

SOLIVITA

DEMOCRATIC CLUB Beacon



SEPTEMBER 2023
SolivitaDemocrats.org

Brian Fillette, president — President@SolivitaDemocrats.org

Ellis Moose, editor — Beacon@SolivitaDemocrats.org

President's Letter

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

Our Murder Mystery Dinner Theater event coming to the Ballroom on Thursday October 26 is **SOLD OUT!** We're delighted with the strong interest in this event and look forward to seeing many of you there and at future meetings and events.



Pres. Brian Fillette

And now, back to our regularly scheduled programs!

We have terrific speakers and topics on the agenda at our upcoming September, October, and November meetings!

September 13: Lisa Miller, Sarah Fortney, and Marcus Wright (Polk County School Board current, former, and 2024 candidate). Come on out to hear what's going on with Public Education in Polk County and Florida.

October 11: Congressman Darren Soto. Our hard-working Representative for Florida's 9th Congressional District. Now serving in his fourth term, Darren has established himself as a strong advocate for the environment, hurricane relief, emerging technologies, and protecting the health and safety of his constituents. Join us and show Darren your support for his his re-election in 2024.

November 8: Kathie Sutherland. President of the Polk Clean Energy Alliance (PCEA), Secretary of the Polk Democratic Environmental Caucus, and former Chair of the Polk DEC. PCEA is a recently formed non-profit in Polk County dedicated to educating the community on how to increase energy efficiency and equity, reduce energy costs, and reduce greenhouse gases.

And be sure to mark your calendars for our Annual Membership Appreciation Dinner in the Ballroom on December 13. More information coming soon! Thanks for all that you do, and most of all, thank you for being who you are.

Brian Fillette, President, Solivita Democratic Club
president@solivitatedemocrats.org

Visit our Website <https://solivitatedemocrats.org/>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/solivitademocraticclub>

Nextdoor <https://nextdoor.com/g/qikq82ag>

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13th MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In the BALLROOM
And on ZOOM

Doors Open at 6:30PM
Meeting at 7:00PM

Featuring Speakers

**LISA
MILLER**

Member of
POLK COUNTY
SCHOOL BOARD

**SARAH
FORTNEY**

Former Member of
POLK COUNTY
SCHOOL BOARD

&

**MARCUS
WRIGHT**

Candidate for
POLK COUNTY
SCHOOL BOARD

**Rep. Darren Soto
Coming in October!**

REPRESENTATIVES

Our elected representatives need your input

Let them know your positions on issues!

Sen. Rick Scott (R)

United States Senate
Phone: 202-224-5274

Sen. Marco Rubio (R)

United States Senate
Phone: 202-224-3041

Rep. Darren Soto (D)

US District 9 Office
804 Bryan Street
Kissimmee, FL 34741
Phone: 202-225-9889

Gov. Ron DeSantis (R)

The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.,
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
Website: www.flgov.com

State Rep. Sam Killebrew (R)

FL House District 48 Office:
Phone: 850-717-5041
Email: sam.killebrew@myfloridahouse.gov

State Sen. Colleen Burton (R)

District 12 Office
100 South Kentucky Avenue
Suite 260
Lakeland, FL 33801
Email: Colleen.Burton.web@flsenate.gov

MEDIA

The Orlando Sentinel

Editorial Dept.
633 N. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801

The Lakeland Ledger

Editorial Dept.
P.O. Box 408
Lakeland, FL 33802

SDC Beacon Newsletter

c/o Ellis Moose
217 Sorrento Road
Poinciana, FL 34759-4065
Beacon@SolivitaDemocrats.org

Dinner and a Show!

The interactive show “Death of a Gangster

Italian dinner buffet (salad, entrée, dessert), Beverage service, and Cash bar starts at 6:00 pm. Vegetarian and Gluten free options available! See the menu at <https://solivitademocrats.org/in-the-news/>

In this “Married to the Mob” event, you’ll never know who to trust. With the two families merging, someone is bound to lose power, which means someone else will lose their life! Join in the fun and help solve this case with your fellow detectives. Dress the part or come as you are!

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

You're part of the show. Come dressed for the part!

SOLD OUT!

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF MYSTERY, MAYHEM, AND MURDER!

