

Steven Blumrosen  
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October 18, 2016

Steven Blumrosen  
Lee County Democratic Committeeman,  
Precinct 49  
Founder, Meetup.com/FLTurnBlue where  
Democrats can meet Democrats  
President, The Democratic Club of Bonita  
Springs and South Lee County  
(Don't miss the "PS" about the Club's  
future, below.)

[Insert Name]  
[Insert Street 1]  
[Insert City], [Insert State] [Insert Zip]

Dear [Insert Name],

You and I are neighbors in Bonita Springs and voters at the same polling locations (details below).

I am the Democratic Party Committeeman for Precinct 49. This is an elected and unpaid position. I volunteered. You can too. Email me at [steven\\_blumrosen@hotmail.com](mailto:steven_blumrosen@hotmail.com).

I am writing to ask for your vote. Not for me, but for Democratic candidates. This letter focuses on Democratic values such as equality, greater opportunity, security and solar; provides journalistic information about voting; talks about history and current events as if we were having coffee on my lanai; entreats you to Vote Democratic, as directed on the enclosed DPLC Slate Card; and, implores you to Volunteer – It's fun and necessary to build the Democratic Party in Lee County. [If you are looking for the catch about sending money, that's not in this letter. <sup>1</sup> (See Endnotes.\*)]

Rather, I hope to provide useful information about voting in a way that is partly journalistic and partly conversational.

### Enclosed DPLC Slate Card

The Democratic Party of Lee County (DPLC) has vetted and endorsed registered Democrats informed about the issues and capable of representing us in the positions of government for which they are campaigning. April Freeman, John Scott, Diane Zigrossi, Jane Kuckel and Jason King have all spent time Bonita Springs-Estero (BE), visiting us at The Democratic Club of Bonita Springs and South Lee County.

### Sample Ballots

The ballot is lengthy. <sup>2</sup> For your convenience, I have highlighted a reduced-size ballot for our precinct to make it easier to find the DPLC endorsed candidates on the larger ballots.

### Vote by Mail

Voting by mail (VBM) lets you relax at home, do your research, and carefully mark your ballot without the pressures and distractions of a polling place. To Vote By Mail, the SOE says: <sup>3</sup>

“Voters may call 239-LEE-VOTE, email requests to [votebymail@lee.vote](mailto:votebymail@lee.vote) or visit [www.lee.vote](http://www.lee.vote). The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 2nd.

\* This letter is not about fundraising. Please note hyperlinks don't work in printed material, yet. So, I have posted a PDF - with [clickable endnotes](#) - on my website: [www.FLTurnBlue.com](http://www.FLTurnBlue.com). Look for the donkey that says "Precinct 49".

“Voted ballots must be **physically returned** (not just postmarked) to the Supervisor of Elections Office by **7 p.m. on Election Day, November 8, 2016**. Any vote-by-mail ballot delivered to Main Office after 7:00 p.m., Election Day will be accepted but cannot be tabulated.

“Voters who want to **hand-deliver** his or her vote by mail ballot, the following is available:

“Bonita Springs Branch Office (at Bonita Commons 25987 S. Tamiami Trail #105) will accept vote-by-mail ballots **until 3:00pm, ELECTION DAY. ...**”

By 10/15/2016, the SOE had already received 44,274 VBM ballots. <sup>4</sup>

### Volunteer

You'll meet other Democrats and may have fun! Call the DEC (239-939-2866). We need:

- Slate card distributors.
  - DEC has lots of slate cards to distribute during early voting and on November 8.
  - The Democratic Club of Bonita Springs and South Lee County is organizing some slate card distribution at the Bonita Springs SOE office Early Voting. Email: [roseofleecounty@gmail.com](mailto:roseofleecounty@gmail.com).
- Phone calls and canvassing. Meet registered Democrats and get out the vote.

### Voting

**Early Voting** takes place at SOE offices every day, 10 AM – 7 PM, starting Monday (10/24/2016) including Sunday (10/30/2016) and ending Saturday (11/5/2016). There is an SOE office on 41, near the Tax Collector's office:

Bonita Commons #105, 25987 S Tamiami Trail  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134  
239-Lee-Vote (239-533-8683)  
[www.lee.vote](http://www.lee.vote)

Polling places are closed Sunday, November 6, and Monday, November 7.

**Last day of voting:** **Tuesday, November 8**. Our precinct votes at:

New Life Church  
3971 Via Del Rey  
Bonita Springs FL 34134. <sup>5</sup>

**Voter Registration** was extended to Tuesday, October 18, 2016 due to Hurricane Matthew.

For the next election, to register or update your registration, including your signature which may change over time, go to an SOE office. Some things you can do by phone or online. If you call first, maybe you'll save a trip. The SOE's central number is 239-533-8683.

