To unsubscribe, send email to newsletter@americafirstswflc.org and type UNSUBSCRIBE on subject line!

The Patriot

NOTE: Best if viewed using a web browser such as Firefox, Edge, Brave or Chrome.

Edition 003
March. 2024

FROM THE DESK OF AFSWFLC

PRESIDENT JAMES HOEL

Members,

I would first like to welcome all the new members who joined in the month of February. It was very encouraging to see all of the new smiling faces at our membership meeting. We are excited about the direction of our club and are happy that you have found a home with us. I would also encourage new members to attend our new member engagement meeting if you have not already. It is a great way to learn how the Republican Party of Florida is structured and also to learn about our many committees, that give you, the member opportunity to be even more active in the club. Whether you joined for the great association at our meetings or to become more active in our community, America First SWFL Caucus is happy to have you in our ranks. As we move into 2024, I have been thinking about where we started as a Nation, where we find ourselves now, and the path along the way. It really is a mixed bag of pride, appreciation, anger, and disappointment.

Think about this. One-hundred and fifty years ago we did not have to ask permission to go fishing, own a property, build on your property, renovate your home, use a transportation vehicle, start a business, get married, own a weapon, hunt, cut hair, sell a product, protest, grow your own food, sell that food you grew, or even just set up a lemonade stand, and we functioned just fine.

Principles were put first; family was encouraged and most of us agreed to living in harmony with objective morality. Fast forward to 2024, and now you virtually can't do anything without asking the government's permission. Instead of living by a moral code, anything goes. Right is considered a wrong and a wrong is considered a right.

So, do we still think we are "free"? Are we simply deluding ourselves? Are we just free-range humans in a tax farm? Maybe it's just me, but it appears that we have turned to a top-down democracy instead of a bottom-up Republic. On the Federal level, big G government has basically become a religion. It's congregation being a democrat or a republican believing with "Absolute Fever" in their priest class (politicians) and giving obedience to their dictates (laws) that are passed at a whim that can make a right a wrong and a wrong a right.

I'm left wondering what happened to the idea our forefathers had so long ago? The idea of self-governance and personal responsibility. The idea of building our communities through volunteerism and cooperation.

I believe, and I like to think that you still believe in this idea of self-governance. It all starts with us, the grassroots. It starts with educating our young ones in the objective moral laws that our Creator wrote into the fabric of our universe that governs human behavior. It starts with us agreeing to promote and live by these basic truths and be bound once again by this social contract. Having our first granddaughter born to us this past week, had me looking into her pure innocent face, wondering just what kind of country will we leave to her? To move forward maybe we need to look backwards for our guidance.

Meditate for a moment on these inspired words: “When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with one another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impels them to the separation.” - Declaration of Independence James Hoel

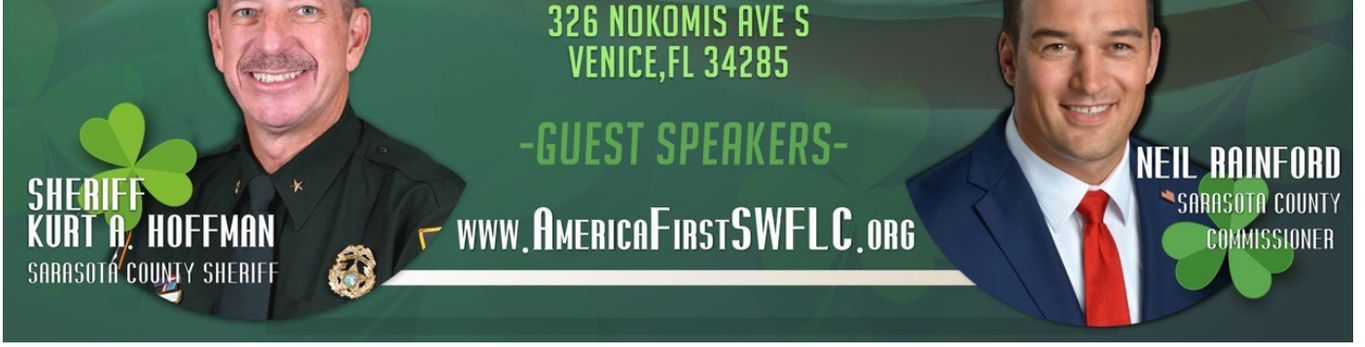
MONTHLY MEETING REMINDER

Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, at the Venice Community Center. Light refreshments served at 11:00 am.

