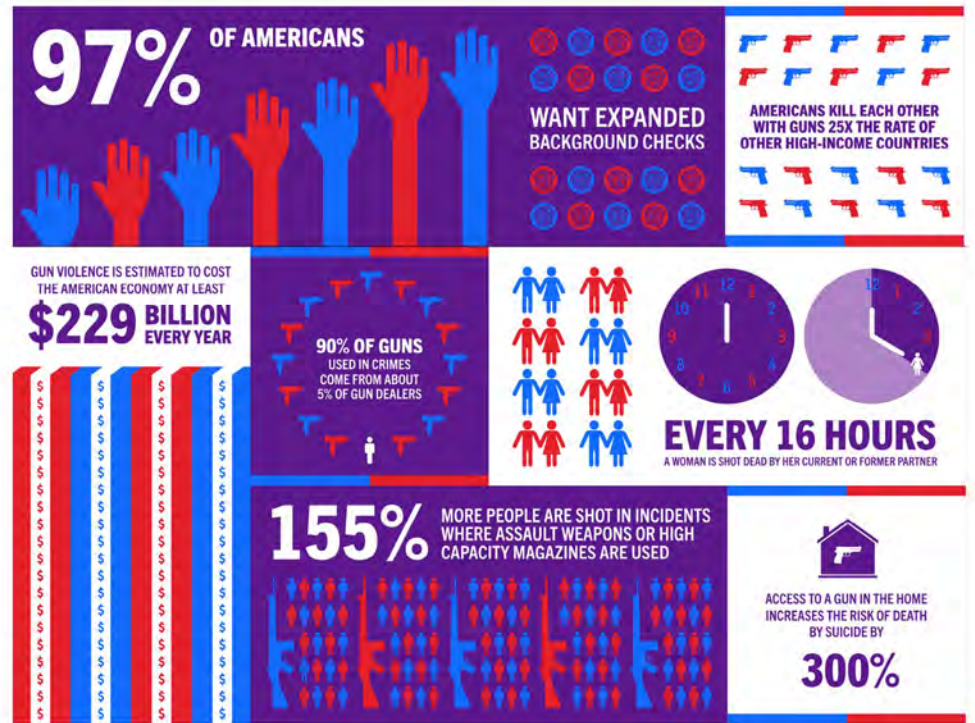
appearance will be at 2 pm in person at First Congregational UCC, 1031 S. Euclid Ave., Sarasota, in the Oasis Center. Anyone concerned about the rampant gun violence in our country is encouraged to attend. There is no fee. Contact [Sarasota@BradyUnited.org](mailto:Sarasota@BradyUnited.org) with any questions.

to speak on January 20 about the 2023 state legislative session and any bills that gun-safety proponents should be watching for. Of particular concern is the strong possibility of a permitless carry bill (often erroneously referred to as "constitutional carry"). Brigham's

In other news, Brady's Thursday rallies will resume in January from 4 to 5 pm on Thursdays at the southernmost tip of the Sarasota Bayfront parking lot along U.S. 41. All are encouraged to attend whenever possible and newcomers are especially welcome. Look for the yellow signs!

Brady Sarasota just held its 6th annual Vigil for Gun Violence Victims to remember those who died in all types of shootings: suicide, unintentional, domestic violence, hate crime-related, mass shootings, street shootings and more. The poignant, peaceful event was held at First Congregational UCC in Sarasota and featured dance, poetry, speakers and a lighting of candles. A choir from the church and Palmer Ranch singers provided special music.

The featured speaker, Kristin Song of Guilford, CT, appeared via Zoom and told the heart-wrenching story of her teenage son, Ethan, who died while handling an unsecured weapon at a friend's house. Kristin and her husband got a safe-storage law – Ethan's Law – passed in their home state and are working to get it passed in Congress.



Graphic from <https://www.bradyunited.org>

# 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, 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... plainly 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

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."

**BECAUSE IT'S THE LAW AND BECAUSE YOU CARE.**

**Respect our community. No loud car stereos.**

**FL Statute 316.3045**  
"It is unlawful... to amplify sound... plainly audible at a distance of 25 feet or more from the motor vehicle..."

POLICE SARASOTA FLA. NAACP

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

*“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, to her surprise, was her late father, Louis Armstrong. That coincidence changed the tone 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.

Radio RESET came first, for which Preston-Folta 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



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

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.



Julie Morris and Jono Miller

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 arts 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 **Jono 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.



