Sadie Chawkins talked about reducing the use of plastics. Adult speakers included Ellen Joffe who discussed the environmental benefits of veganism and Sarasota Climate justice leader Sean Sellers who encouraged taking direct action. White says, “There was so much more support than I could have imagined.” The local strike was one of more than 2000 events across the world and served as a source of inspiration, impacting students and adults alike in Sarasota.

Sarasota Students 4 Climate will be continuing their protests throughout the year, and students can get involved by contacting sarasotastudents4climate@gmail.com.

Students Strike for Climate Action

BY CHRISTINA GUAN

Over 650 students and adults alike gathered in front of the Unconditional Surrender statue as part of the global protest against the lack of action against climate change on September 20th. The event was hosted by Sarasota Students 4 Climate. The organization has been hosting weekly protests on Fridays since May, working to inspire activism and action. This protest was their biggest one yet.

The organization was first started by Ella Mirman, a junior at Booker High School, and Moriya White, a junior at Pine View School, and was created “to fight for a livable future for our loved ones and future generations”. Ella cites Greta Thunberg, a Swedish 16-year-old environmental activist, as one of her inspirations. In August 2018, Thunberg started a school strike for the climate outside the Swedish Parliament that has since spread all over the world. The movement is now called Fridays For Future.

Mirman, one of the Strike organizers, rallied those demonstrating with a series of chants. “What do we want? CLIMATE ACTION When do we want it? NOW”. Eighth grade environmentalist Sadie Hawkins talked about reducing the use of plastics. Adult speakers included Ellen Joffe who discussed the environmental benefits of veganism and Sarasota Climate justice leader Sean Sellers who encouraged taking direct action. White says, “There was so much more support than I could have imagined.”

The local strike was one of more than 2000 events across the world and served as a source of inspiration, impacting students and adults alike in Sarasota.

Sarasota Students 4 Climate will be continuing their protests throughout the year, and students can get involved by contacting sarasotastudents4climate@gmail.com.

Eat Local Week 2019 - Exploring Food Waste

BY REBECCA BREY

Registration is now OPEN for Eat Local Week 2019 events! Transition Sarasota, a non-profit that works to provide food and economic security by supporting sustainable local sources, organizes the festivities each year. Eat Local Week 2019 will be held from October 17 to November 2. The theme this year is “Exploring Food Waste”, we’re taking a dive into what it is, why it matters, and how our community is working towards solutions. The festival will feature more than 20 educational, delicious, and engaging events to showcase and build community around our region’s local food economy.

Festivities begin October 17 with a Keynote presentation by Tracie Troxler of Sunshine Community Compost. She’s tackling our “Exploring Food Waste” theme by sharing her expertise around composting, community, and more! In the weeks that follow we have something for everyone in our diverse collection of events.

Want the behind-the-scenes on local, sustainable food? Check out tours at - Siesta Key Rum, Mote Aquaculture Research Park, Waste Pro Materials Recycling Facility, Bay Haven School’s Food Forest, All Faiths Food Bank, and local compost sites on a bike tour!

Looking to eat local food? We have you covered with Big Mama’s Collard Greens Fest, a local vendor fair at Lucky’s Market, Ortygia Restaurant’s ZERO WASTE dinner, and Operation Eco Vet’s Farm-to-Table Fundraiser.

Looking to learn something new? Register for a class on foraging, canning, fruit trees, composting, or medicinal plants.

“Tackling food waste doesn’t have to be depressing… it’s delicious!” Don’t miss the film showing of WASTED! a story about food waste, featuring celebrity chefs and followed by a panel of Sarasota’s local food experts to get you excited about tackling food waste.

As you celebrate Eat Local Week 2019, you’ll glean how small changes can make a big impact here in Southwest Florida. We hope you’ll be inspired to join us, making big strides to curb food waste.

Eat Local Week events are a mixture of free, donation based, and tickets for purchase. Most events have limited space so please reserve in advance. Full details about all the events and how to register can be found at www.TransitionSRQ.org.

Hierarchy to Reduce Food Waste and Grow Community

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

NCF Connects Art + Humanities........page 2
November Decision for Celery Fields...page 3
Community Schools...............................page 4
The Divine Feminine............................page 5
WSLR Schedule................................page 6
Calendar of Events................................page 8
Restricting..........................................page 9
Ending U.S. Forever Wars..............page 10

“Democracy is not a spectator sport.”

Volume 12 Sarasota, Florida October - December, 2019

FREE

LOOK INSIDE FOR UPCOMING FOGARTYVILLE EVENTS
New College of Florida is pleased to present its fourth season of Connecting Arts + Humanities on Florida’s Creative Coast. The yearlong series of events, which kicked off in September, is supported by a five-year $750,000 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant.

The 2019-20 season features two new lecture series: “Communities in Transit,” which focuses on migration, deportation, and citizenship, and “Religion in Sarasota,” which examines the role of religion in politics, community life, and emotional health. This season also celebrates the life and legacy of the provocative and prolific French writer Colette (1873-1954), a novelist, journalist, actress, and a liberated woman in a changing France. A series of multi-institutional events mark the centennial of her 1920 novel Chéri.

The Asian Film Series screens five films that address themes encompassing immigration, global migration, and cultural conflicts from a diverse range of Asian perspectives. Artist talks, exhibitions, and performances by New Music New College, along with collaborations with the Asolo Repertory Theatre, Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, and Urbanite Theatre, showcase national and regional talent.

In partnership with the Sarasota Ballet, New College hosts a lecture and master class on the choreographic innovations of Paul Taylor. Collaborations with Sarasota Contemporary Dance include performances in the Ringling Museum Galleries along with the continuation of the popular Dance for Parkinson’s series.

In February, New College celebrates Black History Month with a slate of events. Also, the third Thursday of every month feature a series of Campus Conversations that engage small group discussions around topics ranging from Medieval manuscripts to philosophical inquiries into our relationship with animals.

The entire 2019-2020 schedule can be viewed online at: https://www.ncf.edu/about-news-and-events/events-and-conferences/mellon/.

NCF Connects Art + Humanities

Critical Times is a publication of WSLR, Inc.

MISSION:
WSLR+Fogartyville is a center for creative expression and community engagement that amplifies the voices of our diverse community and promotes peace, sustainability, democracy and economic and social justice.

