



Manatee County
Democratic Party

Manatee Matters

November 1, 2022 Newsletter

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Newsletters

One Week to Go! Join the Final Push for Votes

By Wil Clapper – There's only a week left until Election Day, and Dems are everywhere in Manatee County engaged in that all-important final push to get Democrats elected to office. As candidates strive for last-minute votes, volunteers are letting residents know Democrats are a force in Manatee County.

TAKE ACTION

What you can do now
Election 2022

Here are some of the activities and events in this the final week of the 2022 Election campaign.

Drop & Go Lit Drop: Saturday, November 5, 9:30 a.m., at Manatee County Democratic Party (MCDP) headquarters, 435 Cortez Road West, Bradenton. Join incumbent Manatee County District 2 Commissioner Reggie Bellamy, his staff and volunteers for lit drops and canvassing neighborhoods in District 2. Pick up a list of Democrats and nonaffiliated voters who have not yet voted. Help elect Democrats to the county commission and school board. For more information, contact Bob McCaa at McCaa_Robert@hotmail.com.

Sign and Wave Palmetto: Tuesday, November 1, and Tuesday, November 8, Election Day, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., at the north end of the Green Bridge on U.S. 41 near the seahorse statue. A tailgate party is planned after the Election Day Palmetto Sign and Wave. Contact Maggie Ozner at 941-357-6510 or at mozner1214@gmail.com for more information. Sign up for Palmetto Sign and Wave [HERE](#). Sign up for the tailgate party [HERE](#).

Sign and Wave Lakewood Ranch: Thursday, November 3, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., at the corner of State Road 64 and Lakewood Ranch Boulevard. Sign up [HERE](#) or contact Maureen Dardinski at sparechang1@gmail.com.

Bradenton: Saturday, November 5, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., at the corner of 43rd Street West and Manatee Avenue, Bradenton. Contact Maureen Dardinski at sparechang1@gmail.com for more information. Sign up for Bradenton Sign and Wave [HERE](#).

Phone Banking: Call Democrats with voting information from your home or the MCDP headquarters. Instructions and training sessions are available. Sign up for final week phone banking [HERE](#).

Early Voting Poll Greeters: Show our Democratic presence at Early Voting sites throughout Manatee County. Staff information tables, answer questions and provide ballot recommendations and voter assistance. Training provided by Manatee Dems.
Sign up for Lakewood Ranch [HERE](#).
Sign up for Manatee County Utilities building [HERE](#).
Sign up for Palmetto Library [HERE](#).
Sign up for Supervisor of Elections office [HERE](#).

Commissioner Bellamy to Speak at Democratic Club Luncheon November 3



Manatee County Commissioner Reggie Bellamy is scheduled to speak to the Manatee Democratic Club (MDC) at its luncheon on November 3.

Bellamy is running to retain his commission seat representing District 2 in the November 8 General Election. First elected in 2018, he is the only Democrat on the ballot running for commissioner.

At the luncheon, Bellamy will discuss the workings of Manatee County government and the future of the county.

The program begins at 11:30 a.m. at Peridia Golf & Country Club, 4950 Peridia Blvd. E. in Bradenton. The cost is \$15 payable at the door in cash or check made out to MDC.

Register for the event by sending an email to pauldain73@gmail.com.

Early Voting? Now Is the Time. Every Vote Counts!

By Donna Hartman – It's down to the wire for early voting in Manatee County with only six days left to cast your ballot early in the November 8 General Election.

You can vote in person at **any** of the county's five early voting locations regardless of your designated polling place. Just be sure to bring a valid current photo and signature ID.

You can also drop off your mail ballot at **any** early voting site. You **cannot** drop off your mail-in ballot at your precinct polling place on Election Day. On Election Day, drop off ballots are only accepted at the Supervisor of Elections office, 600 301 Boulevard West, Suite 108, Bradenton.

Registered voters can take advantage of early voting through Sunday, November 6, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The dates include weekends to give people with work obligations or other responsibilities the chance to vote at their convenience.

Early voting locations, addresses, directions and wait times can be found [HERE](#) on the Supervisor of Elections website. More voter information is available by visiting the [Manatee County Democratic Party](#) website.

Volunteers from the Manatee County Democratic Party are staffing greeter tables at all early voting locations to answer questions and provide information about candidates and ballots. For more information, visit the [Manatee Dems' website](#).

If you plan to mail back your ballot it must **be received** by the Supervisor of Elections office no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, **November 8**.

On Election Day, you must vote at the polling place where you are registered. Many polling places have changed since the last election. To check your precinct polling place, contact the Supervisor of Elections, 941-741-3823 or go to VoteManatee.gov





Poll Greeters at the Palmetto Library Early Voting site.



Helpful information is available from Poll Greeters. You can vote at ANY of the five Early Voting locations, now through Nov. 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Candidate for District 2 School Board, Harold Byrd, visits an Early Voting site.