Guest speakers in March will be:

- **Sheriff Kurt Hoffman running for re-election for Sheriff.**
- **Neil Rainford Candidate for Sarasota County District 3 Commissioner.**

Our next meeting is March 13, 2024.



Meet Our Youngest AFSWFLC Member

Our Hospitality team of Kat Hoel, Yuri and Alexa Kogut plus 1 and Stephanie Hill. Baby Hazel almost made her debut at our meeting but smartly waited 15 hours. (AFSW is prepared with doctors in our membership.) We heard that the exhausted parents were getting diapering advice from proud grandparents Kat and James. God bless you, Baby Hazel Anne and welcome to our conservative tribe. There is a place reserved on our volunteer list for you.

February's AFSWFLC speaker was Tom Knight

Tom Knight, former Sarasota Co. Sheriff, running for Dist. 3 Co. Commissioner, spoke about being a constitutional conservative to protect our rights.

As a fiscal conservative he would step up to address uncontrolled growth and development by spending our tax dollars in a prudent and beneficial way for the county.

He emphasized that he was not a member of the Establishment and had a track record of integrity and accountability in his office as Sarasota County Sheriff.

BECOME A CANDIDATE

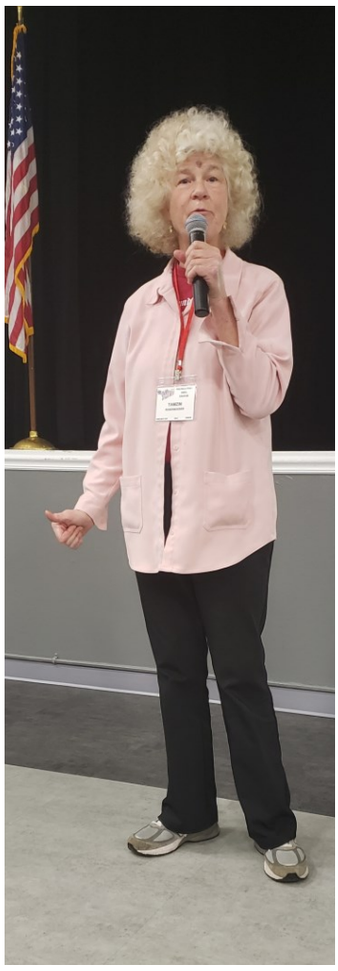
Go to **sarasotavotesgop.gov** to see the list of openings, and have courage to get in the fight to keep our county conservative. **STAND UP** and make history.

Candidates for Office and Elected Officials

Candidate Michelle Pozzie for FL House District 74.

Charter Review Board Member #4 Clay Taylor. The CRB meets May 14 in Sarasota.

Vic Rohe Northern Dist. Seat 2 Sarasota Memorial Hospital Bd.



Dr. Tamzin Rosenwasser announced she is running for the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Board At-Large Seat 1. Let's support her all the way to the victory celebration!

Do you know how important it is to write to officials? We the People ARE the government.

Gov. DeSantis	**850-717-9337**
Sen. Rick Scott	**202-224-5274**
Sen. Marco Rubio	**202-224-3041**
Rep. Greg Steube	**202-225-5792**
Joe Gruters	**941-378-6309**
Fiona McFarland	**941-361-2465**
James Buchanan	**941-429-4560**
Michael Grant	**941-613-0914**

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NOTICES

Attend a Sarasota School Board Meeting

March 5 & 19, 6 to 8 pm, 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota 34231. The meetings are open to the public and are held on the 1st (from 3 pm-5 pm) and 3rd (from 6 pm-8 pm) Tuesdays of each month, except for one meeting in July and December. Citizens are welcome to speak under "Hearing of Citizens" after any Special Presentations and/or the Superintendent's Report. Hearing of Citizens cards can be found in the lobby, which should be filled out prior to the meeting with your name, contact information, and topic and handed to the Sarasota County School Board Representative. Speakers are required to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting to complete a speaker's card.