ADDRESS:
525 Kumquat Ct, Sarasota, FL 34236

CONTACT US:
(941) 894-6469
criticaltimesrqr@gmail.com
www.CriticalTimes.org

Publisher: Arlene Sweeting
Layout: Mark Zampella
Contributing Writers: Andy Blanch, Rebecca Brey, John Feagan, Christiana Guan, Mitsi Ito, Carol Lerner, Tom Matrullo, Carol Rescigno, John Severini, Steve Hough

PLACE AN AD IN THE CRITICAL TIMES

2500 Copies of the Critical Times are distributed free of charge at local libraries and community events. It is also distributed digitally to over 4000 e-newsletter subscribers and promoted on our Facebook and Twitter feeds.

1/12 page - 3.325” x 3.32” - $55 or $200/4 issues
1/6 page - 6.65” x 3.32” - $90 or $300/4 issues
1/3 page - 15.35” x 3.32” - $135 or $450/4 issues

For more information, email CriticalTimesSRQ@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE! Oct 17th

What: 24th Annual ‘Share the Light’ Luncheon
When: Thursday, October 17th, 2019 at 11:30am
Where: Michael’s On East

Join us in celebrating SCLO’s successes and become a part of our exciting future at our ‘SHARE THE LIGHT’ Luncheon.

For tickets and sponsorship opportunities
https://secondchancelastopportunity.org/events/share-the-light-luncheon
941-360-8600

SHARE THE LIGHT HONOREES

Individual tickets are $65
Patron tickets are $90

Arlene Sweeting
Duhane Lindo

HOST
Justin Mosely
SNN’s Chief Meteorologist

April Glasco, CEO & FOUNDER Second Chance Last Opportunity, Inc.

HOST
Second Chance Last Opportunity
Imagine a town that out of the blue is gifted with a natural wonderland, nurturing to birds and human beings. People come to see the creatures in their wetlands, to explore a new feature of the land -- an eye-popping plateau. Soon, the new place is drawing visitors from out of town, curious to see this ecological marvel.

Now imagine that the town authorities' response to this is “meh.” Indeed, when a developer wants to build a demolition waste facility next to this serendipitous sanctuary, he gets his skids greased by these authorities, who even change the Comprehensive Plan to legalize the site location after contracting to sell it to the waste developer.

What town would be so destructive to nature? To its community? To the fabric of common sense? Sadly this is neither an imaginary tale, not a rhetorical question.

If hundreds of residents hadn’t rallied in 2017 to oppose James Gabbert’s waste facility at the Celery Fields, he’d be pulverizing drywall and cement there right now with the Board Sarasota County’s blessing.

And it ain’t over. In November, Sarasota’s elected officials will consider selling our public lands at the Celery Fields for industry.

To briefly recap:

After encountering initial community opposition, Gabbert persisted in seeking Board approval for his 16-acre open-air waste project. Perhaps he figured Sleepy Sarasota wouldn’t notice. Maybe he had reason to think he had a sure thing. Gabbert cuts a substantial figure in Sarasota: from firefighter to banker, from waste facility developer to money lender, from generous backer of Commissioners Moran and Maio to elected member of the Sarasota County’s Charter Review Board (first appointed by Gov. Rick Scott).

On Aug. 23, 2017, after a daylong hearing at which more than 70 speakers expressed grief, outrage, and a good deal of wisdom, the Board voted down Gabbert’s proposal 3-2 (Maio and Moran voted for Gabbert). More telling is what didn’t happen: The Board didn’t direct staff to take a fresh look at this area -- to explore the potential of a new amenity that meant so much to so many.

When our elected officials chose not to take a fresh look, the community volunteered to. In November 2017, more than 70 speakers expressed grief, outrage, and a good deal of wisdom, presented through a vetted and participatory consensus process.

The Board continued to do nothing until last January, when, to justify the sale and development of “the Quads” -- four parcels totaling 33 acres of public land near the Celery Fields -- it ordered staff to produce a new Critical Area Plan (CAP).

On Nov. 6, the Board is expected to discuss the plan and could decide the future of the Quads. A draft version of the CAP finds that industrial, office, or residential uses would be “suitable” on parcels #2 and #3, west of Apex Road. It suggests park-like or passive uses for parcels #1 and #4, east of Apex, and recommends sensible constraints to bar heavy industry on all four parcels. However, warehouses and other kinds of “light” industry are said to be “suitable” on #2 and #3.

Residents might not agree.

The CAP purports to describe a set of “suitable uses within an MEC-designated area.” The area in question was designated MEC, Major Employment Center, in 1975 -- decades before the Celery Fields and thousands of homes to the east came into being. The cumulative effect of 340 acres of clean air, wetlands full of nesting creatures, a stunning plateau, recreational trails, the Audubon Nature Center -- a destination increasingly attractive to birds and human visitors from afar -- has irrevocably transformed the character of this place.

Why do our commissioners act as if this never happened?

With intelligent custodianship, the Celery Fields could become a more potent economic engine than any additional multi-family development, auto parts warehouse, or office park, many say. It’s within walking distance to shops and restaurants. The County chose not to explore this potential in the scope of its plan.

Why not?

What happened here was quite unusual. Normally human construction constricts and dominates nature, but here the reverse happened: human intervention - driven by stormwater needs - resulted in giving Nature a new primacy. Thousands and thousands of birds noticed. The place took on a life of its own. Visually, aurally, ecologically and omnitrophically, everything changed.

Mr. Gabbert is now building a waste transfer operation on land he owns adjacent to parcel #2. And Robert Waechter, former head of Sarasota’s Republican Party, owns warehouses next to that parcel. Waechter repeatedly has pushed for more industry on the narrow roads there; even “light” industry can involve large trucks.

It seems fair to ask: When the Board considers the future of the Celery Fields and our public lands, what will it see? An unexpected gift of Nature? Or a chit in some petty political calculation?

This November, our elected officials need to open their eyes to the Celery Fields we know and love. If they do, they might actually see this gift -- all it can be -- for the first time.

Tentative Meeting Date: Nov. 6 Time: TBA

---

Brady Sarasota Working for Sensible Gun Control

BY CAROL RESCIGNO

With all the mass shootings this summer, the single shootings on the streets and in our homes, all the suicides and the unintentional shootings, our legislators continue to stall on how they will keep us safer. To be fair, they have been on recess. To be fair to us, they could have returned to work to deal with this epidemic.

Brady Sarasota and its youth branch, Team Enough, held a rally on Aug. 25 that drew 150 people to Five Points Park downtown. The turnout of that many people in Florida in August shows how tired people are of the 40,000 gun deaths every year in this country. The event’s co-sponsors were the Indivisible group Action Together Suncoast, Florida Veterans for Common Sense and Protect Our Public Schools. Speakers included youth and adult activists, a veteran, members of the Christian and Muslim faith communities and a song leader who engaged the crowd.