I have run into a lot of distrust of the SOE because of the 2012 elections. Machines did not work and lines were long after the polls closed. Many voters remained and voted; some left without voting. It was so bad, the state investigated. Maybe a lesson learned is that Democrats should find Democrats to run for public offices, such as the SOE. Now, there is no one else authorized to legitimately register you to vote, so go there.

**The phone number of the Democratic Party of Lee County is 239-939-2866.**

If you run into voter fraud, intimidation or subtle encouragement to register as a Republican, call someone!

Afterwards, compare your experiences with those of people like John Lewis in places like Selma. You may be as committed and determined to protect and exercise your rights as were the members of NAACP branches throughout the south.

Could you spare a few minutes to share your experiences and comparisons with others, perhaps in a school, community organization or Democratic club setting?

**Who and What to Vote For**

You are free to vote for whoever and whatever you choose. That’s why we have secret ballots: less intimidation before an election and less revenge-bullying after an election. Of course, I hope you will cast your vote to move Lee County progressively forward. The enclosed official DPLC voter’s guide may help.

**Why Vote?**

This election cycle is so strange, many want to close their gates, turn their backs on our neighbors, say “a pox on both your houses,”<sup>6</sup> and stay home. Problem with that: **If we don’t vote, they win.**

If we do vote, we build a stronger party. Politics is about winning. Practical politics is about changing society to make it easier for our candidates to win. Voting sends the message that there are Democrats in SW Florida and we vote.

**Demographics of Precinct 49<sup>7</sup>**

Race	Democrats	Republicans	Other	Total
White	576	1,405	817	2,798
Black	7	2	1	10
Hispanic	23	21	20	64
Other Race/Ethnicity	26	41	48	115
Gender				
Male	260	718	426	1,404
Female	369	734	439	1,542
Precinct/gender unknown	3	17	21	41
Grand total	632	1,469	886	

We are outnumbered. I am not going to tell you we can prevail in Precinct 49, this election. Maybe we will. I hope the message you are receiving with this letter is that we can win and we will win, if we prepare.

Election day, November 8, is the last day to vote. The first day to begin the next election is November 9. A good turnout will encourage other Democrats to volunteer, donate and vote.

### Voting Values

Joe Biden used to say “Show me your budget, I’ll show you your values.”

Democracy is about each of us having the right to choose who to vote for. Since we vote our values, let me tell you about my interests, perhaps they are similar to yours. My interest is in having a safer society where I can go watch a movie without risk of being on the front lines of the war on terror; children can go to school without risk of bullying, being shot or being turned into a shooter by a cabal on the internet; and, people who look or sound “different” can lead honest hard-working lives without risk of being beaten, deported or incarcerated, or denied education, housing or employment opportunities, because of their differences.

In 1776, a white male slave-owner said we are created equal with certain unalienable rights. This has become the battle cry for freedom from fear of monarchs, tyrants and bullies. People heard that phrase and said: “I, too, am created equal.”

We are not the same as we were in the founding era, sociologically or individually. People who feel they can participate in the community and affect the world around them as equals carry themselves differently than people who have to constantly be aware of their surroundings to make sure they are not slighted by those beneath them and do not offend those above them.

Whites voted to amend the Constitution to allow former slaves to become citizens. Males voted to allow women to vote. Those with power voted to share power. Why? It was in their self-interest. Democracies adapt.

FDR was not a traitor to his class, he was an aristocrat who preserved the class structure in a time when people believed it might wither away. He created jobs for the unemployed and built infrastructure during the Great Depression, grew industry during WWII and encouraged new perspectives on human rights and resolution of international disputes by gathering people to form new organizations like the UN.

He hired Francis Perkins to be Secretary of Labor. She was the first woman to become a member of a president’s cabinet. Francis Perkins and Harold Ickes, Secretary of Interior, were the only cabinet members to serve throughout FDR’s presidency.

Voters voted and got what the majority wanted. At that time, each voter in the majority may not have agreed with everything FDR tried (such as expanding the Supreme Court) but on the whole they felt the need for an understanding patriarch and voted FDR into office four times. Would we have come out of the Great Depression, won WWII and had a well-planned system for international dialogue if term limits had intervened?

FDR and Truman won WWII with science, brute force in theaters of war and in factories at home, and 5-Star generals like Chief of Staff George Marshall who coordinated Allied operations in Europe (with Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower who later became President) and in the Pacific (with Gen. Douglas

MacArthur who was eventually fired by President Truman for matters stemming from the later war in Korea).