School Board
Phone: (941) 927-9000 ext. 31147

To email all School Board members:
schoolboardmembers@sarasotacountyschools.net

Attend the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Board

Meetings are on Mondays. March 26, 2024, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm SMH Main / Boardroom, Auditorium. 1700 S. Tamiami Tr, SRQ 34239. **An independent review must be done. *Show up early on the 26th at 1 pm*.** Contact Lisa Roulet **lroulet@comcast.net**

Sarasota Memorial Hospital Lost Its Soul During COVID:
Our World-Class Hospital Turned into a Nightmare for some, *and No One Has Fixed This Yet.*

Some families have gone public saying **Sarasota Memorial's treatment of their loved ones was appalling,** and some medical providers describe **not being allowed to treat patients to the best of their ability.**

A local retired Emergency Medicine physician says that as a 70 year-old COVID patient, **the hospital unjustifiably tied him up in 4-point restraints for hours without water or his supplemental oxygen. Why does Sarasota Memorial say his treatment meets their "Standard of Care"?**

Michelle, who was stunned by how Sarasota Memorial Hospital treated one of her family members, said in a news interview: **"This is happening to multiple people…I don't feel like I can trust this hospital anymore…. I don't feel that there's protection at all. What's happening here?!"**

The question for all of us is: Will I Remain Silent When My Neighbors Are Calling For My Help? Could My Own Loved Ones Be Impacted Some Day?

Will Sarasota Memorial Hospital See Us as Sheep or Lions?

CALLING ALL LIONS: WE NEED YOU IN MARCH!

1) Come to the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Board Meeting, arriving by 1 pm on Tuesday, March 26. We just need to convince 2 more board members to FIX THIS!!!

1700 S. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. Parking can be difficult so plan to arrive early. Questions / RSVP's to Lisa at lroulet@comcast.net.

2) Email all board members via their assistant, Karen-Marshall@smh.com: "FIX THIS!"

4 minute video: What Happened to Patients Behind Closed Doors? on Rumble, SRQHealthFreedom.

Because if we fail to ask for two more votes on a 100% local issue when lives are at stake, what hope does our country even have?

Rich Mazur - America First SWFLC Political Action Team has ongoing training meetings to learn how to visit Newly Registered Republicans.

- Join our team as the "Welcome Greeters" for Republicans in your precinct.
- Visit between 5-10 voters/month. It is **not door-to-door, but an A/C car to the front door. Minimal walking.**
- Work as a 2-member team to pass out an introductory informational letter, contact information for federal, state and local officials, Comparison of Democrat/Republican on issues and "the Inconvenient Truth of the Democrat Party to make your welcoming experience 100% enjoyable. It's fun to see Republican faces light up when you greet them.

Next meeting March 25 at Linda Miller's home.

Please let Rich know if you will be able to attend or not and give him your precinct number. Special materials are prepared for you with your precinct number.

Thanks, Rich Mazur

America First SWFLC Political Action Team

rtmgolf04@gmail.com 860-519-6939

Your Volunteer Opportunities for America First SWFLC Committees

To save our freedoms and Constitution, where and how can you help on any of these committees?

1. Programs and Projects Committee: The main role of this committee is to find speakers for the club and organize projects like the annual Christmas Party and club picnic. If you have an idea for a speaker or like to help organize an event call State Committeewoman Terry Angley at 941-233-2879.

2. 2. Meet/Greet Committee: You are the first point of contact to welcome people to the meeting and pass out membership badges. The Greeter(s) directs new guests to the Membership Chairman, Treasurer, to the luncheon, 50/50 donation, the location of the restrooms and the Volunteer table. Nancy Kinney Coordinator: Contact information 941-408-9798 or NancyKinney42@gmail.com.