Kathleen Murray

*The Bradenton Times* is a weekly podcast joining our radio broadcast schedule on **Sundays from 9-10am** with host **Mitch Maley**, Editor of the Bradenton Times news site. This Manatee County-focused news and public affairs show will be a great addition to keep listeners informed about our neighbors to the North with coverage of politics, culture and local business.



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 Jazz, Polynesian 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 Kurnick** will hit the schedule on **Fridays 9-11pm** 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 Luswepo in Mbala, Zambia, so kick back, relax and enjoy the tunes!

**Dave Radio** will be filling out our late nights on **Fridays 11pm -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 Wilkens** will meander seamlessly through cohesive musical landscapes and keep the beat bumping into the wee hours - harkening 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**.

## 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 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

	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	Dave Radio Dave Wilkens	In My Room Syndicated
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.							Music Automated playlist
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	
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)	Donne Del Mondo Syndicated	Keeping Democracy Alive Syndicated
7 a.m.							
8 a.m.	Blues to Bluegrass John D.	Corduroy Sebastien Wegeng	Indie Psych Show Alecia Harper	Eclectic Blender Dave Pedersen	Latin Explosion Juan Montenegro	Saturday Morning Gospel Beat Jonah Ray	Interfaith Voices Carol or Salima
9 a.m.			ALTERNATE WEEKS				
10 a.m.	ArtBeat Kathleen Murray	Art Works Seachange Radio	Our Changing Environment J. Miller & J. Morris	Healthy Living Hour Dr. Rebecca Acosta	Peace & Justice Report Tom Walker & Bob Connors	The Detail Cathy Antunes	Surreal News Lew Lorini & Steve Norris
11 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)	TownTalk TampaBay With Good Reason	Radio Reset Sharon Preston-Folta
NOON	Music of the World Marco Ciceron	Nuestra Musica Mariano	Afro Cuban Jazz Frankie Piniero	The Blue Groove Mark Gruder	Metropics Carlos Pagan	Complex Waveforms Mark Zampella	Juke In The Back Syndicated
1 p.m.							Critical Times (Rebroadcast) Mobilized News (Syndicated)
2 p.m.	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Thom Hartmann Show Syndicated	Attitude of Gratitude The GratiDude
3 p.m.	Positive Friction John Haupt	Second Wind Seany G	Rhythm Revival Rev. Billy C Wirtz	Outta the Basement, On the Road 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
4 p.m.				ALTERNATE WEEKS			The Scenario Syndicated
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.	Community Conversations Melanie Lavender
6 p.m.							Afro Sonic Taxi Syndicated
7 p.m.	Economic Update Richard Wolff	Ralph Nader Radio Syndicated	Ruthless Truth/Critical Times Shortwave Report (Syndicated)	Alternative Radio Syndicated	Critical Times Week in Review Counterspin (Syndicated)	Global Village Syndicated	Train To Skaville Syndicated
8 p.m.	Capitol Update State News						Discovery Road Louise Coogan
9 p.m.	Yesterday's Dead Today Mark Binder	The Root Cellar Roger & Peter	Acoustic Waves James Hawkins	The Old Folk & Americana Festival	Longboat Luau The Ho-dad	Velvet Radio Elissa Bello	Ripper's Rarities Russ Yodice
10 p.m.	First Voices Syndicated						New Radio
11 p.m.	Indigenous Nation Syndicated	Bullwinkle's Corner Keith Winkle	Random Precision Alex	Music Is The Best Mark Markus	The Kick-Back Jeff Kurnick	The In Between Jay Ackermann	Soul Kitchen Paul Junior
12 mid.	Down The Road Syndicated	Lumpytunes! The Head Lump, Rob Demperio	Music Automated playlist	All Mixed Up Syndicated	Dave Radio Dave Wilkens	In My Room Syndicated	Upfront Soul Syndicated

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# LIVE FROM Fogartyville

COMMUNITY MEDIA AND ARTS CENTER  
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(in the alley, Sally)

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.

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DIVISION OF ARTS & CULTURE



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

2PM 01/08/23 \$15

Will McLean Foundation Audible Art Series Presents:

## 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 VALDÉS

Rescheduled from 2022, following in the footsteps of his famed father Chucho Valdés and grandfather Bebo Valdés, 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

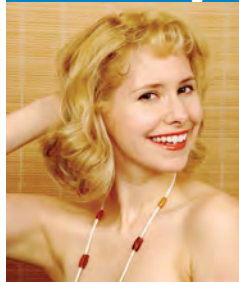
## POETS UNPLUGGED VOICES OF POWER: Cedric Hameed



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



## NELLIE MCKAY

"..funny and touching, ceaselessly clever and scarily talented."  
- The New Yorker

Nellie RETURNS TO FOGARTYVILLE!  
We can't wait to hear her original

biting humor and a highly accomplished musicianship; 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 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, Échale 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.



