



Vol. 21
October 2026

July 4, 1776-2026



Letter from AFSWFLC President Barbara Vaughn

Hello AFSWFLC Members and Friends,

There are some words that when uttered in our presence, make us recoil, or grimace, or, if we're really feeling brave, prompt us to object strenuously, admonish the speaker, maybe even leave the gathering.

The word most people my age first learned must not be spoken out loud is the so-called "n" word. It was one of many ugly words mean people would fling about with abandon to demonstrate how much better they believed they were than the people they were insulting.

Today, one of the things we hear most about is antisemitism and how prevalent it is in too many communities. It's even become a sort of buzz word. Some politicians, elected or as candidates, seem like they're students of the Third Reich and some of their slurs against Jews are as abominable and unforgivable today as they were in the '30s and '40s.

But none of those are the words I'm referring to. I'm speaking of "socialism" and "communism" the two things I never dreamed I'd have to confront in my life.

But, here we are. When Americans go to the polls on November 3rd, in too many cases, they'll be faced with the choice between maintaining our Constitutional Republic or giving something "different" a try – like communism or it's somewhat softer brother, socialism.

Before you make such a choice, perhaps you should hear from someone who has "been there, done that" and can tell you what it's like to live under complete government control.

He's one of our very own, and he has agreed to give us a short course in what you do NOT want and why!

Please join us for our October meeting on Wednesday the 14th at our new location at Koworx to hear Thomas Babicz describe his early life in Poland under the USSR.

GBYRG! Barb Vaughn, President AFSWFLC

**43 Days Since the August 18th Primary
34 Days Until the November 3rd Election**

**VOTE 'AMERICA FIRST'
BECAUSE WE ARE THE GRASSROOTS OF AMERICA**

“I would rather be a free man in my grave, than live as a puppet or a slave.” Jimmy Cliff

Elections are won by the side that shows up and engages voters. FACT. Only 33% of registered Republican voters bothered to show up to vote in the crucial Sarasota County 2026 primary election.

This is Our Nation’s 250th Birthday

A Free People Will Not Survive Unless They Remember History

The American experiment was never supposed to be an experiment in how much responsibility could be transferred from citizens to government. It rested on almost the opposite proposition: that a free people could govern themselves, care for their communities, solve problems locally, and voluntarily cooperate without waiting for direction from a distant bureaucracy. Americans were extraordinary association-builders. When they wanted a church, school, hospital, road, charitable organization, civic improvement, or political reform, they formed a group and did something about it.

This dense network of families, churches, voluntary associations, businesses, towns, and local institutions created a civil society strong enough that government did not have to occupy every corner of life. The American experiment was always about self-rule, otherwise known as self-sovereignty upon preserving a people sufficiently independent, prosperous, cohesive, and self-reliant to govern themselves. Once citizens become clients of the state and communities surrender their functions to centralized bureaucracies, big government progressively replaces both responsibility and agency.

Ronald Reagan warned of the fragility of that inheritance best, **“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.”** Liberty does not perpetuate itself. A nation is only as capable of self-government as its people are willing to assume the responsibilities that self-government requires. It is a learned behavior, passed from one generation to the next. Citizens must understand that freedom comes with obligations: to family, neighbors, community, local institutions, and ultimately the nation itself. When those habits disappear, government (and in particular, the courts) inevitably moves into the vacuum.

That means they must want to become Americans and participate in the American experiment: voluntary associations, limited government, local responsibility, constitutional restraint, private property, individual liberty, and the expectation that citizens govern themselves rather than look automatically to the state. Those ideas are culturally transmitted.

“LOCAL ACTION HAS NATIONAL IMPACT”

AFSWFLC's next meeting is October 14th. 11 am to 1 pm

New location: at KOWORX at 1101 S. Tamiami Tr., on the island next to the GMC dealership. Our speaker is Tom Babicz speaking about his real-life experiences with communism in Poland under USSR's boot.

October 5, Regular City Commission Meeting 9 am

City Commission Chambers Sarasota City Hall

1565 1st Street, Sarasota, FL 34236

For public comment regarding the violation of 4th Amendment rights via camera surveillance.

October 20 next Sarasota School Board meeting. 6 pm

November 17, 2026

December 15, 2026 1960 Landings Blvd., Sarasota FL 34231

To email all School Board members:

schoolboardmembers@sarasotacountyschools.net

Please attend school board meeting, or watch it live on youtube.

<https://www.youtube.com/@SarasotaSchools> It's all recorded, so watch any time.