3. Media: Communications Director/Technology Coordinator. Randy Wedin. media@AmericaFirstSWFLC.org. Coordinates newsletter, website, emailing and phone texting.

4. Membership Engagement Committee: Recruitment of new members, calling new members, new member orientation and seeking volunteers for committees. Linda Miller 941-486-0022 and Rick Ross 810-599-2973.

5. Publicity and Public Relations: Write emails to our members to announce programs and projects to be sent out by the communications team. Participate in the monthly organization of postcard mailing for newly Registered Republicans in South County-getting the lists/ postcards from Randy Wedin, purchasing stamps for mailing postcards (with club funds) and collating the stamps, postcards and lists.

6. Hospitality: Help present luncheon food to our members for our monthly meeting. Usually a grinder, salads, desserts and drinks are served. To help, contact Kathy Hoel 941-303-1787.

7. Political Action Team:

a. Address, stamp and mail Welcome Postcards to newly registered Republicans in Sarasota County from Clark Rd. south. Pick up cards/ stamps/address lists at the monthly meeting at the Volunteer Table.

b. Recruit volunteers to welcome Newly Registered Republicans in precincts.

c. Encourage members to volunteer for poll watching, poll working, writing letters to local newspapers, updating a voter's registration form (requires training), volunteering for Library Outreach, stand on sidewalks to hand out literature outside the Venice and Englewood Farmers' Market, and the Jewish Food Festival (usually in February).

d. Vet candidates (Judges, School Board, Hospital Board, etc.) to make a "Voter Guide."

e. Help organize "Red Tent" Volunteers for elections. "Red Tent" Volunteers will be needed for the March 19, Presidential Preference Primary; the August Republican Primary; and the November General Election. Go to our website: AmericaFirstSWFLC.org to sign up for a date/time.

f. Inform members on "Calls-to-Actions" on vital legislative issues using either emails, phone calls or written letters. Watch for emails with "Call-to-Action" AFSWFLC in the Subject line. Please take action and reply to the email that you have done so. If you have questions on the process/procedure, call Meredyth Morrow at 908-343-5104 or meredyth-liberty1st@gmail.com. For Florida legislative bill information go to DefendFlorida.org.

g. A "flag waving-coordinator needed" to promote candidates.

Contact Rich Mazur-860-519-6939 or rtmgolf04@gmail.com to volunteer for any of the above.

8. Sunshine: Send out sympathy, get well, thinking of you cards to members in need. (Coordinator needed.)

9. Newsletter Committee: Write/find articles, approximately 250 words in length or emails for our monthly club newsletter. Take pictures at meetings/events featuring our club members and send them to Allyx. If you can volunteer to edit or you wish to write an article, email Allyx Young at newsletter@AmericaFirstSWFLC.org.

10. Webmaster Committee: Be part of the team in the editing and discovering articles for the club website at americafirstswflc.org. Uploads the newsletter to the website. Updates the monthly/yearly calendar-meetings, election dates, upcoming events, flag waving, etc. To help, contact our webmaster, Regina Lamping at Webmaster@AmericaFirstSWFLC.org.

11. Parliamentarian: Be the club's authority on Robert's Rules of Order and attend monthly club meetings to make rulings.

12. Membership Chair: Keep accurate membership rolls, to include address, phone number, email address, DOB, date enrolled, payment method, etc. These are all done using an Excel spreadsheet. At club meetings the Chair collects membership application forms. The Treasurer collects the membership dues. Chair Jery Zaris: membershipchair@AmericaFirstSWFLC.org.

13. Sergeant-at-Arms Committee: Welcome newcomers and members at meetings and control order at the meeting.

Please contact either Rick Ross 810-599-2973, Linda Miller 941-486-0022, Rich Mazur 860-519-6939 or any of the Committee Chairs for more information and to volunteer your talents.

Member Engagement Committee

February 2024 Report

Orientation Meeting: The next orientation meeting will be scheduled for **Monday, March 25th,** at Linda Miller's home.