DATE: Thurs., Oct. 26 TIME: 6:00 P.M.

LOCATION: Solivita Starlite Ballroom

ADDRESS: 384 Village Drive, Poinciana

\$45 /per SDC member
\$50 /per guest *Adults are welcome!*

RSVP: Val Williams VPowell65@aol.com

SOLIVITA Democratic Club

SDC BOARD

Brian Fillette, President

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Dorothy Schwartz, Publicity Chair

SchwartzAPN@aol.com
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Diane Jorio, Hospitality Chair

DDJorio@live.com
443-262-1053

The Board of Directors meets the first Tuesday of each month via ZOOM.

Precinct Captains:

Leonard Guminski, Pct. 425

MariaDLenG145@yahoo.com
586-321-4711

Celeste Williams, Pct. 411

CelestynWilliams1@gmail.com
407-924-1766

Alan Harris, Pct. 411

AMHarris1212@yahoo.com
407-718-2525

Solivita west of Marigold Ave.

Could Be You (2 Female, 2 Male), Pct. 412

**Solivita Bella Viana, Venezia
and portions of Poinciana**

Ellis Moose, At Large

Beacon@SolivitaDemocrats.org
863-852-7294

STATE FORCES CHANGES TO SOME LOCAL RACES

Interesting that some Polk Co. Republican candidates are insisting on having their party listed in traditionally non-partisan races. Lori Edwards's opponent Melony Bell for example. We need to pull for Lori's re-election!

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/627250-state-lawyer-demands-partisan-races-from-polk-county-elections-chief/>

Some local races, including for Supervisor of Elections, were traditionally non-partisan.

Polk County Supervisor of Elections Lori Edwards is conceding to the Florida Department of State on partisan elections after the agency threatened legal action in a recent letter.

Edwards, a former Democratic state House member, had previously refused to hold partisan races for some local seats, including her own, but reversed course recently, after the top lawyer for the state elections authority wrote to Edwards.

The Florida Department of State "will be forced to bring an action to enforce the performance of your duties in accordance with the Florida Election Code," wrote Joseph Van de Bogart, general counsel at the agency.

In a brief response, Edwards agreed to conduct partisan contests for the seats at issue.

"I'm glad the issue is resolved," Edwards told Florida Politics on Monday. "I am happy to comply with the Secretary of State's directive."



Democrats stand up to Rick Scott

On Wednesday, August 16, Republican Senator Rick Scott held a town hall meeting in Solivita. He was greeted on his way in by a number of vocal Democrats displaying signs that pointed out his deficiencies in representing Solivitans positions and needs.

REGISTRATIONS

Solivita Now Has Three Precincts!

Reg. Voters as of July 3, 2023

Pct 411:	7/5/22	7/5/23	+/-
Dems	1535	1595	+60
Rep	1539	1632	+93
NPA	938	*1067	+129
Total	4,069	4,294	+225

Pct 412:	7/5/22	7/5/23	+/-
Dems	4,102	3,879	-223
Rep	1,297	1,353	+56
NPA	3200	*3,504	+304
Total	8,710	8,735	+25

Pct 425:	7/5/22	7/5/23	+/-
Dems	959	959	0
Rep	868	890	+22
NPA	671	*725	+54
Total	2,536	2,574	+76

Polk Co.:	7/21/22	7/5/23	+/-
Dems	149,497	145,161	-4,336
Rep	172,220	177,110	+4,890
NPA	126,391	*143,543	+17,152
Total	456,568	465,814	+9,246

Florida:	7/21/22	6/30/23	+/-
Dems	4,955,022	4,721,471	-233,551
Rep	5,217,343	5,263,269	+45,926
NPA	3,887,406	*4,197,624	+310,218
Total	14,256,184	14,182,364	+73,820

Note: *NPAs include minor party registrations that are not shown individually.

WEBSITES

Websites of interest:

POLITICS:

www.FlaDems.com
www.FISenate.gov/topics/ppaca
www.PolkDemocrats.org
www.PolkElections.com
www.Democrats.org
www.ProgressFlorida.org
www.DemocraticGovernors.org
www.BestOfTheLeft.com
www.NPR.org
www.Snopes.com
www.FactCheck.org
www.PolitiFact.com

CALL TO ACTION: National Voter Registration Day September 19

The Florida Democratic Party is hosting a statewide day of action for National Voter Registration Day on September 19. We ask that your DEC, Club, or Caucus join us by using the mobilize link below to create an event in your community to register voters and sign them up for vote-by-mail.