Nov. 17 is the Sarasota Memorial Hospital Regular board meeting. 3:30 pm

Meeting schedule: Tuesday, Nov. 17 First meeting with newly elected board

Kolschowsky Research Education Institute, Morganroth Auditorium, 1st floor, 1880 Arlington Street, Sarasota, FL 2-4 pm.

October 6, 7 & 14 Sarasota County Commissioner Meetings

- **10/06** 9 AM - 5 PM
- Location: 4000 S. Tamiami Trail., Venice 34293
- **10/7** 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Location: 1 Apex Rd. Sarasota, FL 34240
- **10/14** 1:00 PM – 5 PM 51 Bay Isles Rd 34228
- (Future dates: 11/4 and 11/17)
- Sarasota County Commissioners may be reached at
- commissioners@scgov.net

October 12 Sarasota MAGA Patriots Meeting New location! 6-8 pm

Koworx 1101 Tamiami Trl., Venice. Check-in 5:30.

October 21 Charter Review Board Meeting 6 pm, Location to be determined.

October 24 The Halloween family event at the Hollow 5-8 pm.

826 S. Moon Dr., Venice. For info:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BuQsV4xNQ/>

December 9 Christmas Luncheon celebration with SRQ MAGA Patriots. Hotel Venezia – \$50 Buffet with details to follow.

Avoid voting early because that gives the fraudsters the numbers they need to produce enough fake votes to “win.”

CALL TO ACTION The application for the Lena Road cell tower.

Record PLN-REZSE-26-000004: Rezone / Special Exception

<https://aca-prod.accela.com/SARASOTACO/Cap/CapDetail.aspx?Module=Planning&TabName=Planning&capID1=REC26&capID2=00000&capID3=008OX&agencyCode=SARASOTACO&IsToShowInspection=>

This will go before the Sarasota County Commission for approval on Oct 7th.

Show up. They want to put a 184 foot cell tower in the middle of a rural neighborhood. Sarasota County Commissioners may be reached at commissioners@scgov.net.

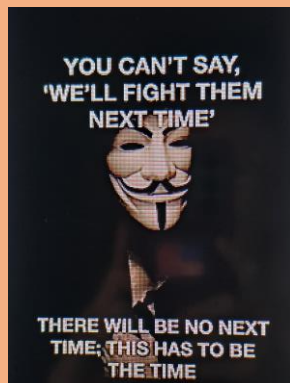
Coastal Conservative News

Welcome to Coastal Conservative News (CCN) – Your trusted source for faith-based, family-focused & freedom-driven news.

<https://www.youtube.com/@coastalconservativenews>

As of 9-30-2026, Sarasota County has 333,173 Active Voters with 165,320 Republicans, 81,601 Democrats and 86,252 Third Party Voters.

The Uni-party is not a thing. What is it? The idea that no matter who gets elected, Republican or Democrat, the outcome in American politics is basically the same. In a Uni-party government our Constitution is eliminated!



2026 Primary Election Results

There will be a runoff election between **Pachota** & **Walker** on Nov. 3 for FL Rep Dist 74

There will be a runoff for District 1 School Board (General Election Nov. 3) between **Glover** & **Brandt**.

There will be a runoff election on Nov. 3 between **Coe** & **Altier** for Sarasota County Charter Review Board 1.

Visit our America First Southwest Florida Caucus website at:

[AFSWFLC.ORG](https://www.afswflc.org)

Visit [RightVotes.com](https://www.RightVotes.com) for Conservative Voting Information

True American-born, America-loving, Christian and other religious citizens are NOT the establishment's choice. But we should be your choice—because we are you.

Mark Your Calendars **Deadline to request**

Voter registration deadline: Monday, Oct. 5.

Deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot be mailed: Thurs., Oct. 22, 5 pm

Early voting: Visit the <https://www.sarasotavotes.gov/171/Early-Voting> page for dates, times and location

October 19 - November 1 from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm daily.

Election day: Tuesday, Nov. 3 polls are open 7 am- 7 pm; vote-by-mail ballots must be received in the elections office by 7 pm.

November 3, 2026: General Election

Training window:

October 5-10; 12-16 (Sarasota)

October 19-23 (Venice)

October 26-29 (North Port)

In the US, only US citizens are able to vote in federal and state elections. However, cities and towns can allow non-US citizens to vote in municipal and local elections. This means that immigrant community members, including asylum seeker, refugees, green card holders, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients, can vote for positions like mayor city councilors and, in some cases, school board, ballot issues, and local budgets. They can also run for some municipal and school offices. In Florida, a noncitizen who votes in any election commits a third-degree felony under section 104.155.