Brady believes that universal background checks, better extreme-risk (red-flag) laws and a ban on assault weapons are mandatory. This is not about mental health, video games, parenting or too few “good guys with guns.” It’s about keeping guns out of the hands of those who are a threat to themselves or others.

Brady will hold its kickoff meeting Thursday, October 17 at 10:45 am at Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota, to continue making plans for the next season. Current members and all those who are ready to join the fight for better gun laws and programs in Florida and nationally are urged to attend. The time is now!
Imagine students attending an elementary school where they learn academics through activities infused with the arts, in a school that is open from 7 am to 7 pm, and in a school with engaging recreational activities and quality learning opportunities available both before and after school.

Imagine classroom teachers having direct access to on-site professionals, including medical and mental health staff, who can take action if a student becomes ill or shows any troubling signs.

Imagine parents having access to family support staff right in the school who will provide guidance and support on any parental concern or need for assistance.

Imagine surrounding community residents being able to access medical and other services in their neighborhood school that serves as a hub for the community.

Imagine a school designed to overcome the disadvantages of poverty, where parents are empowered, and supports are available to meet the individualized needs of children.

This type of school is now being created in Manatee County at Manatee Elementary School as it transitions to becoming a full-fledged Community Partnership School (CPS) with an arts-integrated curriculum next August. Some of the services and programs are already in place and others will be phased in over this year as the planning cabinet and task forces formed to plan and implement the CPS model.

The CPS model is one of many community school models implemented in over 7500 community schools throughout the US. The Florida CPS was developed by the Children’s Home Society of Florida, Orange County Public Schools and the University of Central Florida (UCF) and first implemented at Evans High School in Orlando in 2010. Formally a struggling school, Evans HS is now considered one of the top community schools in the country. There are now 16 Florida CPS-model schools, including Manatee Elementary, either established, emerging or in a planning stage, and 12 more will be added this year. The large expansion of Community Partnership Schools is due to a five-fold increase in state funding for the program in the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded the dreadul session, was contained in the same Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded the

Imagine a school designed to overcome the disadvantages of poverty, where parents are empowered, and supports are available to meet the individualized needs of children. This type of school is now being created in Manatee County at Manatee Elementary School as it transitions to becoming a full-fledged Community Partnership School (CPS) with an arts-integrated curriculum next August. Some of the services and programs are already in place and others will be phased in over this year as the planning cabinet and task forces formed to plan and implement the CPS model.

The CPS model is one of many community school models implemented in over 7500 community schools throughout the US. The Florida CPS was developed by the Children’s Home Society of Florida, Orange County Public Schools and the University of Central Florida (UCF) and first implemented at Evans High School in Orlando in 2010. Formally a struggling school, Evans HS is now considered one of the top community schools in the country. There are now 16 Florida CPS-model schools, including Manatee Elementary, either established, emerging or in a planning stage, and 12 more will be added this year. The large expansion of Community Partnership Schools is due to a five-fold increase in state funding for the program in the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded the dreadul session, was contained in the same Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded

Imagine a school designed to overcome the disadvantages of poverty, where parents are empowered, and supports are available to meet the individualized needs of children. Imagine students attending an elementary school where they learn academics through activities infused with the arts, in a school that is open from 7 am to 7 pm, and in a school with engaging recreational activities and quality learning opportunities available both before and after school. Imagine classroom teachers having direct access to on-site professionals, including medical and mental health staff, who can take action if a student becomes ill or shows any troubling signs. Imagine parents having access to family support staff right in the school who will provide guidance and support on any parental concern or need for assistance. Imagine surrounding community residents being able to access medical and other services in their neighborhood school that serves as a hub for the community.

Imagine a school designed to overcome the disadvantages of poverty, where parents are empowered, and supports are available to meet the individualized needs of children. This type of school is now being created in Manatee County at Manatee Elementary School as it transitions to becoming a full-fledged Community Partnership School (CPS) with an arts-integrated curriculum next August. Some of the services and programs are already in place and others will be phased in over this year as the planning cabinet and task forces formed to plan and implement the CPS model.

The CPS model is one of many community school models implemented in over 7500 community schools throughout the US. The Florida CPS was developed by the Children’s Home Society of Florida, Orange County Public Schools and the University of Central Florida (UCF) and first implemented at Evans High School in Orlando in 2010. Formally a struggling school, Evans HS is now considered one of the top community schools in the country. There are now 16 Florida CPS-model schools, including Manatee Elementary, either established, emerging or in a planning stage, and 12 more will be added this year. The large expansion of Community Partnership Schools is due to a five-fold increase in state funding for the program in the 2019 Florida Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded the dreadul session, was contained in the same Legislative Session. This increase for CPS, one of only a few positive outcomes in this otherwise dreadful session, was contained in the same omnibus bill, SB 7070, that gave expanded the
BY ANDY BLANCH

Sarasota’s “trauma-informed community” effort now has a name: Sarasota Strong. The group’s vision is “To create a community that cares for itself,” and the mission is “To empower people to thrive through trauma education, connection, and healing.” The symbol is the banyan tree, which gains strength from aerial roots growing into the ground, creating a “community” of trees that can spread as far as an acre. The roots go deep into the earth and build intricate and beautiful patterns above ground, while the interconnected canopy provides shade from the burning tropical sun, sheltering many other species.

On the fourth Monday of every month, a growing number of community members meet to learn how toxic stress, violence, and trauma affect us, and to mobilize for effective response. Community forums alternate between north county (Community Bible Church in Newtown) and south county (UCC Church in Venice). Speakers tell their personal stories and provide insights about healing and change. To date, topics have included racism and the trauma of incarceration, domestic violence, and sexual assault. The format encourages audience participation, which drives subsequent activities. Active working groups have formed to take the message to the larger community, to learn how to facilitate and support trauma healing among friends and neighbors, and to tackle the structural conditions that create trauma in our most vulnerable communities.

Sarasota Strong is one of many related efforts emerging across the county as public awareness about the impact of trauma increases. A Circuit 12 trauma group, led by DCF, DOH and others, is raising public awareness about trauma in Sarasota, Manatee and Desoto counties, and is setting a policy context for trauma-informed approaches. They also host a Facebook page to provide information about trauma to the larger community https://www.facebook.com/Peace4Manasota/. Many behavioral health and social service providers have been effectively addressing the consequences of trauma for years, and others are following suit. First responders, teachers and staff are recognizing and responding to the trauma they experience in their daily work lives. Sarasota Strong brings a grassroots approach to this social transformation, working neighborhood by neighborhood. Over the past six months, trauma healing workshops have been offered in the Housing Authority and in two Sarasota church communities; more are being planned.