FDR spurred integration with executive orders concerning the military. Charles Houston and Thurgood Marshall sought integration through the courts. In the short time JFK was president, our founding principal of equality became central as challenges to segregation and responses to stall integration moved through our nation, among these were:

- Freedom Riders on Greyhound busses and bus burners;<sup>8</sup>
- White rioters and federalization of the National Guard to protect civilians like James Meredith during the integration of Ole Miss;
- Bull Connor - in front of the media - releasing fire hoses and dogs on blacks who were non-violently exercising their right to assemble and speak freely, which prompted Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth to invite Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to Birmingham;
- Gov. George Wallace standing in the door of the University of Alabama to block integration, which prompted JFK to federalize the Alabama National Guard and go on television to define the civil rights crisis in moral, as well as constitutional and legal, terms and announce major civil rights legislation;
- The peaceful March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, August, 1963.
- Bombing of Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church and murder of four girls, September, 1963.<sup>9</sup>

JFK had not gotten his civil rights bill through Congress before November 22, 1963. On that day, LBJ became the first President of the United States from the south after the civil war. One of his first public acts was to go before a joint session of Congress and assure the mourning nation that:<sup>10</sup>

"No memorial oration or eulogy could more eloquently honor President Kennedy's memory than the earliest possible passage of the civil rights bill for which he fought so long. ... It is time now to write the next chapter, and to write it in the books of law."

LBJ persuaded Everett Dirksen, Republican Senator from the land of Lincoln, to join him.<sup>11</sup> Together, they counted votes to overcome a 60-day debate, and Sen. Robert Byrd's 14-hour filibuster, and shepherded the Civil Rights Act of 1964 through the House and Senate for the President's signature. The Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965. LBJ also declared war on poverty and Federal programs were implemented in various areas, among these were early education, health, housing, transportation and employment. In 1967, Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark resigned. LBJ nominated Thurgood Marshall. In less than 12 weeks, the Senate confirmed the President's nomination.

More recently, Jimmy Carter put solar on the White House roof and appointed Eleanor Holmes Norton to run the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She was the first woman to chair the EEOC. In 1990, the District of Columbia elected EHN to the House of Representatives.<sup>12</sup>

In the lifetime of anyone with an AARP card, our culture has gone through revolutionary change in an evolutionary manner.

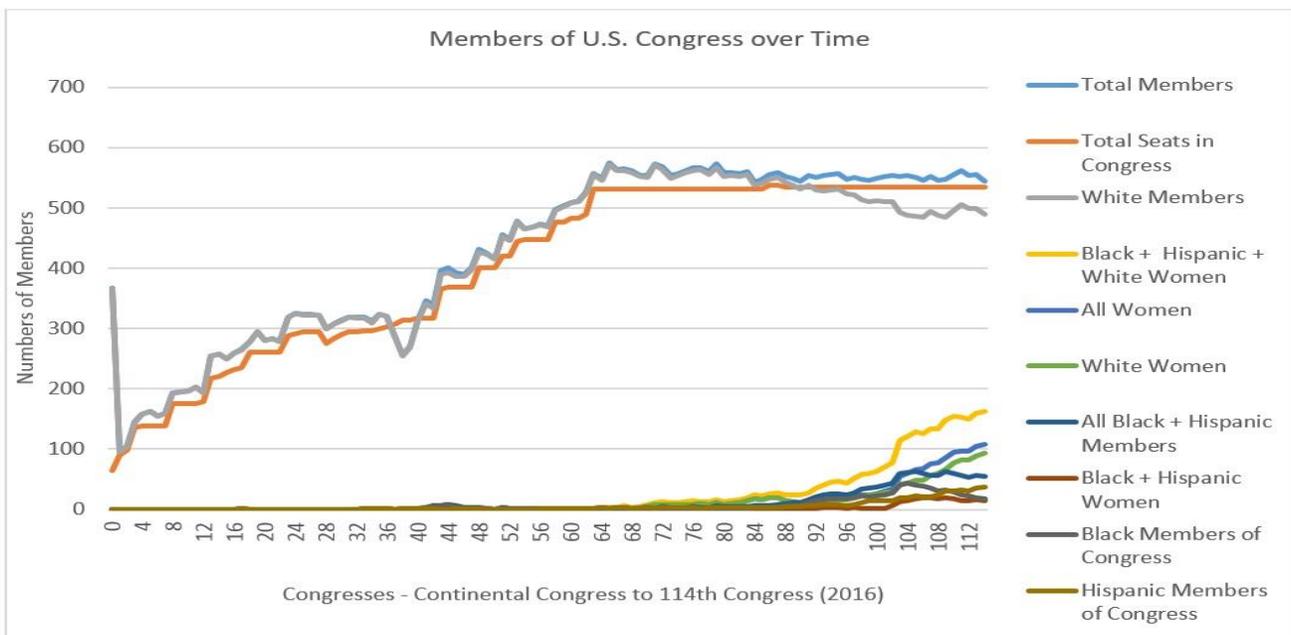
### Expanding Suffrage while putting a lid on Congress

