



**REPUBLICAN PARTY**  
OF SARASOTA COUNTY



Newsletter  
August 21, 2024

## Chairman's Message

# Primary Day



First off, it is worth saying that everyone who throws their hat in the ring

to run for public office should be congratulated. It requires courage, because for every winner, there is at least one loser. That's not easy and it is known going in.

With that, congratulations to the Republican winners in Tuesday's Primary:

- U.S. Senator Rick Scott
- State Representative James Buchanan
- County Commissioner Theresa Mast
- County Commissioner Tom Knight
- Tax Collector Mike Moran
- Charter Review Board Tom DeSane
- Charter Review Board Greg "Tex" Bukowski
- Charter Review Board Nick Altier
- Hospital Board Sharon Wetzler DePeters
- Hospital Board Kevin Cooper
- Hospital Board Pam Beitlich
- Hospital Board Sarah Lodge
- North Port Commissioner Barbara Langdon
- State Committeeman Joe Neunder
- State Committeewoman Rachel Frank

And a huge thank you to all our polling volunteers during Early Voting and on Election Day. Enduring the August heat through the day is a tremendous sacrifice and we could never have the successes we have without all of you!

We'll be gearing up for the General Election in November quickly, but in the meantime, everyone get's a well-deserved rest.

**Jack Brill**

**Chairman**

**Republican Party of Sarasota County**

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## How to Get Involved electing Republicans

During election years, the base of volunteers increases as we step up voter registration, voter education, get-out-the-vote campaigns, door-knocking, phone-banking and

foundational support of our Republican candidates.

There are many ways to get involved in this year's elections. If you would like to volunteer, click [HERE](#) and find the area where you might best fit in.

For RNC election integrity Poll Watcher training in Florida, click here: <https://protectthevote.com/florida/>

If you would like to donate to help fund all of this work to keep Sarasota County red, you can do so [HERE](#).

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, you can sign up for it at [sarasotagop.com](https://sarasotagop.com) on the right side of the page.

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## *Next REC Meeting*

**September 12 | 7 PM**

**South Venice Civic Association  
720 Alligator Dr. Venice FL 34293**

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### REMINDER:

#### Excused absences need to be ahead of REC meetings

*So that we can keep an accurate account of REC membership, please direct all absence requests to **recabsence@gmail.com**. This will keep the list up to date to make sure everything is in right order according to our rules and bylaws. Remember that three unexcused absences results in being removed from the REC, and the cutoff time to request an excused absence is 8 hours prior to the meeting start time.*

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### Vote By Mail

Florida law now requires new mail-in ballot request each cycle.

Mail-in voting is the law and we cannot cede this ground to the Democrats. So a few things to remember:

- Sarasota County Republicans frequently beat Democrats in mail-in voting, along with early voting and day of voting, in past election cycles.
- Since that time, the Florida Legislature and Governor DeSantis have further tightened our election laws every session.

- Requesting a mail-in ballots simply gives you the option to vote by mail. You can still vote in person until and including election day by dropping off your ballot. But if a hurricane hits, and it nearly did in 2022, then a mail-in ballot allows you do to that ahead of the hurricane. There is no downside to requesting one.

Requesting a vote by mail ballot gives you all of the options for your voice to be heard at the polls. Just point your smartphone camera at the QR code below to go straight to the Supervisor's site or click this link:

<https://www.sarasotavotes.gov/Voter-Information/Vote-by-Mail>



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## Why Florida is Flourishing

There is a reason that Florida is the fastest growing, most successful state in the nation, why we have more in-migration from other states than any other state in the union.

Florida has low taxes, low regulations and a financial surplus that is the envy of other states. We don't talk fiscal responsibility, we act on it.

But we also have demonstrated openly for the nation and world to see that we will protect our children from being overtly sexualized. We value **freedom**, the dignity of the individual, parental rights, economic opportunities for everyone and a hope-for-American attitude.