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



lyrical 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 MARGO

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 Zooley



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 Zooley** bring you an exotic blend of roots music from all corners of the globe, bringing a nostalgic atmosphere of timeless, soulful music with a contemporary twist.

8PM 01/28/23 - \$27/\$30



## STEVE FORBERT

An Icon in the Alt/Americana/Rock crossover, Forbert helped pioneer the genre's mix of folk, roots-rock, and 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 02/03/23 - \$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 02/04/23 - \$18/\$22



## MISS TESS

"...swings and swaggers, rooted in a retro groove that's equal parts blues, mid-century rock & roll and Booker T-worthy R&B." —Rolling Stone Country.

7PM 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  
Walt Hubbard - Drums



7PM 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, HoH puts on a show that captivates audiences from the very first note.



**2PM 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.

**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 fiddling on "Chicago Barn Dance."

**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.

**5PM 02/23/23 - \$5**

## Jazz & Theater: Keeping the Beat

with **Hermitage Fellows Stacey Rose and Fay Victor** Presented in Partnership with **Manasota ASALH**

Known for her improvisational prowess, jazz vocalist and spoken-word storyteller **Fay Victor** joins play-



wright **Stacey Rose's** biting wit and keen observation in this musical and theatrical experience. Rose is a provocative voice at the forefront of celebrating and exploring the Black experience. Victor is considered a pioneer in her field, with The New York Times describing her unique hybrid of spoken word and singing as the "scat style for today's avant-garde."

**8PM 02/24/23 - \$25/\$30**

## THE TANNAHILL WEAVERS



World's premier trad-Celtic band, their diverse repertoire spans the centuries with fire-driven instrumentals, topical

songs, original ballads and lullabies, and humorous tales of life in Scotland. "The music may be pure old time Celtic, but the drive and enthusiasm are akin to straight ahead rock and roll!" - Winnipeg Free Press

**7PM 01/26/23 - \$18/\$22**



## ABBIE GARDNER

and **Marc Douglas Berardo Gardner**, a fiery dobro player;

whether performing solo or with Americana darlings **Red Molly**, her acclaimed tales of love&loss, both gritty and sweet, are propelled by her impeccable slide guitar chops. Her live show is truly unique. An award-winning songwriter, captivating vocalist, and a world-class lap style dobro player, she has an unmistakable sound. Berardo has a clear lonesome, voice, with songs are set in seaside towns much like our Sarasota.

**7PM 03/02/23 - \$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.

**8PM 03/03/23 - \$20/\$22**



## 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 '11 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".

**4PM 03/05/23 - \$15/\$18**

## SARASOTA TRIO FESTIVAL

Featuring 4 local trios representing different genres of music.

**8PM 03/10/23 - \$12/\$15**



## Rat Crosby and the Rhythm Gators

Sophisticated blues, a hint of jazz, and hot guitar! Songs that celebrate the man she loves to songs from a woman's perspective of the world around her, Crosby's playlist is a combination of original music and storytelling and carefully chosen cover songs.

**8PM 03/21/23 - FREE**

**MAMA BEARS** Documentary- A thought-provoking exploration of the journeys taken by Sara Cunningham and Kimberly Shappley, two "mama bears"—whose profound love for their LGBTQ children has turned them into fierce advocates for the entire queer community — and **Tammi Terrell Morris**, a young African American lesbian whose struggle for self-acceptance perfectly exemplifies why the mama bears are so vitally important.

**8PM 03/24/23 - \$30/\$32**



## 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.

**7PM 03/26/23 - \$18/\$21**

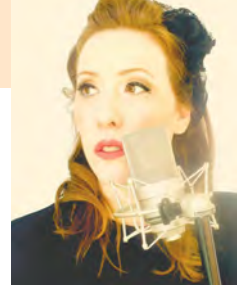
## THE WORLD FUSION ORCHESTRA

The ensemble features Guitarist Gustav Viehmeyer, 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 03/31/23 - \$12/\$15**

## REBEKAH PULLEY

Soul-steeped Americana sweetheart with a twist, Rebekah writes evocative songs that are punctuated by her seductive voice. Winner of many 'Best Of The Bay' songwriting awards.