Exercising the right to vote changed the composition of congress. The following chart shows the numbers of Whites, Blacks, Hispanics, and Women in Congress, from the Continental Congress to the

114<sup>th</sup> Congress (2016). The number of Total Members often exceeds the number of seats in Congress because the same seat in the same session may be held by more than one person. Two examples: 367 members of the Continental Congress rotated through 65 seats from 1774-89 and Trey Radel early-vacated the CD-19 congressional seat.<sup>13</sup>

On the following chart, the blue line is the total number of members in the Congress. The orange line shows the total number of seats. The grey line shows the total number of White members and the yellow line shows the total number of members who would not have been allowed to sit in Congress or vote in elections in 1787: Black, Hispanic and White Women members of Congress.

Since 1913, the House has set itself an arbitrary limit, 435 seats, which has not expanded with growth in the electorate or the number of states. In game theory, this creates a “zero-sum game” which can cause friction between earlier groups and more recently-included groups.



If your values and interests are like mine, vote for Hillary and her chosen running-mate - Civil Rights litigator with city, state and federal experience - Tim Kaine. Breaking through the glass ceiling is important. The success of the United States in opening opportunities for a greater meritocracy means many women are prepared for higher office. A generation from now women will ask: “What’s a glass ceiling?”

Hillary has the gravitas we have grown used to in presidents and she is more likely to fill openings in government with people who will move the nation forward toward greater greatness rather than trying to make us great again.

When her opposition uses their carefully chosen and marketed slogan “Great Again,” they suggest taking us back to a supposedly greater time. What time would they find greater than this and what we can become in the future?

Would they want to take us back to the time before Stonewall; before Selma; before 1964 when the men returned from the War, displaced women factory workers, utilized public assistance to obtain low-cost loans to move their families to modern insular suburbs and took advantage of low-cost

educational opportunities to move up the corporate ladder; the Great Depression; the Civil War when southern gentlemen were not patient enough to wait for success in the courts; or Seneca Falls when women had to plead with their men to “remember the ladies,” as Abigail wrote to her husband and frequent pen-pal John Adams?

### **Vote Local**

If it is easier for you, start by voting local. There are people in our area who have set aside significant time in their lives to run for public office, among them are John Scott, April Freeman and Cia Sherman (Lehigh Acres Fire Commissioner, Seat 4) who are not on our Precinct 49 ballot.<sup>14</sup> Going down the sample Precinct 49 ballot, the DPLC endorsed candidates are:

**Board of County Commissioners District 5: Diane Zigrossi.** Diane lives in District 5. Lee County has chosen not to adopt single-member districting, which would link a single member with a single district. Commissioners are elected county-wide. They represent the whole county though, typically, they are best known in the district where they reside. If District 5 votes overwhelmingly for Diane Zigrossi, she may lose. Diane needs to win county-wide. Diane Zigrossi needs our votes.

As Hillary indicated in the last debate, you can tell a lot about a person by the way their children turn out. Of Diane, her son, Matthew Seiler, says “She saved me a long time ago, now I am working to save her.” Diane has years of experience in elected office that her family wants to share with our community.

**School Board Member District 6: Jane Kuckel.** In preparing this letter, I reached out to Jane Kuckel. We had an informative phone conversation and Jane followed-up with an email and attachments.

Jane explained: “Bonita Springs will vote for three School Board representatives this year. School Board Districts 6 and 7 are called At-Large seats as they represent and are voted for by all of Lee County. Both seats are up for election on November 8, 2016. The other School Board Representative for Bonita Springs is District 3. ... That seat was up for election this year and decided in the Primary Election when Chris Patricca received over 50% of the vote.” Thus, the school board will be a hybrid of single-member districts and county-wide “At Large” districts.

Jane has been on the school board before, during a time of quick and vast expansion. She has tried retirement and now wants to return to work as an at-large member. Jane is the only candidate for the School Board endorsed by the DPLC. The ballot lists candidates for School Board District 6 alphabetically, so Jane Kuckel starts in second place. Jane needs our votes to catch up! Please, spread the word.