On October 13th from 3-5 pm, Sarasota Strong will host a showing and facilitated discussion of the film Broken Places at the Community Foundation of Sarasota County. The film takes its title from Ernest Hemingway in A Farewell to Arms: “The world breaks everyone, and afterward many are strong at the broken places.” It illustrates how childhood adversity can alter life trajectories, and how people can thrive despite significant challenges. For more information, contact SarasotaStrong@gmail.com. Come join the effort to make Sarasota strong!

Content for the Critical Times is community-sourced. If you would like to submit an article for the January edition, please email CriticalTimesSRQ@gmail.com. The deadline for the next edition will be December 10, 2019. Please submit events to our online Activist Calendar at CriticalTimes.org.

The Divine Feminine: Coming Into Balance

BY MITSI ITO

Throughout history, the dominant, or male principle (Divine Masculine) has been closely identified with the male gender, while feminine energy has been associated with that of the female. Unfortunately, as a result, both males and females have been boxed into culturally-defined and rigid gender roles. Masculine energy is known to be forward-directed, active and logical, individually motivated, left-brained and aggressive. Feminine energy, which has been described as ‘The Divine Feminine’, on the other hand, is right-brained, nurturing, emotional and creative.

The widely-heralded ‘rise’ of the Divine Feminine is not intended to suppress the Masculine, rather it is meant to take its place alongside. There is growing awareness of the importance of incorporating traits of the Divine Feminine with those of the Divine Masculine, in order to achieve balance — halting the global cycle of violence, inequality and hatred of ‘the other’. We need to arrive at a sustainable world paradigm by uniting the two.

This six-week series of presentations, talks, exhibits and music about, and inspired by, the Divine Feminine will address this potential by exploring the characteristics, history and actuality of the archetype of the Divine Feminine, as well as providing ways to begin to recognize and celebrate the Divine Feminine within.

Series dates: the first Tuesday of each month, November-March from 6:30-8:00pm. The last event, to be held in April, will take place on a date TBD.


Tuesday, December 3rd. The Divine Feminine in Religions Past and Present. Panel Discussion.

Tuesday, January 7th. The Divine Feminine as Muse: Her Role in Shaping Culture. Talk and presentation.


Tuesday, March 3rd. DF principles in relation to the environment, politics, education, health and financial well-being. Panel discussion.

April. How to awaken your DF. Activities, performances and booths.

If you would like to be involved in the series, please contact Mitsi at Mitsito@yahoo.com.
**Fogartyville Community Media & Arts Center**

**EVENTS**

**7pm Sunday, October 6** $12/adv/$15/door

**KYSHONA ARMSTRONG**
Her music to taps into emotion with a common thread of overcoming, hope, + empowerment; creating a unique bluesy and soulful style of music.

**The New 76ers + Experimental Farm Road**
North Florida’s acoustic folk “family” trio, their original songs are filled with lyrical harmony and expert playing. A belly-fave.

**E.F.R.** is a psychedelic folk band takes the 60s to heart with their vintage covers, eclectic songwriting and groovy originals.

**4:30-8:30pm Sunday, November 3, $12/adv/$15/door**

**Remedy Tree**
This young, progressive, FL string band delivers, energy-filled lyric-driven songs in melodic harmony. They intertwine roots Americana music, bluegrass, and old-time music.

**Plus**
**The Wandering Hours**
A rare group that is not only fun and engaging with the audience, but absolute tops on their instruments, drawing from folk traditions and intermingled metamodern thinking. Banjo, mandolin, guitar and percussion underscore the band’s thoughtful lyrics and story telling.

**8pm Friday, November 8 $22/members/$25/general**

**The Dillards feat. Rodney Dillard**
A founding member, whose biggest claim to fame is performing musically as members of the fictional Darlings family on The Andy Griffith Show, introducing bluegrass to many Americans who had never heard it. Rodney is a music history legend, recording artist, and speaking talent - and is credited as the “father of electrified bluegrass.”

**8pm Saturday, November 9 $15/members/$18/general**

**WAHH! World Fusion**
Rooted in India’s rich traditional musical culture and enveloped in an artful weave of Jazz, Rock & Funk. They are a spectacular blend of East meets West in true fusion-style. Led by tabla maestro, vocalist, multi-percussionist and composer: Shankh Lahiri; WAHH! features the amazing artists: Peter Mongaya on guitar, Rajib Karmakar on sitar, Michael Washington on drums, Giuanna vocals and Seth Lynn on bass.

**8pm Friday, November 10, $15/members/$18/general**

**Adrian Legg**
Fingerstyle Guitar
Globally acclaimed by critics and fans alike for his unique acoustic and electric fingerstyle guitar playing, Adrian Legg masterfully blends diverse musical styles, influences and inspirations to create a distinctive sound all his own.

**7pm Sunday, November 10, $15/members/$18/general**

**François de Lima & O Som Do Jazz**
Grooving samba, Bossa Nova and MPB with Brazilian valve trombonist François de Lima featuring Rio de Janeiro singer Andrea Moraes Manson and a crew of skilled musicians from Brazil, Colombia and the U.S.

**7pm Sunday, November 17 $15/members/$20/general**

**Chiara IZZI**
An award-winning singer-songwriter from Italy, whose sound is based on her own unique interpretation of a fusion of different genres, including trad-jazz, pop and Mediterranean sounds.

**7pm Th & Fri, November 21-22 **$30/members/$35/general

**Peter Asher** is a multi-Grammy Award winning music producer and was one half of Peter & Gordon who had charted songs in the 60s, joins Legendary ‘session’ guitarist Albert Lee with songs and stories. It’s sure to be a blast from their colorful pasts in the music business.

**8pm Saturday, November 23 $15/members/$18/general**

**Remedy Tree**
This young, progressive, FL string band delivers, energy-filled lyric-driven songs in melodic harmony. They intertwine roots Americana music, bluegrass, and old-time music.

**Plus**
**The Wandering Hours**
A rare group that is not only fun and engaging with the audience, but absolute tops on their instruments, drawing from folk traditions and intermingled metamodern thinking. Banjo, mandolin, guitar and percussion underscore the band’s thoughtful lyrics and story telling.