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Is making Delicious Dinners & Desserts!

Libations beer, wine, coffee, are also available from our bar

Cash or credit!

**SING A NEW TUNE THIS NEW YEAR WHILE DONATING YOUR OLD CAR TO WSLR.**



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OR COMPLETE THE ONLINE DONATION FORM AT

**WWW.CAREASY.ORG** NONPROFIT: **WSLR.**



# Editorial: HealthCare - Everybody In, Nobody Out



Picture Courtesy of CALTHCA- California Life Time Health Care Act

**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](http://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!



## 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 disease. FREE mammograms available\*

*Farmer's market and food trucks.*

**PRESENTED BY:**

The Gulf Coast Medical Society, Multicultural Health Institute, SMH 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.

Appointments required. Call to schedule: Ages 40-49: (941) 262-7642 Ages 50-64: (941) 861-2676.

\*All other health screenings at event are available via walk-up.

# Editorial: Holding Ziegler Accountable

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. Poof! Gone. There was no record of these donations being changed in the "Other Distributions" or "Fund Transfers" sections of the state's online database. The donations simply were no longer there. What happened?

There are other noteworthy donations to FOBZ: \$7,000 from developer Pat Neal and \$2,000 from Dan Miller (School Board Member Karen Rose's husband). There is \$10,000 from a local gun shop, and another \$10,000 from Caroline Wetherington of Bradenton. School Development HC Finance, a firm which serves charter schools, donated \$2,500.



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).

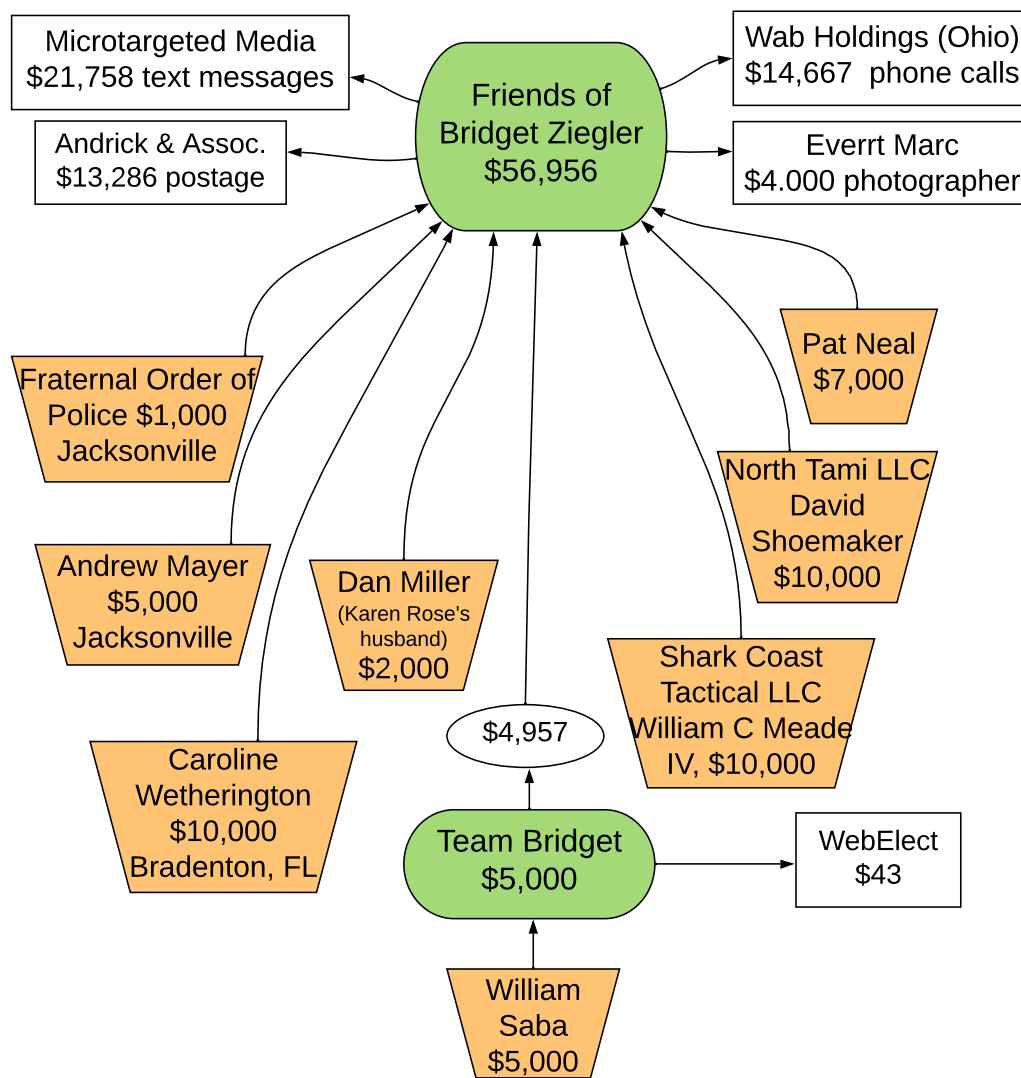
As for accepting a \$10,000 donation from a gun shop...given school shootings, and community, parental and student concern about gun safety, why would any school board member believe accepting a \$10,000 donation from a gun shop is a good idea?