The News-Press endorsed Jane Kuckel using words like “peacemaker” and “bridge.” They found Jane is “calm under pressure” and “reasonable in her decision making.”<sup>15</sup> Jane thinks of herself as “the voice of reason.”<sup>16</sup> News-Press reporter Stacey Henson observed “When you lead people who march to a different drummer, you have to let them set the beat while bringing them into harmony.” Jane explained: “You have to take your campaign hat off when you get to the door ... Roll up your sleeves, be respectful and listen to each other.”<sup>17</sup>

Jane Kuckel has earned endorsements from many in our community who pride themselves on setting high standards, recognizing ability to reach those levels, and encouraging the effort. Among these are the News-Press, the Democratic Party of Lee County, Republican Sheriff Mike Scott<sup>18</sup> and Ft. Myers Mayor Randy Henderson.<sup>19</sup>

**Lee County Mosquito Control District Area 7: Jason King.** In a brief email interview, Jason King reported he has been a registered Democrat since first registering to vote. Jason's example counters the artificial aura that Democrats are too intimidated to campaign in Lee County. He has a law degree and an MBA in Finance which he feels will help him "ensure tax payers of Lee County are getting what we pay for."

Next year's budget for the Mosquito Control District is \$26 Million. According to Jason's website, the District has nearly 100 ground vehicles including adulticiding trucks, 11 helicopters and 4 Douglas C47 fixed wing-aircraft.<sup>20</sup>

Personally, all I care about with regard to mosquito control in Lee County are results: no mosquito-caused problems such as the Zika virus, Dengue fever, Saint Louis encephalitis virus, dog heartworm, West Nile Virus or Yellow Fever. Jason sounds like he would quash every mosquito that enters county airspace, if he could.

**Issues.** You may prefer to start voting on amendments. The Democratic Party of Lee County is recommending:

- **"No"** against Amendment 1 (which could expand utility monopoly to sale of solar power)
- **"Yes"** on the other Amendments.

### **Conclusion.**

This has been a complicated year for SW Florida elections. In March we had the Presidential Preference Primary. In CD-19, we then went to Democratic Party headquarters in Lee and Collier counties to vote for the actual delegates who voted at the Philadelphia convention. In August, we had the Primary election, with a solar Amendment that encouraged roof-top solar. It won. For property tax purposes, homes may not be appraised higher simply because solar is on the roof.

Now, we are about to have the general election, with several proposed amendments, including a much different solar amendment. The amendment on the ballot for the up-coming general election would increase the power of monopolies by restricting competition from roof-top solar. To iterate, the Democratic Party recommends a "NO" vote against the solar amendment now on the ballot.

Some people reading this letter will be nodding in agreement while others are saying: "Steven, why worry? We're living on the coast between Naples and Sanibel-Captiva. We ARE the moneyed privileged or work for them." That may ring true.

It is not totally true. 20% of Bonita Springs lives in poverty.<sup>21</sup> Jane Kuckel says the percentage of students in Lee County schools who receive subsidized meals because they happened to be born into families who live below the poverty-line is about 70%.

Wouldn't it be safer and better if zero percent lived in poverty and 100% had a stake in our future?

Me worry? Yes. I doubt mosquitos, hurricanes and rising tides of algae care about our levels of success. Isolating privilege and money may be countered by voting, small-dollar donations, and knowledge of candidates and local concerns. Get a ballot, start to vote; patriotism overwhelms apathy and ennui.

Thank you for registering Democratic, volunteering Democratic and voting Democratic.

Your Democratic Precinct Committeeperson,

Steven Blumrosen

8951 Bonita Beach Rd. S.E., Ste. 525-PMB412 (The UPS Store), Bonita Springs, FL 34135

239-992-9916 / [Steven@FLTurnBlue.com](mailto:Steven@FLTurnBlue.com) / [www.meetup.com/FL-Turn-Blue](http://www.meetup.com/FL-Turn-Blue)

PS: The Democratic Club of Bonita Springs and South Lee County has a new vice president, Rose (roseofleecounty@gmail.com). She has plans for the future. Around January, the Club will start building infrastructure. I hope you will consider joining us in articulating our vision, developing our mission statement, structuring our programs and improving our communications.

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1. Not that there is anything wrong with asking for money. Money is necessary to buy “stuff” and, hopefully, the right stuff will put Democrats into office.

Some people receiving this letter may have come to the fundraiser in Bonita Springs for **John Scott**, a Democrat who has been running the Sierra Club in Lee County and is now running for election to the Florida statehouse from District 79 (Lehigh Acres). He has expressed great appreciation for our help and we showed deep-seated support for the only Democrat in Lee County willing to campaign to stand up to the Republicans in Tallahassee.

