



# Sarasota Political Alert

DECEMBER 2019

## \*\*LOCAL POLITICS\*\*

### Racism is not Acceptable

OK, County Commission Candidate Martin Hyde did apologize for **racist comments** aimed at a young Hispanic tennis player, *after* a video of his discriminatory remarks went public. The [Herald-Tribune reported](#) Hyde would step down but now he's reconsidered and his campaign is active. **De ninguna manera**, says the [Sarasota Democratic Hispanic Caucus](#), which "repudiates (Mr. Hyde's) conduct...(and) roundly reject(s) negative attitudes and actions in general, especially towards members of our Hispanic and Latino community." SDHP President Dr. Elvira Sánchez-Blake and VP Ana Hanton explain:

*"As proud members of this community we claim the right to speak Spanish in public places. We should not feel compelled to shy away or to be silenced. Therefore, we request that Mr. Hyde withdraw his candidacy as a County Commissioner. All candidates for public office should be aware of cultural heritage and diversity."*



### **CALL TO ACTION**

*Call Martin Hyde at 941- 387-5805 or email him at [martin@electmartinhyde.com](mailto:martin@electmartinhyde.com). Tell him to **hacer lo correcto and Step Down!***

## \*\*SCDP NEWS\*\*



Join us to celebrate the opening of our new **South County Democratic Office** on **Wednesday, January 15, 4:30 – 6:30 pm**. Food & beverages, music, candidates to meet, and a Presidential Straw Poll! [Sign up now!](#)

**12497 South Tamiami Trail, North Port**

## \*\*CANDIDATES CORNER\*\*

**Drake Buckman's** campaign for HD72 is ramping up. With **Margaret Good** aiming for CD16, we need a strong candidate ready to #Keep72Blue. Drake recently appeared on both ABC7 and SNN. See those interviews, learn more about him, and find details about his upcoming January events at [buckmanforfl.com](http://buckmanforfl.com) or [facebook.com/buckmanforfl](https://facebook.com/buckmanforfl).



## FUNDRAISING EVENT OF THE YEAR!



[Get your tickets and program ads now!!](#)

**\*\*MORE NEWS OF NOTE\*\***

**STILL FIGHTING REDISTRICTING**

Newtown residents **Michael White, Mary Mack and Candidate Fredd Atkins** (District 1) are [suing County Commissioners Nancy Detert, Mike Moran and Al Maio in Federal court over their unconstitutional and illegal race-based re-districting.](#) These stalwart Democrats are committed to “exposing the...Commission's shenanigans designed to deprive African-Americans in our county of their vote in 2020.”

**FLORIDA DEMS READY TO KICK ASS!**

With financial support from former Gubernatorial candidate Andrew Gillum, FDP is targeting critical Hispanic and African American voters to cast their ballots by mail in the 2020 presidential election.

*“Florida will be key to President Donald Trump's reelection campaign, and Republicans will control the swing state's political redistricting in the coming decade unless Democrats can take control of one of the two legislative chambers”*

[Read more in this Politico article!](#)

**GET THE MESSAGE?**

Want to help the Florida Democratic Party put this billboard up? [Click here to donate!](#)



Editor: Jayne Wallace

**GET OUT THE VOTE**

**Getting Out The Vote** is still the **single most effective way to make change.** SCDP needs **volunteers to register new voters.** Spend a few hours helping [#TurnSRQBlue](#) at multiple locations county-wide. [Details & Sign Up here.](#)

**PROTECT OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

POPS organizers and supporters of Community Partnership Schools (CPS) need your help. Just when they learned the CPS grant for Sarasota County Public Schools had been tentatively approved, the school district announced it was [cancelling the grant application](#) due to "leadership transition."



Sarasota needs Community Partnership Schools. Did you know -- only 30% of Florida's third graders are proficient in reading.? OK, 42% of Sarasota's third graders are proficient but that means 58% are not! And nearly 50% of our schools are designated as Title 1 Schools, based on low family incomes? Nearly 60% of students qualify for federally funded free or reduced lunches?

CPS directly address these issues with family support, medical and counseling services and student enrichment activities. Check out Carrie Seidman's very insightful column here and attend the next POPS meeting, **Tuesday, January 21, 6 pm at North Sarasota Library.**

**SARASOTA POLITICAL ALERT--** *Each month we'll bring you quick blurbs about key topics in Sarasota, direct you to other places for more in-depth information and offer suggested Actions to take. Please share your thoughts at [scdpcomms@gmail.com](mailto:scdpcomms@gmail.com).*