**8pm Saturday, November 30 $20/members/$25/general**

**Renésto Avich**
His compositions denote a broad conception of the sound of the Cuban tres guitar, in which he uses expressive resources of Classical music, Jazz & World Music. Andy Fornet: percussions, Otto Daniel: vocals, Yassel Pupo: piano & Mauricio Rodriguez: bass.

**Food and beverages are available**

**West Entrance at 525 Kumquat Court, Sarasota**
For Tickets Go online www.WSLR.org or Call 1-800-838-3006
A storyteller by nature with an incredible band backing her. The Honeycutters are Matt Smith on pedal steel & guitar, Rick Cooper on bass, and Evan Martin on drums. Their songs are a lyrically driven blend of old-school country roots with influences of rock & folk.

**MONDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**TUESDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**WEDNESDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**THURSDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**FRIDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**SATURDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**SUNDAY**
- 12 a.m.: Music, Automated Playlist
- 1 a.m.: Midnight Special, Sympatico
- 2 a.m.: A Day With Moods, Sympatico
- 3 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico
- 4 a.m.: The Hayloft, Sympatico

**wslr 96.5 lpfm**

**LISTEN ON THE AIR**
- WSLR.org (desktop)
- WSLR App at wslr.org (mobile)
- WSLR 96.5 FM Sarasota
- WFPV 100.1 FM Sarasota

**LISTEN ONLINE**
- archive.wslr.org Music shows are archived for two weeks. News and public affairs are available for download, and expire later.

**STREAMING LIVE 24/7/365 AT WSLR.org | STUDIO LINE 941-954-8636**

**7pm Sun, Dec 8 $12 members/$15 general**

**PHOEBE HUNT**

back! She is an accomplished Americana fiddler and singer/songwriter with foundations in world, jazz & swing music. ‘2017 “New” Country Artists you Need to Know’ by Rolling Stone, she continues to impress.
Calendar of Events

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 7:30PM - Socially Supportive Communities: Communication While Facing Upward and Downward Social Mobility. A talk given by Angela Gist-Mackey, Ph.D., assistant professor and director of the Multicultural Scholars Program at the University of Kansas. Eckerd College, Triton Room, Dining Hall Way, St. Petersburg.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 8:45-10AM - Sarasota League of Women Voters: Food For Thought- Florida Medicaid. Ruth Brandwein, LWV SRQ Health Care Committee chair, speaks about the hole in the safety net for Floridians who need Medicaid Health Care services. Email your reservation request to rsvp@lwvsrq.org. Community Foundation of Sarasota County, 2635 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota.


THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 10:45AM - Brady United Against Gun Violence, First at-large membership meeting of the year. Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave, Sarasota.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 7:00 PM - Eat Local Week: Exploring Food Waste; Learn about food waste, composting, and community with keynote speaker Tracie Troxler of Sunshine Community Compost. Ringling College of Art and Design: Larry L. Thompson Academic Center, 2363 Bradenton Rd, Sarasota.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 12-6 PM - Big Mama’s Collard Greens Fest; The fest is a celebration of community and culture, with influence from Cajun, Creole, Southern and Caribbean styles. This is a family-friendly, no-alcohol event. Robert L. Taylor Community Center, 1845 34th St, Sarasota.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 10AM-12PM - Bay Haven Elementary Food Forest Tour; This edible landscape provides our students, staff, and families with fresh fruits and other edibles such as moringa and perennial spinach in addition to serving as an outdoor learning space. Check out www.TransitionSRQ.org/eatlocalweek for a full list of events. Bay Haven School of Basics Plus, 2901 W Tamiami Cir, Sarasota.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 6:30PM - Film Screening: Free Trip To Egypt. Free Trip to Egypt is a journey into the unknown, a film about the transformational power of human connection, and a remarkable experiment in kindness and empathy. Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Ct, Sarasota.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 7PM - Venice General Election Forum - The League of Women Voters of Sarasota will sponsor a Venice City Council and Mayoral Race forum. Venice Library, 300 Nokomis Ave S, Venice.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 7PM - Book Discussion: “You’re More Powerful than you Think” by Eric Liu. Presented by the League of Women Voters-Manatee. Read the book and attend for a lively discussion. Email lvwmanatee@yahoo.com to let us know you’re coming. Motorworks, 1014 9th St W, Bradenton.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 11:30AM - League of Women Voters of Sarasota County. Ron Turner, Sarasota Supervisor of Elections, will provide an update on the state of our elections. Marina Jack, 2 Marina Plaza, Sarasota.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 6:30PM - Russia Report Back. Anti-war warrior Carolina Costiore joined nearly 50 other people from the US on a peace mission to Russia to listen and learn. Join Carolina as she shares what she learns from her trip. Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Ct, Sarasota.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 7PM - The Florida Veterans for Common Sense present Mel Goodman- American Carnage : The Wars of Donald Trump. Mel will discuss national security topics dealing with diplomacy, intelligence, and war vs. peace. Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Ct, Sarasota.


FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 8:45-11AM - League of Women Voters of Sarasota: Food for Thought: 100 Years of Women’s Suffrage. Learn about Florida Studio Theatre’s 18-month long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. $10. Email your reservation request to rsvp@lwvsrq.org. Community Foundation of Sarasota County, 2635 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 11:30AM - Hot Topic Monday: All About The Census and Why It’s So Important. Our speakers will include New College professor of Political Science, who will discuss what it is, why it was created, and the importance of the information it gathers. Bradenton Woman’s Club, 1705 Manatee Ave. W, Bradenton.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 11:30AM-1PM - League of Women Voters of Sarasota. Jon Thaxton, former Sarasota county commissioner, talks about our waters and what we can do to preserve them. Email your reservation request to rsvp@lwvsrq.org. Tickets are $20 for members and $25 for non-members. Community Foundation of Sarasota County, 2635 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 6:30PM - Rethinking Plastic and Sarasota County Student Environmental Alliance. Join Rethinking Plastic and SCSEA for an informational evening regarding the recycling (or lack of) in the Sarasota County School system and what the students are doing about it. Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Ct, Sarasota.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 5:30-8PM - Vigil for Gun Violence. Brady Campaign’s yearly vigil for victims of gun violence. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3975 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 6:30PM - Protect Our Public Schools Forum. Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Court.

For a complete listing of events or to submit an event, visit www.CriticalTimes.org.

Recurring Events

Coalition of City Neighborhood Associations (CCNA), first Saturday of the month at 9am, Waldemere Fire Station, 2070 Waldemere Street. http://www.conasarasota.org/

CONA Monthly Meeting, second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sarasota Garden Club, 1131 Boulevard of the Arts. http://www.conasarasota.org/

Florida Veterans for Common Sense, second Monday of the month, 7pm at Waldemere Fire Station, 2nd Floor Meeting Room.