2. <http://www.lee.vote/voters/whats-on-my-ballot>

3. <http://www.lee.vote/vote-by-mail-ballots-will-be-mailed-out-friday-october-7-2016>

4. <http://www.lee.vote/elections>

5. Sharon Harrington, SOE, is still using tax dollars to put our polling places in churches.

6. A pox or plague. This saying comes from Romeo and Juliet, often attributed to William Shakespeare.

7. [www.voterfocus.com/ws/pfinder/pl\\_CountyMAIS.php?op=stat&p=49.0&county=lee&name\\_and\\_zip=Y](http://www.voterfocus.com/ws/pfinder/pl_CountyMAIS.php?op=stat&p=49.0&county=lee&name_and_zip=Y)

8. <https://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-in-History/Civil-Rights-Movement.aspx>

9. <https://www.jfklibrary.org/JFK/JFK-in-History/Civil-Rights-Movement.aspx>

10. <http://millercenter.org/president/lbjohnson/speeches/speech-3381>

11. <http://www.lib.niu.edu/1996/ih319648.html>

12. Sandra Day O’Connor, nominated by Ronald Reagan in 1981, was the first woman on the Supreme Court.

13. Tea Partier Trey Radel was elected by voters in CD-19. Among his constituents were residents of Bonita Springs. He was sworn-in as a member of the House on January 3, 2013. October 29, 2013, Congressman Radel went to DuPont Circle, bought 3.5 grams of cocaine from an FBI agent and was promptly arrested. In DC, that was “just” a misdemeanor. At home, it would have been a felony. In addition to legal technicalities, Radel deprived CD-19 of representation on the House floor. Following his eventual resignation, there was a special election in which **April Freeman** stood up for Democrats against self-funded Curt Clawson who won the special election and followed Radel in the CD-19 seat.

Following congressional reapportionment and judicial correction of gerrymandered voting districts, April Freeman is now running for Congress in CD-17. She can use your support.

More about Radel:

\* The Washington Post talked about hypocrisy, [https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/rep-trey-radels-arrest-inspires-a-brilliant-idea-lets-drug-test-members-of-congress/2013/11/21/8f19c51e-52e6-11e3-9e2c-e1d01116fd98\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/rep-trey-radels-arrest-inspires-a-brilliant-idea-lets-drug-test-members-of-congress/2013/11/21/8f19c51e-52e6-11e3-9e2c-e1d01116fd98_story.html).

\* The Washington Times devoted a whole topic to Radel, <http://www.washingtontimes.com/topics/trey-radel>.

\* The News-Press covered the expungement from his official record, <http://www.news-press.com/story/news/2014/10/30/ex-congressman-trey-radels-record-cleared/18218925>.

\* Politico, "Trey Radel on cocaine bust: I should have resigned right away," <http://www.politico.com/story/2015/08/trey-radel-now-recovery-121713#ixzz4NDvfcuUs>

\* In his own defense, Trey Radel has put the dissing of his constituents behind him and, on his website describes himself as "a journalist, former member of Congress, author, actor and communicator who is a "Communications Concierge" with expertise in "Media Training • Political Messaging • Crisis Comms," <http://www.treyradel.com>.

14. [www.lee.vote/elections/offices-to-be-elected](http://www.lee.vote/elections/offices-to-be-elected)

15. <http://www.news-press.com/story/opinion/2016/10/09/our-choices-nov-8-election/91602402/>

16. <http://janekuckel.com/vision/>

17. <http://www.news-press.com/story/news/2016/08/10/jane-kuckel-wants-return-lee-county-school-board/86995248/>

18. <http://www.news-press.com/story/news/politics/betty-parker/2016/09/30/parker-politics-sheriff-scott-backs-kuckel-morgan-school-board/91324764/>

19. Randy has quietly admonished me, more than once, to leave my donkey at the door.

20. <http://www.votejasonking.com/mosquito-control>

21. Census, Bonita Springs, Quick Facts: [www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/INC110214/1207525,12071](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/INC110214/1207525,12071)

Thanks for dropping by, taking the time to smell the coffee, and considering the conversation.