New Member Luncheon: Thursday, March 21, at noon at Perkins. New members can meetup and learn about the newly formed **American First SWFLC** plus meet other members. Attendees will be encouraged to get involved in the 2024 **America First SWFLC** activities and election action. Volunteer Survey forms will be given out and discussed.

The Membership Engagement Committee plans to hold an Orientation Meeting every month or two. While newer members are specifically invited to attend, any member curious to learn about the structure of the Florida Republican organization and activities of our America First SWFL Caucus is welcome to attend.

On February 22, our Orientation Meeting had 17 attendees. Introductions offered each attendee to make new friends with common values. We offered some opportunities to make a difference in the 2024 elections and present new ideas for AFSWFLC. The next Orientation Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 25th.

A "New Member" meet & greet luncheon is planned for Thursday, March 21, at noon at Perkins. Please RSVP to Linda or Rick*.

*A Volunteer Table is at our monthly meetings. Please stop by and offer to volunteer.
Linda Miller 941-486-0022
Rick Ross 810-599-2973

Member Engagement Committee Chairs

Red Tent Volunteers for Presidential Preference Primary

When? Sat. March 9 thru Sun. March 17
Where? Anderson Building, 4000 S. Tamiami Trl., Venice
Time: Shift 1 - 8:30 to12:30 or # 2 - 12:30 to 4:30
Pass out election/club information. Smile and have fun.
- We will also be manning 5 tents at high volume precinct voting sites on Election Day, March 19, 2024 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Either Call Rich Mazur at 860-519-6939 to reserve your date/time or go to the Caucus Website: AmericaFirstSWFLC.org Click "Get Involved" Be a **Red Tent** Volunteer.

Update On Adopt A Legislator

Meredyth Morrow 908-343-5104
Call Andy Dubois 352-933-6353 or Meredyth Morrow for info.
andy@libertycitizen.com

Watch tracked bills here
Subscribe here

Make a Call to Action on Citizenship Verification. Please make your voice heard. March 27th, 6 pm, Jacaranda Library.

Updates on FL Bills

HB 17 Firearm Mandatory Waiting Period. Requires the mandatory waiting period for all firearm purchases to expire three days after the purchase excluding weekends and legal holidays, regardless of whether a background check has been completed. VOTE YES. To find your FL House rep.: myfloridahouse.gov

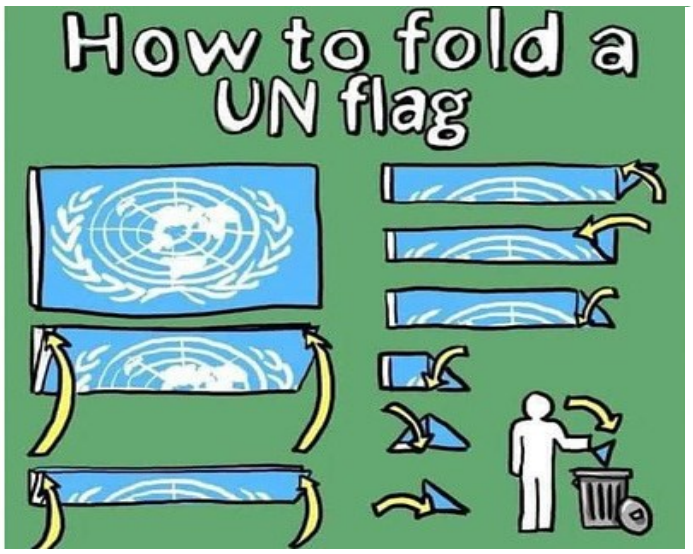
Call the three representatives and request they vote YES.

Fiona McFarland Dist. 73 - 941-361-2465, James Buchanan Dist. 74 - 941-429-4560, Michael Grant Dist. 75 - 941-613-0914

HB 721 Harassment of Election Workers was stopped, which is a good thing. Your calls make a difference.

HB 1135 Anti Pornography and Grooming Bill has passed through committees and combined with the Senate bill.