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## Purpose of the Republican Party of Sarasota County

ARTICLE II: Objectives. General purposes of this organization as a "political party" are to achieve the following objectives and aims:

- (a) Election to office of qualified Republican persons;
- (b) Foster loyalty to the Republican Party;
- (c) Promote an informed electorate through political education;
- (d) Increase Republican Registration;
- (e) Seek qualified Republicans to become candidates for local, county, state and federal offices;
- (f) Promote the election of all Republican candidates in the General Election;
- (g) In general to uphold the principles of freedom, equality and justice on which the Republican Party and the government of this nation is founded, as set forth in the Constitution of the United States and the state of Florida.

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**Club Presidents!** Please email your speakers, dates and locations to Rod Thomson at [rod@thomsonpr.com](mailto:rod@thomsonpr.com) if you want them updated on this list. Thank you!

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## Sarasota Republican Club

**TBD**

Sept. 19 | 6:00 PM  
Social | 6:30 PM  
Dinner & Speaker

Marina Jacks, 2  
Marina Plaza

President: Greg "Tex"  
Bukowski

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## Republican Club of North Port

**NP City Manager  
Jerome Fletcher**

August 26 | 6 PM

Hampton Inn  
5664 Tuscola Blvd,  
North Port, FL, 34287

President: Mark  
Frandsen

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## NOVA Republican Club

**Rep. James  
Buchanan**

August 21 | 6:30 PM

Venice Community  
Center, 326 Nokomis  
Ave. S, Venice, FL  
34285

President: Michael  
Sollitto

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## West Villages Republican Club

**TBD**

| 5:30 PM |

Grand Paradiso  
20125 Galleria Blvd,  
North Port

President John Coughlin

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## Republican Women's Club of Sarasota

**Senator Rick Scott**

Sept. 6 | 11:30-1:00 PM |  
Michaels on East

1212 S. East Ave.,  
Sarasota, FL 34239

President: Linda Ivell

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## Republican Club of South Sarasota County

**TBD**

Sept. 10 | 11:30 AM

Venice United Church of Christ,  
620 Shamrock Blvd, Venice

President: Donna Carter

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

## Gulf Coast Republican Women Federated

**Mary Ann Pistelli,  
Florida Director of  
TrumpForce 47**

## East County Republican Club

**Meets 3rd  
Monday of the  
month**

6:30-8:00 PM |  
Superior Word

## Republican Club of Longboat Key

**TBD**

Bay Isles Beach Club, 2111 Gulf of  
Mexico Drive, Longboat Key

President: Garnett

August 21 | 6 PM |

Fellowship

Black

Gold Coast Eagle  
Distributing, 7051  
Wireless Ct, Sarasota,  
FL 34240

6512 Superior Ave,  
Sarasota, FL 34231

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

President: Vic Rohe

[RSVP required.](#)

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

President: Maryellin  
Kirkwood

[EMAIL](#)

## Village Walk Republicans

## Republican Liberty Caucus

## Sarasota County Young Republicans

### Multiple Candidates

### Meets 2nd Monday of the month

### TBD

August 12 | 7 PM

| 6-8 PM

| 6:30 PM

Barbados Ballroom  
Village Walk of  
Sarasota Palmer Ranch

Venice Police Department  
1575 E Venice Ave, Venice

Treehouse Room  
Raffurty's Bar &  
Grill 1888 Main St.,  
Sarasota

President, Barbara Freeborn  
248-797-9046

President Alexandra Coe

President: Cullen  
Morgan

Future meetings:  
August 12 - Multiple Candidates

[EMAIL](#)

[WEBSITE](#) | [EMAIL](#)

[EMAIL](#)

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## Republican Party of Sarasota County

5971 Cattlemen Lane | Sarasota, FL 34232 | 941.777.4467

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Republican Party of Sarasota County | PO Box 15333 | Sarasota, FL 34277 US

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