Help Take Voters to the Polls on November 6

**YOUR
VOICE, YOUR
VOTE!**



MCDDBC
Manatee County Democratic Black Caucus

SOULS
to the
POLLS

FREE RIDES TO THE POLLS

MANATEE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Leaving from
St. Paul MB Church
525 MLK Avenue East, Bradenton, FL
PALMETTO LIBRARY

Leaving from
First Community COGIC
1107 29th Street East, Palmetto, FL

**BE SURE TO STOP BY
AND ENJOY**

**HOT FISH
& GRITS**



SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 6TH

1:30P-6:30P

FOR DETAILS OR RIDES, CALL:
(941) 281-4441

www.manateedemblackcaucus.org

Help the Manatee County Democratic Black Caucus (MCDDBC) get voters to the polls on the last day of Early Voting, Sunday, November 6. These efforts will take place from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

In this traditional Souls to the Polls effort you'll drive registered voters to the Supervisor of Elections Office at 600 301 Boulevard West in Bradenton to cast their ballots. Depart from either of these two locations: 1) St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 525 Martin Luther King Avenue East in Bradenton, 2) First Community Church of God in Christ (COGIC), 1107 29th Street East, Palmetto.

Please contact MCDDBC President Michelle Grimsley at 941-281-4441 for more details and to volunteer.

Phone Bankers Needed to Help Save Votes!

Volunteer phone bankers are needed to call voters to assist in "curing" their ballots.

Ballot curing is a process of assuring that votes will not be lost

Phone Banking



because of errors when voters filled out their ballot. Ballot curers check signatures that don't match official records and track down ballots that were returned as undeliverable.

Most voters are happy to have their ballots cured.

To volunteer for this important service, please contact Phyllis at upcc.manateedems@gmail.com.

Act now! Help the Manatee Dems save these critical Vote-By-Mail votes for the November 8 General Election!

Events Roundup

Nov. 9 – Manatee Democratic Progressives Meeting

The **Manatee Democratic Progressive Caucus** meets at 6:30 p.m. November 9 via conference call.

This is a reschedule of the October 12 meeting, which was postponed since so many caucus members and affiliates were working on Hurricane Ian recovery efforts.

The agenda includes updates on affordable housing, the status of the Manasota Attainable Housing Coalition's construction sites, www.ArtsForHousing.org, and plans for carpools to the Miami Book Fair November 11 to 13. There will also be an open forum on political action and ideas after the November 8 General Election.

The caucus is committed to diversity and inclusion, social and economic justice, affordable housing, people helping people, and other progressive causes.

For information on joining the meeting via conference call, please email caucus president Steve Ryan at vrain64@gmail.com. The caucus general meetings are the second Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m.



Nov. 10 – Oyster Restoration the Topic at Environmental Caucus

The **Manatee Democratic Environmental Caucus** will feature Manatee River oyster restoration activity at its Thursday, November 10, 7 p.m., Zoom meeting.

Damon Moore, Restoration Ecologist with Environmental Science Associates, will address an upcoming large-scale oyster restoration project in the Manatee River and put local ecological issues in a historical context. For more information and to receive a link to the meeting, contact eco.manateedems@gmail.com.

As a habitat restoration practitioner with 20 years of experience developing and implementing habitat restoration projects in the region, Moore was involved with high profile habitat improvement projects during his 10 years of service in the Manatee County Parks and Natural Resources Department.

He is a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner through the Society for Ecological Restoration. He currently serves as President of the Manatee Fish and Game Association and is active with the Florida Native Plant Society.



Nov. 14 – Legislative Preview at AMI/WM Club Meeting

Nancy Hughes, Manatee County Democratic Party Legislative Action chair, will be the guest speaker at the **Anna Maria Island and West Manatee Democratic Club**, Monday, November 14,



12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.

The meeting, at the Island Branch Library in Holmes Beach, will feature a look-ahead at the legislative session and the preliminary activity that is expected to shape the session.

Lunch is on your own before or after the meeting. Contact Barbara Beckwith at bbeckwith02@gmail.com. If you are not an AMI/WM member, sign up [HERE](#).

Nov. 15 – Lakewood Ranch Democrats to Host Political Editor

Zac Anderson, political editor of the Sarasota Herald-Tribune, is the featured speaker at the **Lakewood Ranch Democratic Club** meeting, Tuesday, November 15, at 7 p.m.



Anderson will lead a post-election discussion. A robust Q & A will follow.

Register for the Zoom meeting [HERE](#).

Nov. 21 – Orenstein to Speak at Public Ed Caucus Meeting



All supporters of public education are urged to attend a Zoom meeting of the **Democratic Public Education Caucus of Manasota** Monday, November 21, 7:30 p.m.

The featured speaker will be Jeff Orenstein, author of *Saving American Democracy*. [SIGN UP TO GET YOUR ZOOM LINK](#).

Democratic Public Education Caucus of Manasota meetings are the third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Public education is under attack in Sarasota and Manatee counties and around the nation. As Democrats it is important to have a local caucus that focuses on educational issues.



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

[Click for Events List](#)



The Manatee County Democratic Party is a 100% **volunteer organization**. All contributions of any size are appreciated; \$22/month goes a long way to help elect Democrats in the 2022 elections.

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