The Nation Group Monthly Meeting, first Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Selby Library, 1331 1st St.

Protect our Public Schools Leadership Team Meeting, fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the North Sarasota Public Library, 2801 Newtown Blvd.

The Sierra Club, second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sarasota Garden Club, 1131 Boulevard of the Arts.
Redistricting: In the Public Interest?

BY PAT ROUNDS

The decision by the Sarasota County Commission to change District boundaries before the 2020 Census is controversial. But disregard for the public interest is not new for this Commission or the business groups that support them.

Our Home Rule Charter begins with “We the People”. This concept has been weakened by the actions of officials elected to abide and enforce it.

Let’s look at some history. Our County Charter contains a provision for citizens to use the petition process to put amendments on the ballot. This civic exercise has never been easy—requiring thousands of valid voter signatures. That’s how Sarasota County switched from touch screen voting to paper ballots in 2006. The paper ballot amendment passed with support from a broad voter spectrum, despite a failed suit by the County Commission to keep it from getting on the ballot at all. A year later, the petition process also produced a successful sensible growth amendment to the dismay of elected officials and developer interests.

Ten years pass—then in August of 2018, our County Commission was outraged that several new citizen petition amendments reached the ballot, including Single-Member Districts. So, they put a benignly worded, but misleading ordinance on the ballot to make it nearly impossible for citizens to ever use the petition process again.

This official ploy to stifle self-governance was followed by an effort intended to defeat Single-Member Districts. Some local business groups and developers richly funded a PAC (STOP! Stealing our Votes!) which distributed mailers to turn voters against more direct representation—No more over-development, sewage spills, Red Tide and misplaced priorities. Voters approved all three citizen-initiated ballot measures, two of which are now being challenged by—our County Commission!

And instead of heeding constituents’ voices, our Commissioners are on a tear to redraw District lines before the end of the year. Last May, County staff research didn’t justify the need to redistrict or more maps to advertise for a public hearing.

The board is scheduled to meet on November 5 to hold a public hearing and select a final version of the map.


Florida is a closed primary state—so you must be registered as a member of the Democratic Party to vote in the Democratic Primary or as a member of the Republican Party to vote in the Republican Primary.

Folk Music at Fogartyville

The Sarasota Folk Club has moved their monthly concert series to the Fogartyville! The series had previously been held at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron on the last Monday of the month. October’s featured performer will be Mike Worrall. The evening will start at 7pm with an open mic hosted by Mindy Simmons. Sign up for the open mic begins at 7pm...usually each act gets 2 songs.

Worrall’s music is an amalgam of folk, country and blues influences. His songs range from poignant to ironic to darkly humorous. The open mic is a mix of local/traveling, amateur/pro, folk artists/song writers; always a surprise.

Worrall will perform at 8:30pm.

The remaining shows on the schedule for this year include The Dunn Deal on November 25th and the Holiday of Song featuring the 2PM band on December 16. Tickets for the Folk Club concerts are $10 in advance and $12 on the day of the show. Advance tickets can be purchased online at wslr.org.

The Holiday of Song will feature the 2PM Band
Ending US Forever Wars

BY JOHN FEAGAN, NATIONAL SECURITY WORKING GROUP, FLORIDA VETERANS FOR COMMON SENSE INC.

“Great nations do not fight endless wars.” President Donald J. Trump, Feb 5, 2019

Despite that dictum, the US will experience a grim anniversary on October 7 of this year: that will mark 18 full years since the US invaded Afghanistan. We still have an estimated 14,000 troops there. As unfortunate as that anniversary is on its own, in total, US troops remain actively involved in at least seven different wars where, in Pentagon-speak, the US “took or gave fire” in 2018 (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Yemen, and Libya). The costs of these wars to the US continue to accrue.

According to the prestigious Watson Institute for International Affairs at Brown University, the various wars in which the US participates have so far resulted in almost 7,000 US military deaths. Many other veterans are injured or wounded in mind or body, or both. Nearly 1 million disability claims have been filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs by Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. In addition, the US has spent or obligated some $5.9 trillion on these conflicts with no end to the expenditure of blood and money in sight.

US personnel are not the only victims of these conflicts. According to a United Nations evaluation for the first half of 2019, the US and its allies were responsible for more civilian deaths in Afghanistan than were the Taliban and Islamic State forces.

It has been apparent for some time now that the US is engaged in what is increasingly identified and criticized as “Forever Wars.” Yet, there is significant and troubling evidence that, not only is there no credible plan to end our Forever Wars, further expansion of deadly US military entanglements has been under serious consideration in such places as Venezuela and Iran. President Trump has said he wants to withdraw forces from Afghanistan and Syria, but to date no such withdrawals have occurred. Even bad wars are, of course, highly profitable for the military-industrial complex, which certainly does not favor any lessening of US commitments.

How do the Pentagon and Congress juggle all the financial outlays on multiple military adventures require? In large measure, a budget gimmick is relied upon. That gimmick is called “Overseas Contingency Operations” (OCO) -- English translation: wars. These OCO funds allow Pentagon planners to circumvent budget caps otherwise applicable under the current Budget Control Act. For Fiscal Year 2019, the OCO war-fighting budget was reported to be some $69 billion. Though Congress has yet to pass the 2020 defense budget, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense has just voted for a budget that would increase OCO funding to $70.7 billion, while the House has called for OCO funding of $68 billion.

These numbers reflect continued excessive OCO appropriations for undeclared wars. The time is overdue to restrict OCO funding in a meaningful way. This is especially so considering the shaky legal basis for our far-flung military adventures.

A little known Act of Congress (Pub. L. 107-40), called “Authorization for Use of Military Force” (AUMF), has been used to legally authorize every US military intervention in the past 18 years. This Act was hastily adopted one week after the 9/11 attacks in 2001 and expanded in 2002. For years expanded version in 2002 expressly addresses Iraq, as well as nations “providing support” for terrorist organizations linked to the 9/11 attacks, generally considered to mean al Qaeda and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. Yet despite the rather limited scope for justification of military force actually set out in the AUMF, the Executive Branch has in fact cited this limited language to validate US deployments in at least 19 countries, including such far-flung locales as Niger, Uganda, Yemen, Turkey, and Kosovo.