<b>Supervisor of Elections</b> <b>Supervisor de Elecciones</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	<b>No. 1 Constitutional Amendment, Article X, Section 29</b> <b>N° 1 Enmienda Constitucional, Artículo X, Sección 29</b>	<b>No. 3 Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 6, Article XII</b> <b>N° 3 Enmienda Constitucional, Artículo VII, Sección 6, Artículo XII</b>
<input type="radio"/> Tommy Doyle  <input type="radio"/> Sharon L. Harrington	<b>Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice</b>  This amendment establishes a right under Florida's constitution for consumers to own or lease solar equipment installed on their property to generate electricity for their own use. State and local governments shall retain their abilities to protect consumer rights and public health, safety and welfare, and to ensure that consumers who do not choose to install solar are not required to subsidize the costs of backup power and electric grid access to those who do.	<b>Tax Exemption for Totally and Permanently Disabled First Responders</b>  Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize a first responder, who is totally and permanently disabled as a result of injuries sustained in the line of duty, to receive relief from ad valorem taxes assessed on homestead property, if authorized by general law. If approved by voters, the amendment takes effect January 1, 2017.
<b>School Board Member District 6</b> <b>Miembro del Consejo Escolar Distrito 6</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	The amendment is not expected to result in an increase or decrease in any revenues or costs to state and local government.	<b>Exención de Impuestos Para los Socorristas con una Discapacidad Total</b>  Se propone una enmienda a la Constitución del Estado que autorice a los socorristas con una discapacidad total permanente, como consecuencia de las heridas provocadas durante el cumplimiento del deber, a recibir un reducción de los impuestos ad valorem estimados sobre las propiedades, si es autorizado por ley. Si es aprobado por los votantes, la enmienda entraría en vigencia el 1° de enero de 2017.
<input type="radio"/> Don H. Armstrong  <input type="radio"/> Jane Kuckel	<b>Derechos de los Consumidores de Electricidad Respecto a la Elección de la Energía Solar</b>  Esta enmienda establece, bajo la constitución de Florida, el derecho de los consumidores a poseer o arrendar un equipo solar instalado en su propiedad para la generación de su propia electricidad. El gobierno estatal y el gobierno local mantienen la potestad de proteger los derechos de los consumidores y la salud pública, la seguridad y el bienestar, y garantizan que los consumidores que no deseen la instalación solar no deban subsidiar los costos de la electricidad de reserva ni el acceso a la red de suministro eléctrico de aquellos que sí lo hacen.	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No
<b>School Board Member District 7</b> <b>Miembro del Consejo Escolar Distrito 7</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	Esta enmienda no debiera aumentar ni disminuir los ingresos o costos del gobierno estatal ni del gobierno local.	<b>No. 5 Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 6, Article XII</b> <b>N° 5 Enmienda Constitucional, Artículo VII, Sección 6, Artículo XII</b>
<input type="radio"/> Cathleen Morgan  <input type="radio"/> Chris Quackenbush	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No	<b>Homestead Tax Exemption for Certain Senior, Low-Income, Long-Term Residents; Determination of Just Value</b>  Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to revise the homestead tax exemption that may be granted by counties or municipalities for property with just value less than \$250,000 owned by certain senior, low-income, long-term residents to specify that just value is determined in the first tax year the owner applies and is eligible for the exemption. The amendment takes effect January 1, 2017, and applies retroactively to exemptions granted before January 1, 2017.
<b>Lee Memorial Health System District 5</b> <b>Sistema de Salud de Lee Memorial Distrito 5</b> (Vote for up to 2) (Vote por un máximo de 2)	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No	<b>Exención de Impuesto a la Propiedad Para los Residentes Mayores, de Bajos Recursos y con Antigüedad de Residencia; Determinación del Valor de Mercado</b>  Se propone una enmienda a la Constitución del Estado para revisar la exención del impuesto a la propiedad que pueden conceder los condados o municipios para propiedades cuyo valor de mercado sea menor a \$ 250.000 y cuyos dueños sean residentes mayores, de bajos recursos y con antigüedad de residencia, y para especificar que el valor de mercado está determinado en el primer año de impuesto en el que el propietario aplica y que tiene derecho a la exención. La enmienda entra en vigencia el 1° de enero de 2017, y se aplica retroactivamente a las exenciones concedidas antes del 1° de enero de 2017.
<input type="radio"/> Minnie Henry Jackson  <input type="radio"/> Stephanie Meyer  <input type="radio"/> Jessica Carter Peer	<b>No. 2 Constitutional Amendment, Article X, Section 29</b> <b>N° 2 Enmienda Constitucional, Artículo X, Sección 29</b>	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No
<b>Lee County Mosquito Control District Area 1</b> <b>Distrito de Control de Mosquitos del Condado Lee Area 1</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	<b>Use of Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Conditions</b>  Allows medical use of marijuana for individuals with debilitating medical conditions as determined by a licensed Florida physician. Allows caregivers to assist patients' medical use of marijuana. The Department of Health shall register and regulate centers that produce and distribute marijuana for medical purposes and shall issue identification cards to patients and caregivers. Applies only to Florida law. Does not immunize violations of federal law or any non-medical use, possession or production of marijuana.	<b>County Referendum</b> <b>Referéndum del Condado</b>
<input type="radio"/> Ed Brantley  <input type="radio"/> Melissa Dortch	<b>Use of Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Conditions</b>  Increased costs from this amendment to state and local governments cannot be determined. There will be additional regulatory costs and enforcement activities associated with the production, sale, use and possession of medical marijuana. Fees may offset some of the regulatory costs. Sales tax will likely apply to most purchases, resulting in a substantial increase in state and local government revenues that cannot be determined precisely. The impact on property tax revenues cannot be determined.	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No
<b>Lee County Mosquito Control District Area 7</b> <b>Distrito de Control de Mosquitos del Condado Lee Area 7</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	<b>Uso de la Marihuana Para Condiciones Médicas Degenerativas</b>  Permite la utilización médica de la marihuana para aquellos individuos con condiciones médicas degenerativas diagnosticadas por un médico licenciado en Florida. Permite a los cuidadores asistir a los pacientes en el uso médico de la marihuana. El Departamento de Salud debe certificar y regular los centros que producen y distribuyen la marihuana y debe expedir documentos de identificación para los pacientes y cuidadores. Se aplica únicamente para la ley de Florida. No invalida las violaciones de la ley federal o cualquier uso no medicinal, posesión o producción de marihuana.	<b>Conservation 20/20 Non-Binding Referendum</b>  Do you approve of Lee County continuing to use general revenue funds to acquire, restore, improve, and manage land for conservation, surface water management, water quality, water recharge and supply, flood control, wildlife habitat, passive public recreation, and open space purposes, pursuant to Lee County Ordinance 15-08 (commonly known as the Lee County Conservation 20/20 Land Program)?
<input type="radio"/> Jason King  <input type="radio"/> Bruce C. Scott  <input type="radio"/> Al Shilling	No puede determinarse el aumento de los costos para el gobierno estatal y el gobierno local debido a esta enmienda. Habrá costos adicionales de regulación y por las actividades de implementación asociadas con la producción, venta, uso y posesión de la marihuana medicinal. Los aranceles podrían pensar algunos de los costos regulatorios. Los impuestos sobre las ventas probablemente se apliquen a la mayoría de las compras, lo que daría como resultado un aumento sustancial pero difícil de precisar de los ingresos del gobierno estatal y local. Tampoco se puede determinar el impacto en los ingresos por los impuestos a la propiedad.	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No
<b>Bonita Springs Fire District Seat 2</b> <b>Distrito de Incendios de Bonita Springs Escaño 2</b> (Vote for 1) (Vote por 1)	<b>Uso de la Marihuana Para Condiciones Médicas Degenerativas</b>  Permite la utilización médica de la marihuana para aquellos individuos con condiciones médicas degenerativas diagnosticadas por un médico licenciado en Florida. Permite a los cuidadores asistir a los pacientes en el uso médico de la marihuana. El Departamento de Salud debe certificar y regular los centros que producen y distribuyen la marihuana y debe expedir documentos de identificación para los pacientes y cuidadores. Se aplica únicamente para la ley de Florida. No invalida las violaciones de la ley federal o cualquier uso no medicinal, posesión o producción de marihuana.	<b>Referéndum No Vinculate sobre la Conservación 20/20</b>  ¿Aprueba usted que el Condado de Lee continúe usando fondos de los ingresos públicos generales para adquirir, restaurar, mejorar, y administrar tierras para la conservación, administración de aguas superficiales, calidad del agua, recarga y abasto de agua, control de inundaciones, hábitat para la vida silvestre, recreación pasiva del público, y propósitos de espacios abiertos, conforme a la Ordenanza 15-08 del Condado de Lee (comúnmente conocida como el Programa de Conservación de Tierras 20/20 del Condado de Lee)?
<input type="radio"/> Edward P. Fitzgerald  <input type="radio"/> Frank W. Liles  <input type="radio"/> Jeff Maturo	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No	<input type="radio"/> Yes / Sí  <input type="radio"/> No / No