Meredyth says your calls and personal contact in Tallahassee are getting results. PLEASE make Call to Action calls. They work.



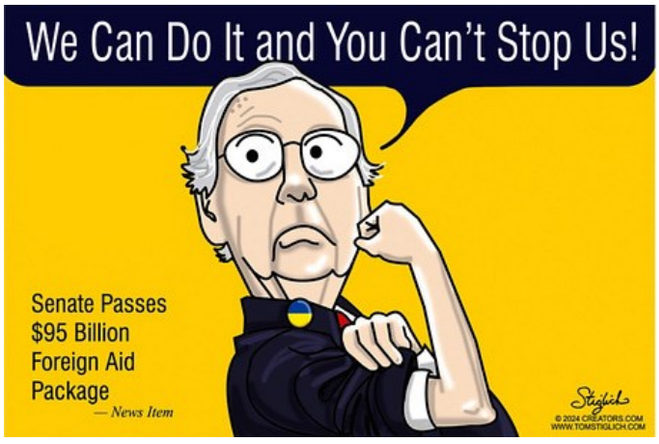
Defend Florida has Voter Integrity ZOOM calls on Tuesday nights at 7 pm DefendFlorida.org **Read More**

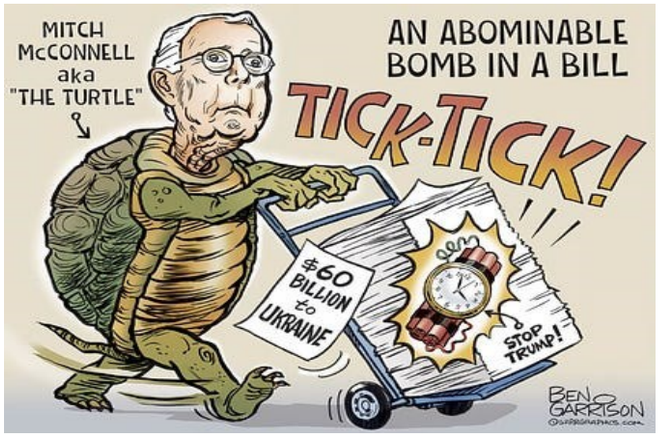
Citizens Renewing America Alliance Phone call every Thursday, 5-5:30 pm https://slingofdavid.com/signup
4919 Pass WG8Fw2

MAKE CONTACT: *Congress at your Fingertips*

If you call 877-827-3321 you can get the ***Congress at your Fingertips*** book for $20. You can then call any governor, Senator or Representative directly. You should call, too: **202-225-5792.** Tamzin Rosenwasser

Mitch McConnell steps down as GOP Leader.
Good riddance.





A Farewell to Don O'Nesky

A former President of the RCSSC,

Don O'Nesky passed away January 5th. He and Mary retired to Venice and became a dominate force for the beginning RCSSC. Don, a graduate of Oklahoma State University, was a Lt. Col. In the Air Force, flew C -130s, and worked many years with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG).

Jerry Woelfel remembers "Don—like the "original" " Coffee and Politics Group " members—pitched in and did everything imaginable to make sure we did whatever was necessary to "meet - inform - educate - and recruit people to join us in supporting the best Republican candidates that we could."

Dale DeYoung recalled that Don was the Chair of the Oklahoma Republican Party and brought that leadership skill to Florida. Dale called Don the "backbone" of the RCSSC.

Gladys Green knew Don as a go-getter. In the beginning days of the club, money was a short commodity, and Don wrote to the members asking for donations. She wanted to make donations to the troops, and Don found a group who had the needed items and then sent them overseas. He also sent welcoming letters to newly registered Republicans and gave a copy to anyone wishing to send it out in their precinct.

Randy Wedin and Allyx Young met Don and Mary at a random, fateful visit to Momma Maria's Restaurant soon after moving to Venice. Don commented on the OK University hat Randy wore, and said he had gone to OSU but wouldn't hold that against Randy. They discovered they were both active members of the AAPG and shared their first-hand knowledge of some of the same oilfields around the world. Don and Mary were the reason Randy and Allyx joined the Republican fold.