It is our assessment that these multiple engagements have constituted an unjustifiable abuse of the current AUMF. For too many years, the US military has been thrust into new conflicts with far too little Congressional oversight, no clear definitions of victory, and no exit strategies. This situation must end.

There are companion bills in Congress which would repeal the current AUMF: H. R. 1274, introduced by California Congresswoman Barbara Lee, and S.J. Res.13, introduced by Virginia Senator Tim Kaine. Polls have shown strong support for Congress to more fully reassert its authority over US military operations abroad. It is our position that it is time to end the abuse of our Forever Wars. Repeal of the current AUMF would be an important step toward that process.

The Wars of Donald Trump

Melvin Goodman is a former Soviet analyst at the CIA and the Department of State, a Professor of International Relations at the National War College, and a Senior Fellow at the Center for International Policy in Washington, D.C. He will discuss his most recent book “American Carnage: The Wars of Donald Trump” at Fogartyville Community Media & Arts Center. Tickets are $15 in advance, $20 at the door, or may be purchased on the WSLR Web site.

The Critical Times, Vol. 12 | October - December, 2019
Venice City Elections in November

The City of Venice will hold elections to fill three council seats on November 5th. All of the candidates espouse the same priorities – protecting the environment, smart growth and fiscal responsibility. Voters are encouraged to attend local candidate forums to learn more about where each candidate stands on these important issues.

Three candidates will be vying for the position of Mayor – Bob Daniels, Ron Feinsod and Frankie Abbruzzino. If elected, current Council Member Bob Daniels, a 76-year-old retired educator would be the first city elected official to serve more than nine consecutive years in office. Prior to 2006, 27-year-olds could not even register to vote under our first-past-the-post method. In 2006, change in the City Charter, all city representatives were required to be elected without opposition unless their base runs a opponent in the closed primary. The net effect is the same – representatives must appease members of their respective party in order to avoid a primary challenge.

Additionally, many races (about half) are uncontested. This situation is comparable to races in safe districts, because the representatives continue to be elected without opposition unless their base runs an opponent in the closed primary. The net effect is the same – representatives must appease the most partisan members of their respective party in order to avoid a primary challenge.

Although many states have some form of “open” primary which allows independents to participate, extreme partisanship appears to be a concern in those states as well. The reasons may vary, but one common component is the total domination of our political system by the two major parties. A political duopoly exists in which real competition is suppressed in order to maintain the status quo. The lack of competition is the subject of a study funded by the Harvard Business School which can be found here http://www.hbs.edu/competitiveness/documents/why-competition-in-the-politics-industry-is-failing-america.pdf.

In the primaries, multiple candidates can split the vote, thus producing a candidate who receives less than 50% of the vote. If the candidate is in a safe district, he/she will not only be unacceptable to members of the opposing party, they will likely be unacceptable to the majority of members of their own party. This is a problem that can be fixed by implementing ranked choice voting (RCV).

Voters can vote for an independent or minor party candidate without fearing their vote will be wasted. As more and more people continue registering to vote without a party affiliation, and they become aware that opening primaries to all voters and implementing ranked choice voting is being opposed most adamantly by the partisan establishment, the calls for reform will grow louder. Ultimately, the system will change only once those calling for reform organize and become visible enough to motivate and mobilize like-minded citizens to demand change.

RCV is currently used in 12 cities in the US and about a dozen more are working on implementing RCV. Maine uses it in all statewide elections and Utah just passed a “7-year pilot” program to allow any city in Utah to use RCV. In addition, the Democratic Party will use RCV in 6 states in the 2020 Democratic primaries. Iowa, and Nevada, will use RCV for early and absentee voters; Alaska, Hawaii, Kansas, and Wyoming will use RCV in all primary voting, and Maine may be next. Massachusetts, Washington, Colorado and Michigan are all working towards Statewide adoption of RCV.

RCV SRQ will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, December 11 at 5:30pm at Selby Library. Adam Friedman, Founder of Voter Choice Mass, and City Commissioner Jennifer Ahearn-Koehl will be the speakers.

Open Primaries and Ranked Choice Voting

JOHN SEVERINI, DIRECTOR, RCV SRQ, AND STEVE HOUH, DIRECTOR, FLORIDA FAIR AND OPEN PRIMARIES

Not only in Florida, but across the country, anywhere from 80-90% of elected seats are considered “safe”. This situation makes the primary, not the general election, the most important election. When one party is guaranteed victory in the general election, and as turnout for primaries is traditionally much lower than general elections, our representatives are in fact being selected by a very small percentage of the electorate. Opening the primaries to independents (NPAs) will encourage higher voter turnout and, hopefully, produce candidates accountable to a broader swath of constituents. Currently, the most partisan (some say extreme) voters are choosing our representatives.

Additionally, many races (about half) are uncontested. This situation is comparable to races in safe districts, because the representatives continue to be elected without opposition unless their base runs an opponent in the closed primary. The net effect is the same – representatives must appease the most partisan members of their respective party in order to avoid a primary challenge.

Although many states have some form of “open” primary which allows independents to participate, extreme partisanship appears to be a concern in those states as well. The reasons may vary, but one common component is the total domination of our political system by the two major parties. A political duopoly exists in which real competition is suppressed in order to maintain the status quo. The lack of competition is the subject of a study funded by the Harvard Business School which can be found here http://www.hbs.edu/competitiveness/documents/why-competition-in-the-politics-industry-is-failing-america.pdf.

In the primaries, multiple candidates can split the vote, thus producing a candidate who receives less than 50% of the vote. If the candidate is in a safe district, he/she will not only be unacceptable to members of the opposing party, they will likely be unacceptable to the majority of members of their own party. This is a problem that can be fixed by implementing ranked choice voting (RCV).

With ranked choice voting, voters rank the candidates in order of preference. When the votes are counted, if a candidate does not win at least 50% of the first preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first place votes is eliminated, and their second-choice votes are distributed among the remaining candidates. This process continues until a candidate has exceeded 50%. This voting method produces a winner more acceptable to a broader swath of constituents. Currently, the most partisan (some say extreme) voters are choosing our representatives.

Additionally, many races (about half) are uncontested. This situation is comparable to races in safe districts, because the representatives continue to be elected without opposition unless their base runs an opponent in the closed primary. The net effect is the same – representatives must appease the most partisan members of their respective party in order to avoid a primary challenge.

Although many states have some form of “open” primary which allows independents to participate, extreme partisanship appears to be a concern in those states as well. The reasons may vary, but one common component is the total domination of our political system by the two major parties. A political duopoly exists in which real competition is suppressed in order to maintain the status quo. The lack of competition is the subject of a study funded by the Harvard Business School which can be found here http://www.hbs.edu/competitiveness/documents/why-competition-in-the-politics-industry-is-failing-america.pdf.