Democratic Party of Lee County Florida  
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239-939-2866



Use this guide to help you **VOTE BY MAIL** or take it with you to **EARLY VOTING OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 5** or on **ELECTION DAY November 8**

Please remember to return your vote by mail ballot as soon as possible

Vote the **ENTIRE BALLOT** to guarantee responsible and equal government for all.

## Democratic Party of Lee County Florida

### 2016 Endorsed Candidates



**Every VOTE Counts!**



- Hillary Clinton President Tim Kaine Vice-President
- Patrick Murphy—U. S. Senate
- April Freeman—U.S. House District 17
- Florida State House District 79—John Scott
- Lee County Commission District 5—Diane Zigrossi
- Lee County School Board District 6—Jane Kuckel
- Mosquito Control Board Area 7—Jason King
- Lehigh Fire Commissioner Seat 4—Lucia Sherman

#### 2016 Constitutional Amendments

- Amendment 1—Solar Energy Choice—Vote No
- Amendment 2—Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Conditions - Vote Yes
- Amendment 3—Tax Exemption for Disabled First Responders—Vote Yes
- Homestead Exemption for Low Income Seniors—Vote Yes
- Conservation 20-20 Non Binding Referendum—Vote Yes

Vote to **RETAIN** all judges **EXCEPT** Charles P. Canady

For further explanation about the amendments and our positions, see our website [www.leecountydems.org](http://www.leecountydems.org)