



Manatee Matters

November 2021 Newsletter

*Check our website for event updates, current issues,
how to get involved and how to donate.*

**Visit our
website**

Support Our Teachers and Kids Vote YES in the Nov. 2 Special Election



Voting is both a right and a privilege. It is the one action that a citizen can make to ensure the health and well-being of our democracy. In short, voting is what makes us Americans.

You have an opportunity on Nov. 2 to have your voice heard and your vote counted when Manatee County residents consider a referendum to renew a one-mill adjustment to their property taxes for the sole purpose of improving the public school system.

For more information click [here](#).

Visit the [Supervisor of Elections website](#) to find your polling place.

Walk Neighborhoods for Manatee Teachers and Kids

If you care about the future of our children and grandchildren it's time to step up and step out in your neighborhood to inform citizens that a YES vote in the upcoming referendum is vital to ensure quality education in Manatee County schools. The Manatee County Democrats are sponsoring neighborhood canvassing events October 29 and 30, from 3 to 6 p.m.

**An informed
voter is a
powerful voter.**

Read about the millage renewal referendum [here](#).

Sign up for canvassing [here](#).

Democrats Making a Difference on Election Day

Democrats are making a difference in Manatee County by setting up tables outside selected polling locations on Election Day, Nov. 2. Volunteers plan to spread the message that Democrats are present, active and engaged in the community.



Volunteers are needed to put in two-hour shifts at certain polling places. [Sign up here.](#)

Democrats Stand for Quality Education

Investing in the education of our children is an American tradition and a community-wide responsibility. An educated community is the bedrock of any democratic form of government. That is why citizens in all corners of America, including Manatee County, unconditionally support quality education in public schools.



The Manatee County Democrats support the Nov. 2 referendum that would renew a one-mil levy on our properties because it's vitally important to maintain a high level of education for our children. The extra money for the schools allows the district to attract and retain qualified teachers and staff. Manatee public schools are ranked higher now than before the one-mill levy was established in 2018. Every person who cares about the future of Manatee County wants to see that continue.

Read about the millage renewal referendum [here.](#)

County Commissioners Begin Redistricting Work



The Board of County Commissioners earlier this month began the once-in-a-decade exercise of redrawing their district boundaries to conform to shifts in the population based on the latest federal Census Report. The entire county saw an increase in population; some areas of Manatee County grew larger than others.

The redrawing of district lines is required by statute and affects five commissioners who represent specific districts. Two other commissioners hold at-large positions on the seven-member board.

Since the 2010 Census, District 5 (east county including Lakewood Ranch and Tara) and District 1 (north county including Ellenton and Parrish) have seen the greatest population growth. The redrawn boundaries must create districts with relatively the same number of residents but not discriminate against minority populations.

The Commissioners have a special meeting scheduled Nov. 9 and work sessions proposed for Dec. 7 and 15 where they may take up redistricting and possibly open up for public comment. Agendas for these meetings, and any other meetings the commissioners schedule, can be found on the Manatee County Commissioners' [website.](#)

Full story and Manatee County Democratic Party statement [here.](#)

Manatee Dems Gala Set for April

April 2022 is coming faster than you think. Make sure our Gala Spectacular is on your calendar, April 24. The Gala team will be juggling a lot of fun things to get ready. Reach out to [Lucy Lapides](#) or [Robin Sathan](#) to join the team!



Hundreds Demonstrate for Women's Rights



A number of Manatee County Democrats participated in the March to Defend Reproductive Rights in downtown Bradenton on October 2. An estimated 1,000 demonstrators walked a mile from Rossi Park, along the Bradenton Riverwalk to the historic Manatee County Courthouse. The marchers carried signs and chanted their support of women making their own reproductive health choices.

Full story and more photos [here](#).



Manatee Dems Show Support



Demonstrators Gather at Rossi Park



Handmaids Lead the March



Hundreds of Marchers Fill the Bradenton Riverwalk



Demonstrators on 10th Street Head for Historic Manatee County Courthouse



Former FL Gov Charlie Crist Urges Marchers to Vote for Democrats.

Stay Informed with Monthly Broadcasts

Community Conversations Program a Reality

Introducing our newest program, Manatee Democrats' Community Conversations. The plan is to start a series of monthly broadcasts featuring our Chair, Tracy Pratt, and a variety of interesting special guests talking about what's most important to Manatee Democrats and our broader community. You can be a broadcast sponsor for \$200! For more information

on being a special guest or sponsor contact [Tracy Pratt](#) or [Robin Sathan](#).



Broadcast Space Available at Democratic HQ

We're in the process of setting up a professional broadcast-ready space at our headquarters. This space will be great for streaming programs and recording videos. In addition to broadcasting our new Community Conversations programs, the space can be used by candidates, clubs and caucuses. To get the right equipment we need \$1,500. Please help us reach our goal by donating today! We accept donations of all amounts via ActBlue, PayPal and check. Click [here](#) to donate.

Holiday Gifts at NDP Shop



Surprise your friends and family this holiday season with fun, unique Democratic-themed gifts, available for purchase on the National Democratic Party [website](#). T-shirts, socks, keychains, pens, masks, coffee mugs, and much, much more! To order one of the items shown, just click on the picture.



How to Get Involved



Meet like-minded people



The Manatee County Democratic Party is a 100% volunteer

at fun events!

[Click for Events
List](#)

organization. All contributions of any size are appreciated; \$22/month goes a long way to help elect Democrats in the 2022 elections.

[Donate Now](#)

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[Contact
Us](#)