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.

Friends of Bridget Ziegler  
May 2022 - Present



© The Detail, Cathy Antunes

Three other Florida political committees, including Florida Conservatives United, contributed a total of \$15,456.80.

## Campaign Contributions

Friends of Bridget Ziegler

About the Campaign Finance Data Base

Rpt Yr	Rpt Type	Date	Amount	Contributor Name	Address	City State Zip	Occupation	Typ InKind Desc
2022	P1	06/07/2022	10,000.00	NORTH TAMI LLC	2601 S TAMIAMI TRL	SARASOTA, FL 34239	ART CENTERS	CHE
2022	P2	06/30/2022	1,000.00	FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE JACK	5530 BEACH BLVD	JACKSONVILLE, FL 32207	PAC	CHE
2022	P2	06/30/2022	5,000.00	MAYER ANDREW	13795 SAWPIT RD	JACKSONVILLE, FL 32226	PRES CONSTRUCTION CO	CHE
2022	P2	06/30/2022	500.00	STOKES EUGENE	142 33RD AVE S	JACKSONVILLE BEACH, FL 32250	REAL ESTATE	CHE
2022	P2A	07/05/2022	4,956.80	TEAM BRIDGET	133 HARBOR DR S	VENICE, FL 34285	PAC	CHE
2022	P4	07/18/2022	10,000.00	WETHERINGTON CAROLINE	7904 MATERA CT	BRADENTON, FL 34202	REAL ESTATE	CHE
2022	P4	07/20/2022	5,000.00	SHARK COAST TACTICAL LLC	2819 BEE RIDGE RD STE A	SARASOTA, FL 34239	ARMORY STORE	CHE
2022	P4	07/22/2022	2,000.00	MILLER DAN	246 ISLAND CIR	SARASOTA, FL 34242	REAL ESTATE	CHE

38,456.80

8 Contribution(s) Selected

Query the Campaign Finance Data Base

[Department of State] [Division of Elections] [Candidates and Races] [Campaign Finance Information]



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.



Senate minority leader Lauren Book



House minority leader Fentrice Driskell

**American Veterans Fought For Your Right To Vote! Don't Lose It!**



*"The Right of Voting for representatives is the Primary Right by which other rights are protected."*

*To take away this right is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists in being subject to the will of another"*

*- Thomas Paine, Dissertation on First Principles of Government (1795)*

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[www.floridaveteransforcommonsense.org](http://www.floridaveteransforcommonsense.org)

Florida Veterans for Common Sense, Inc. is a non-partisan/non-profit 501(c)(4) corporation. Dues are 45.00 annually. Contact [FLVeterans@aol.com](mailto:FLVeterans@aol.com)

Leadership		Florida Legislative Structure	
<b>Senate President:</b>	Kathleen Passidomo (R)	Seats:	160 voting members: 40 Senators 120 Representatives
<b>House Speaker:</b>	Paul Renner (R)	State Senate Makeup:	Republican (28) Democratic (12)
<b>Majority Leader:</b>	Senate: Ben Albritton (R) House: Michael Grant (R)	State House Makeup:	Republican (84) Democratic (35)
<b>Minority Leader:</b>	Senate: Lauren Book (D) House: Fentrice Driskell (D)		

## Editorial: Say Yes to Ranked Choice Voting

BY JOHN SCHÜSSLER

The way we elect our leaders is deeply flawed, giving us scorched-earth politics and gridlocked government. Congressional and state legislatures 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 favorite is your first choice, your next preference your second choice, 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 [rankmyvote florida.org](http://rankmyvote florida.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 Schussler has lived in Sarasota since 2005. He recently retired from airport management and wants to help our government function better.*

# Women's Film Fest

continued from pg. 1

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](http://throughwomenseyes.org). Festival proceeds support women's rights and gender equality programs and the work of like-minded organizations.