Those of us who knew Don will remember his devotion to the conservative principles that made America strong, dominant and the best nation in the world. His subtle wit and guidance will be missed. Rest in peace Don; you have earned it.

Mike Kelly Is Remembered

Mike Kelly passed away February 28th. He and Judy moved here from Hartford, CT, where he was a firefighter. He and Judy were door knocking volunteers in Grand Palm, did Manasota Beach Road trash clean up, and Mike served as Sergeant-at-Arms at one time. They had built several homes and finished their beautiful home in Englewood recently. We honor his service in Vietnam. His big grin and sense of humor will be missed. Love remains.

Editor's Column

Election season is here, and candidates are door knocking and asking for donations and volunteers. Please be generous with your time and money.

Do you have **Red Tent Fever**? This one can be contagious, but in a fantastic way. When you get under the **Red Tent** during early voting and on Election Day, you meet the devoted voters who are anxious to get our Voter's Guide and information about our new America First SWFLC club that you present. It's fun, and you meet some fascinating, like-minded people.

Go to the webpage https://americafirstswflc.org/red-tent and sign up or call Rich Mazur at 860-519-6939.

Remember last year when I proposed we stop using Google?
“The brainwashing of our youth - by social media corporations is out of control. Unfortunately, for us - it isn’t going to stop but get more invasive.

> “We know best. We are going to remake the world. We are going to reshape kids around the world”

The government has a remedy for this type of unlawful business practice. The 1890 Sherman Antitrust Act has been utilized many times to break up monopolies and outlaws:

> "every contract, combination, or conspiracy in restraint of trade," and any "monopolization, attempted monopolization, or conspiracy or combination to monopolize."

Google is out of control. They have not only monopolized the internet, they have monopolized the control of advertising. Both business strategies are being challenged by the DOJ in two separate lawsuits.”

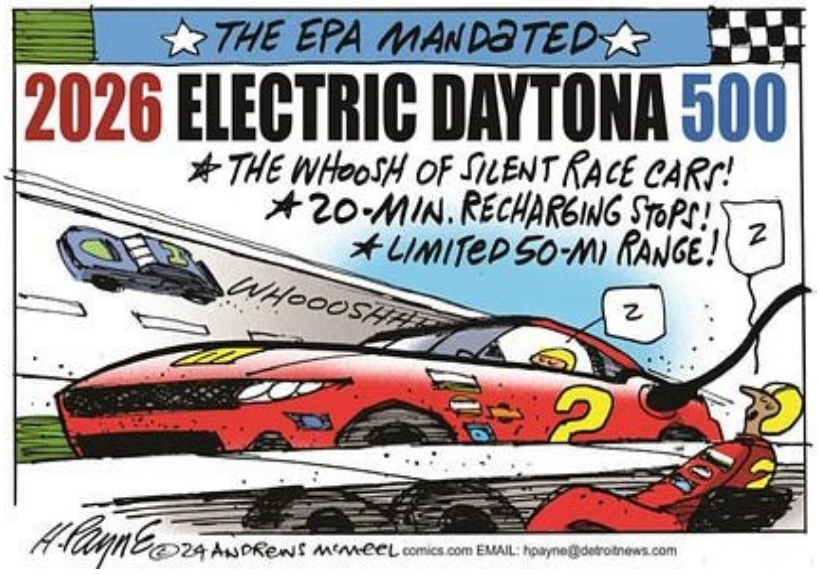
Consider using Proton mail, which has been a leading secure email service thanks to its end-to-end encryption, but it has flaws. Consider Tutanota. Mailfence, Disroot, and Posteo. Check them out using Duckduckgo as your alternative search engine to Google.

Keeping our freedoms of speech, religion, and the other Bill of Rights items sometimes involves changing our habits and products we use. We don’t give up, but stand up and do what is best for us not them.