In the primaries, multiple candidates can split the vote, thus producing a candidate who receives less than 50% of the vote. If the candidate is in a safe district, he/she will not only be unacceptable to members of the opposing party, they will likely be unacceptable to the majority of members of their own party. This is a problem that can be fixed by implementing ranked choice voting (RCV).

With ranked choice voting, voters rank the candidates in order of preference. When the votes are counted, if a candidate does not win at least 50% of the first preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first place votes is eliminated, and their second-choice votes are distributed among the remaining candidates. This process continues until a candidate has exceeded 50%. This voting method produces a winner more acceptable to a greater number of voters than those who win under our first-past-the-post method.

Such a system encourages more candidates to apply for the job and to campaign for second choice votes if they happen not to be a voter’s first choice. There is no such thing as a “spoiler”. Voters can vote for an independent or minor party candidate without fearing their vote will be wasted. As more and more people continue registering to vote without a party affiliation, and they become aware that opening primaries to all voters and implementing ranked choice voting is being opposed most adamantly by the partisan establishment, the calls for reform will grow louder. Ultimately, the system will change only once those calling for reform organize and become visible enough to motivate and mobilize like-minded citizens to demand change.

RCV is currently used in 12 cities in the US and about a dozen more are working on implementing RCV. Maine uses it in all statewide elections and Utah just passed a “7-year pilot” program to allow any city in Utah to use RCV. In addition, the Democratic Party will use RCV in 6 states in the 2020 Democratic primaries. Iowa, and Nevada, will use RCV for early and absentee voters; Alaska, Hawaii, Kansas, and Wyoming will use RCV in all primary voting, and Maine may be next. Massachusetts, Washington, Colorado and Michigan are all working towards Statewide adoption of RCV.

RCV SRQ will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, December 11 at 5:30pm at Selby Library. Adam Friedman, Founder of Voter Choice Mass, and City Commissioner Jennifer Ahearn-Koehl will be the speakers.
Growing Greener Generations

Sarasota County’s 14th Annual Sustainability workshop will be held **November 14th 8-4:30** at the Girl Scouts of Gucfcoast Florida Event and Conference Center, 4740 Cattlemen Road, Sarasota.

The theme of the workshop, “Growing Greener Generations” will tackle resiliency, food production, social equity, biodiversity, green economy, and other topics through the multi-generational panels and three keynote speakers:

Those attending, including residents, business owners and employees, non-profit leaders, and government officials, will learn about the environmental, economic and social aspects of sustainability. Multi-generational panels will discuss the latest sustainability strategies, resources and best practices, as well as opportunities for local involvement.

“While every generation has a unique perspective on what we should focus on, all of us are facing the same growing concerns,” said Sara Kane, sustainability program coordinator with the county’s UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability Department.

The keynote speakers are:
- Josh Tickell, internationally recognized author, film director, speaker, and expert on sustainability and the climate. Josh’s most recent work, “The Revolution Generation: How Millennials Can Save America and the World (Before It’s Too Late),” gives new tools to young people so they can reshape political power, change the climate conversation, and save Earth’s ecosystems. Learn more at joshickell.com.
- Chris Castro, director of Orlando’s Office of Sustainability & Resilience, advances the city’s sustainability, clean energy, and climate action goals. Chris also founded Fleet Farming, an urban farming social enterprise that builds organic farms on residential lawns. In December 2018, Chris starred in “Paris to Pittsburgh,” a National Geographic documentary.
- Syd Kitson, Chairman and CEO of Kitson & Partners, specializes in the creation and development of master-planned communities and commercial properties. In 2006, Kitson completed the purchase of Babcock Ranch in Southwest Florida, encompassing more than 91,000 acres some 73,000 acres within Charlotte and Lee counties, has been preserved, in the largest single land preservation agreement in the state’s history.

Register at www.scgov.net/SustainableCommunities. The fee: Early-bird registration is $35 available through October 14, after the fee is $45; students $25, All registrations include breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack provided by Sarasota County Green Business Partner.

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities also are available.

For more information and to register, visit www.scv.gov/SustainableCommunities or call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000.

New WSLR Season, New Member Benefits!

Starting with Very Merry Jerry Day on November 3 – WSLR+Fogartyville will be implementing an enhanced Membership Program. In previous years, your contribution to the radio station made you a member of our community and you got to feel good about supporting an independent media voice in Sarasota. Occasionally you may have received a thank you gift based on the level at which you donated. With WSLR taking over the ownership and operation of the Fogartyville Community Media and Arts Center, we are now integrating Fogartyville into our membership program. In the past we have had an advance price and a day of show price for ticketed events. We will now have a member price and a price for the general public. As a member you will save $2-3 on every ticket you purchase. As you increase the level of your membership contribution, your rewards will also increase.

Our new Membership Program will also offer local businesses and non-profits an opportunity to show their support for WSLR. Through the program, your business can gain significant exposure through our on-air, digital and print media channels. On top of that, you are also making the statement that you support independent media and a local space for arts and activism. More information about Business and Nonprofit Membership can be found on our website under the Support Tab.

We’ll be rolling out the new Membership program during our On-Air Fall Membership Drive from **October 23-29**. Current members will be transitioned to the new program. Membership provides over 38% of the income we need to operate WSLR+Fogartyville. Your support is critical for us to continue providing the programming you’ve come to expect. Thanks for listening to WSLR 96.5 and supporting events at Fogartyville.

You can review the new Membership structure below.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All Members Receive:</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Listener</th>
<th>Friend</th>
<th>Supporter</th>
<th>Advocate</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Concert Lover</th>
<th>Steward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Pricing on WSLR+Fogartyville events</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$120</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail notification of upcoming events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility to become a WSLR programmer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution Amount</th>
<th>Member Pricing on Event Tickets</th>
<th>Free Admission to Fogartyville Events, Valued up to $25/ticket, 2 tickets/show max.</th>
<th>WSLR+Fogartyville Support Sticker</th>
<th>WSLR+Fogartyville Tote</th>
<th>Personalized Brick in the WSLR People’s Patio</th>
<th>Private Party at Fogartyville for up to 100 people with live music and coffee, tea and soft drinks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$120</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$600</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WSLR.org/Fogartyville Center

Our impressive concert schedule, educational events, and expanded art offerings inspire creativity, fellowship and engagement – all made possible through your membership support.