Lost and Found AFSWFLC & SRQ MAGA Patriots

Do you recognize these items? Found on a campaign table. Poster board 4x2 feet.



Call 918-938-9999

Call Our Officials

Gov. DeSantis	850-717-9337
Sen. Rick Scott	202-224-5274
Sen. Ashley Moody	202-224-3041
Rep. Greg Steube	202-225-5792
Fiona McFarland	941-361-2465
James Buchanan	941-429-4560
Danny Nix	941-899-0810
White House	202-456-1414

Legislation on Florida Bills

Stay informed.

Watch tracked bills: <https://flsenate.gov>

Meredyth Morrow 908-343-5104 and Andy Dubois 352-933-6353
andy@libertycitizen.com

The **2A group** works to get bills supported. - **This takes action from the members to call and set appointments**- contact Kevin McAuliffe to get involved. 401-924-1744
km727@aol.com

Link to the **Government Operations Subcommittee** site:

<https://flhouse.govSections/Committees/committeesdetail.aspx?Committeeld=3303>

FastDemocracy <mailto:notifications@fastdemocracy.com> Sign up to get House and Senate bill updates.

Our goals are: 1. SOE must verify citizenship, 2. Continue cleaning up voter rolls, 3. More in-depth audits of election machines as well as precinct and count options, 4. Tighten VBM requests.

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

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

MAKE CONTACT: Congress at your Fingertips

If you call 877-827-3321 you can get the **Congress at your Fingertips** book for \$20. Request the book by email at: books@cqrollcall.com
The Congressional Quarterly (CQ) website is <https://info.cq.com/demo/>

Then call any governor, senator or representative directly.
Call: Rep. Greg Steube **202-225-5792**. Tamzin Rosenwasser

Hurricane Preparedness Resources

It's critical for us to stay prepared. Rep. Greg Steube has a website for us.
<https://steube.house.gov/hurricane/>

Wake Up to Dangers of Islam

<https://washingtonstand.com/article/experts-american-church-must-wake-up-to-dangers-of-islam>

Cathi Chamberlain: Rules for RINOs

Best-selling author Cathi Chamberlain **Author/Speaker 727-329-7746**
Rules for RINOs: Alinski Tactics to Fight Republicans in Name Only
Website: www.rulesfordeplorablesbook.com

The John Birch Society

The JBS provides many easy-to-read brochures to hand out to reach others and to take back control of Congress.

Educational Materials - books; literature; the *New American Magazine* - a monthly printed and online publication with timely articles about current events

<https://thenewamerican.com/> **SUBSCRIBE**

Action Alerts - personal notifications via email or phone with details on critical upcoming legislation. Action Alerts, available regardless of membership, contain a link to automatically contact your representatives. Sign up at: <https://jbs.org/subscribe/>
Be informed and SUBSCRIBE.

Donations and Volunteers Are Needed

We appreciate and welcome volunteers' **stamp** donations for our mission to reach new registered Republicans. We have a total of **165,320** total active registered Republican voters as of 10/1/2026. Our outreach program has welcomed over 10,000 newly registered Republican voters to Sarasota County. **First class stamps are \$.82. Postcard 4x6 stamps are \$.65** <http://www.americafirstswflc.org>

America First SWFLC website: <http://www.americafirstswflc.org> Visit the website to see our pictures and newsletters, plus updates throughout the month.



Spend Cash on Fridays!

Support our economy by using cash.

Get Involved!

Write a 250 word or less letter to The Venice Gondolier editor. Ronald.dupont@yoursun.com Sign your full name, include an address and phone number, but it won't be used. Mail letters to: The Venice Gondolier, Letters to the Editor, 200 E. Venice Ave., Venice, FL 34285. PLEASE make rebuttals to liberal letters. Jump in and voice your opinion.

What is the America First Southwest 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 offices. 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 (except December) at **KOWORX at 1101 S. Tamiami Tr. next to the GMC dealership on the island.** Light refreshments are served at 11:00 am. Guest speakers are scheduled.

We make it happen! We are America First SWFLC!

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS DUE

If you know a Republican, NPA, AFP, IND, 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 <http://www.americafirstswflc.org>

Annual membership dues: \$35 individual, \$60 couple, and \$20 each additional family member. Pay dues early and get September, October, November, December 2027 for the price of one year. What a deal!

Time to renew your membership dues. Bring cash or a check to the meeting, or use the link below to pay by credit card. Send checks to America First SWFLC, 2357 S. Tamiami Trl. Ste 3, PMB# 200, Venice, FL 34293
<http://www.americafirstswflc.org>

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