## 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](http://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**

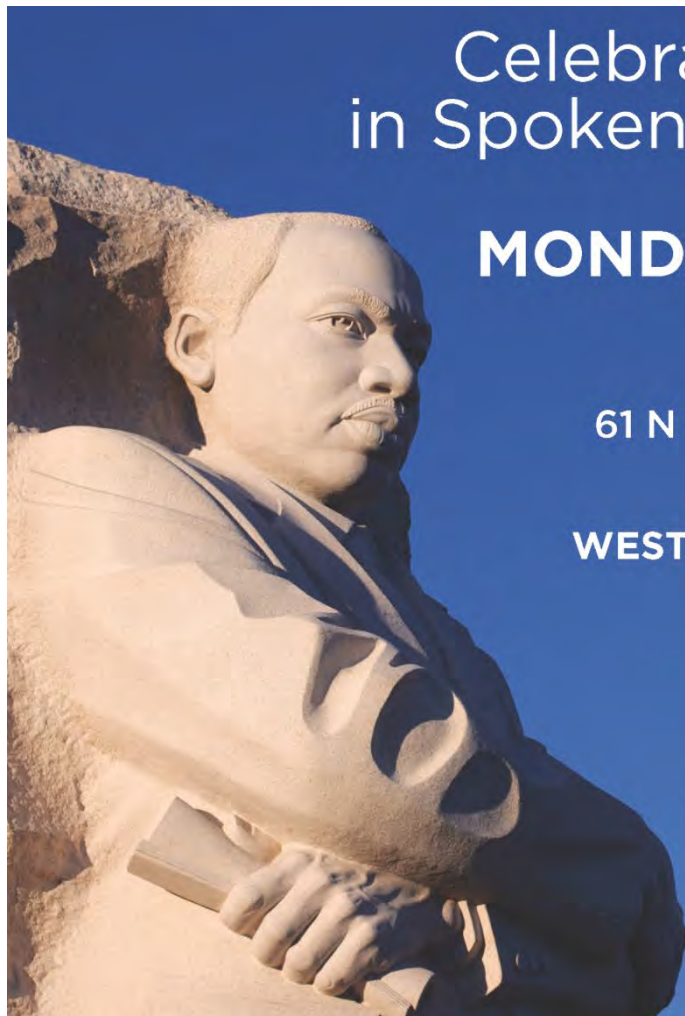
This event will be held at the Robert L. Taylor Community Complex at 1845 34th Street in Sarasota. It will begin at 7:30 a.m. This year's theme is "Truth, Light and Hope." The keynote speaker is Rabbi Michael Shefrin, Associate Rabbi, Temple Emanu-EL. Tickets are \$30 per person, an eight-person table 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](http://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.



**Celebrating His Legacy  
in Spoken Word and Song**

**MONDAY, JAN. 16, 2023  
7:30 PM**

**SARASOTA OPERA HOUSE  
61 N PINEAPPLE AVE, SARASOTA**

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT  
WESTCOASTBLACKTHEATRE.ORG**

WBTT presents their annual performance honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in spoken word and song, arranged and directed by Nate Jacobs. Reverend Charles McKenzie will once again return to lend his voice to Dr. King's words, and WBTT professional performers and Stage of Discovery students will fill the Sarasota Opera House with uplifting music and dance for the first in-person annual celebration since 2020.

# BOOKERFEST

A BOOKER NATION CELEBRATION!

Emma E. Booker Elementary School • Booker Middle School • Booker High School

**MUSIC PERFORMANCES**

**DANCE SHOWS**

**ART EXHIBITIONS**

**LIVE POETRY**

**FILM SCREENING**

**IMPROV COMEDY**

**MUSICAL THEATRE**

**FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

**PRINCIPAL PANEL**

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**MORE SURPRISES ON THE WAY!**

**Food trucks on site with several food options for sale**

Saturday, February 4, 2023 • 4:00-8:00 PM • Booker Middle School: 2250 Myrtle St., Sarasota • [bookerfest.com](http://bookerfest.com)



FREE  
ADMISSION