America First
Allyx Young

Tom Babicz—Common Sense SRQ School Board Values

Tom Babicz is running for SRQ School Board in District 3. He escaped from the Nazis In Poland with almost nothing, he worked in the IT area, was a treasurer for an HOA, is an officer in the Venice Polish Society of Venice, and speaks four languages! **He's ready to give back.**



Imagine we lived in a world where all cars were EVs, and then along comes a new invention, the *"Internal Combustion Engine!"* Think how well they would sell. A vehicle half the weight, half the price that will almost quarter the damage done to the road. A vehicle that can be refueled in 1/10th of the time and has a range of up to 4 times the distance in all weather conditions. It does not rely on the environmentally damaging use of non-renewable rare earth elements to power it, and uses far less steel and other materials.
Just think how excited people would be for such technology. It would sell like hot cakes! Kurt Dillon

Lost and Found

Two things have been found after meetings. The shawl was found in January. The AFSWFLC cup was on the Member-ship table in February.

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS DUE

If you know a Republican, NPA, or patriotic conservative who wants to join the **America First SWFLC**, bring them to a meeting for informative, political news and entertainment plus meet new conservatives with a similar heart for America, or send them to our website at www.americafirstswflc.org

Graham Ledger Start the morning with **The Ledger Report, "Cracker 82.5" - Live & Local 8 am-9 am Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday** (maybe Thursday/ Friday soon). Graham analyzes Florida news (politics) and national news (politics), with the help of Largo resident, "Special" Ed, who gives his unique, conservative opinion of the news. Read More

Write a 250 word or less letter to *The Venice Gondolier* editor. Ronald.dupont@yoursun.com Sign your name, include an address and phone number, but it won't be used. For USPS mail, *The Venice Gondolier*, 200 E. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285 PLEASE send compliments, complaints, considerations. Jump in and voice your opinion.

America First SWFLC website: www.americafirstswflc.org **Visit the website to see our pictures and newsetters.**

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

Thanks to **COASTAL MOLD & WATER REMOVAL** who has sponsored lunch.es James and Kathy Hoel are a state licensed mold remediator. This is Florida, and we have mold. Call 941-303-5602
www.coastalmoldfl.com Lic # MRSR1364

January's lunch was sponsored by

COASTAL MOLD & WATER REMOVAL.

A sponsor. Patronize:

Car Doc for your car needs.

Support Together-wecan.life with food for their community pantry. Visit the website if you have a need or can donate.

Shop Big Bam eBikes. 412 E. Venice Ave., Venice 34285 941-240-1717. **Big Bam eBikes** is sponsoring the Venice Community Ctr. meeting room in January.

DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

We appreciate and welcome volunteers' **stamps** donations for our mission to reach new registered Republicans. We have a total of 150,797 total Republicans. Our very successful outreach program has welcomed over 1,000 new members.

America First Southwest Florida Caucus

WE ARE AN INDEPENDENT GROUP
OF CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC PATRIOTS

WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT THE GRASSROOTS FOR YOU THE VOTERS

America First Southwest Florida Caucus

We are an active grassroots organization dedicated to traditional economic and social conservative Constitutional Republic values. We pool our talents and energy into electing conservatives to public office. We need Patriots to save our country. We're a working and social club where you can share your ideas for America's future with friends to implement political plans into action.

Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at The Venice Community Center (Ballroom D), 326 S. Nokomis Ave. near Jervey Library on the island. Light refreshments served at 11:00 am.

Guest speakers are scheduled.

Annual membership dues: $25 individual, $40 couple, and $15 each additional family member.

Time to renew your membership dues. Bring cash or a check to the meeting, or use the link below to pay by credit card. Dues are currently the same. Be advised, we may have to slightly increase the price of membership dues soon due to increased prices in our monthly meeting hall and other operational expenses. So now is the time to pay for 2024 while prices are at their lowest. Send checks to our P.O. Box 352, Venice, FL 34285-0352.

To pay by credit card click **HERE:**

Click here to become a member of the AFSWFLC!

We make it happen! We are America First SWFLC!

Disclaimer—The views expressed within the articles in this newsletter do not necessarily express the views of the Editor, AFSWFLC or the AFSWFLC membership. They are provided here for information only!