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Manatee Matters **NEWSLETTER**

ManateeCountyDemocrats.com

FROM THE MANATEE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

July 2024

Candidate Virtual Town Hall



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Volunteers Needed to Ensure Election Integrity

Volunteers are needed to ensure a strong Democratic presence in the coming election cycle. Now is the time to step up and volunteer to fight for democracy and integrity in our local government.

You can volunteer to register voters, ensure voting protection, help with neighborhood outreach, plan events or lend a hand behind the scenes. Here are some opportunities:

Canvassing Kickoff

Help Manatee residents in the voting process by giving them the information they are entitled to. Canvassing involves leaving information about candidates and election issues at residents' homes. Friendly Democrats will help prepare you for success. You may knock on doors at your convenience and/or be paired with an experienced volunteer.

The Canvassing Kickoff is July 20, 10 to 11:30 a.m., at the Manatee County Democratic office, 435 Cortez Rd W, Bradenton.



Call Dems, Get out the Vote in 2024

Florida's state legislature passed a law in 2022 (SB-90) that canceled all Vote-By-Mail (VBM) requests. Voters must re-enroll in the VBM program in order to receive their ballots in the mail. Making just a few phone calls a day to registered Democrats gives voters a human voice that lets them know they must renew their VBM status.

Barb Stubbers, veteran phone caller at Democratic Headquarters said, "I'm a believer phone calling works. People I've talked to do not need a lot of convincing. But they need to know."

After the passage of SB 90, former Manatee County Supervisor of Elections Mike Bennett said, "Anytime you make it more difficult and you change the rules in the middle of the [voting] game, you discourage people from voting."



Write Postcards and Donate Postage

Sending a personalized postcard to voters encourages them to show up and vote, whether by mail, early ballot drop-off or in-person. You can hand-address and add a personal note on Manatee Dem postcards with Vote-By-Mail information. Mail your cards with postage that you donate.

Postcards and address lists need to be picked up at the Manatee Dem office. Contact the office at 941-301-4336, or info@manateecountydemocrats.com.



Primary Election Poll Greeter

Greeters play a crucial role in bringing Democrats into office. Because voters arrive at the polls with little information about Democratic candidates, greeters provide a trusted source of candidate information. They staff an outdoor table, greet voters and offer information to help voters make informed decisions.

Various locations are available for the Aug. 20 primary and early voting, Aug. 10 to 17. No formal training is required.



Primary Election Poll Watcher

The poll watcher is a credentialed silent observer inside the polling place. The watcher looks for any violations of election laws and reports a violation to the clerk of the polling site and the state Democratic Party. This position requires some training.



Ballot Curer

Ballots are rejected often because of relatively minor voter errors. That is why curers are key in ensuring ballots are corrected and counted. The curer makes phone calls to voters whose ballots were either returned as "undeliverable" or rejected by the Supervisor of Elections. This position requires training.

Visit our Website

Get involved! If you are a new resident of Manatee County or unsure of which role would best suit you, contact the Manatee County Democratic Party for assistance. Contact the office at 941-301-4336, or info@manateecountydemocrats.com.

General Sign Up

By Diana Hines

Jones Seeks Second Term on Palmetto Commission

Sheldon Jones is looking forward to another term as Palmetto City Commissioner At-Large 1. As the incumbent, he is facing one challenger in the race.

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LGBTQ+ Caucus Hosts Democratic

Candidate and Amendment 4 Advocate

Two speakers, a Democratic candidate for Congress and an Amendment 4 advocate, will be featured at the regular monthly meeting of the Manatee LGBTQ+ Democratic Caucus on Wednesday, July 17, 6 p.m., at Manatee Democratic Headquarters, 435 Cortez Road W, Bradenton.



Black Caucus Hosts VBM Phone Call Initiative

The **Manatee County Democratic Black Caucus** is organizing a Vote-By-Mail (VBM) phone bank campaign. The phone calling initiative will need volunteers to contact African Americans in Manatee County who have not signed up for the VBM program.

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Reproductive Rights, Education Top Issues for Democratic Candidates

More than 20 people listened to a June 27 presentation featuring Democratic candidates for Florida's House of Representatives. It was the first of several candidate forums hosted by the **Manatee County Democratic Black Caucus**.

Learn More



The Manatee County Democratic Party is a **100% volunteer organization**. All contributions of any size are appreciated.





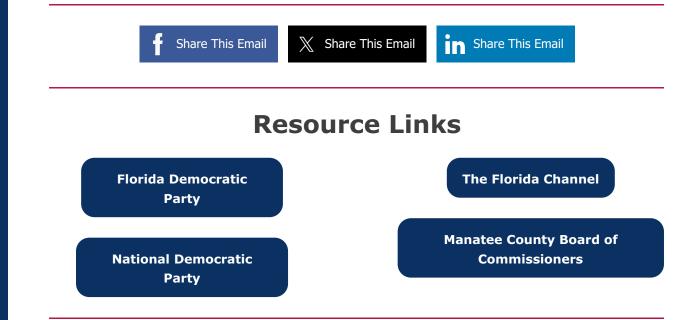
Get involved! Check out the many area Democratic clubs and caucuses. Meet like-minded people at fun events!





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Headquarters Office

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Hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, Noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays Noon to 2 p.m. Saturdays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Contact us to schedule a meeting

> Visit our Website

Manatee County Democratic Party | 435 Cortez Road W | Bradenton, FL 34207 US

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