In the coming weeks we will be:

- Launching a detailed toolkit for your organization to use when planning your events.
- Hosting multiple training sessions to get everyone caught up on the new voter registration laws and best practices when out in the field talking with a voter.

To join our Day of Action, please use the Mobilize link below to create a voter registration event in your community:

[Day of Action Mobilize Link](#)

Communications are the keys to being well informed



Shown above, left, is the very first issue of the *Beacon*, dated May 2011. To the right is a recent snapshot of our SDC Website.

Your editor and Webmaster, Ellis Moose, has been producing these two communications for more than a dozen years now. It is time to begin training his successor(s) to be able to fill in or take over when the time comes for him to step down.

If you have a knowledge of Adobe InDesign and/or Photoshop, or would like to learn, contact Ellis at Beacon@SolivitaDemocrats.org at your earliest opportunity so we can begin the process.

EDITORIAL

WHO IS THE PRIME MONITOR OF CITIZEN RIGHTS: THE FEDERAL OR STATE GOVERNMENT?

By Joe Tobin, SDC Member and Beacon Contributor



While watching the Republican debate last month, one point stated during the curve balls of the candidates hit me like a toothache: the return of the issue of abortion back to the states. My reaction was: if a “right” belongs to each citizen, then the same right belongs to all citizens and has no state boundaries. The prime guardian and guarantor of human rights for all Americans needs to be the federal government, not the state governments.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees certain enumerated rights to all Americans and acknowledges unenumerated rights (whose existences are not always easy to historically prove in the courts or with legislative bodies). From the beginning of the United States, it was the states that played a major part of determining the rights of their respective citizens — not always for the better — while the federal government played a minor role, especially during the pre-Civil War period.



Since the 1790’s, the three branches of federal and state governments have each determined the parameters of how we live and behave in our everyday lives — one branch stepping forward to make formal and legal promulgations on behalf of the citizenry when the situation arises.



While Congress enacts laws, the president issues executive orders and the Supreme Court hands down decisions, each branch can also reverse or kill their own decisions. Executive orders are only in force during the term of a current president. A new president may keep, kill or modify any orders of his/her predecessor. The administrative agencies also have power to make rules, enforce them and interpret them (the famous “deep state”).

To place the oversight of citizen rights into the hands of the federal government is not to belittle or deny the role of individual states in protecting the rights of their respective citizens. The Constitution provides for such rights and duties. Acknowledg-

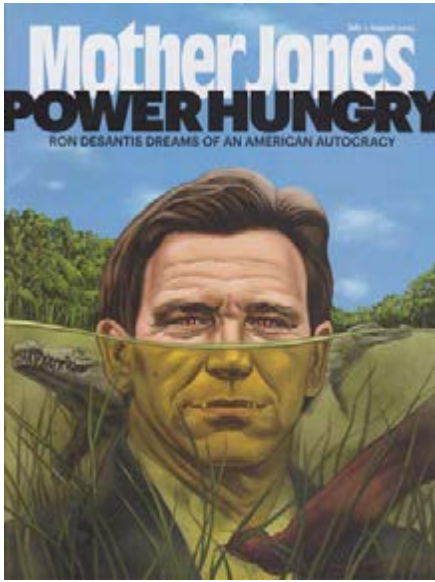
ing that the federal government has not always exhibited an unblemished record in protecting and respecting the basic rights of all Americans, the same may be said for individual states.

The reversal of Roe v. Wade is a good example of handing over to the states the “right of the people” to make choices as to what should be law governing abortion (or other issues) is somewhat a joke. Polls may show what the “people” want, but it is the legislatures and governors who have the last say in the passage of laws and the judiciary to state the constitutionality of the laws.

Joe Tobin, continued on next page.

Joe Tobin, continued from previous page.

WHO IS THE PRIME MONITOR OF CITIZEN RIGHTS? (continued)



The history of the past is a witness to the dark side of human behavior that made life miserable or ended for so many minority groups. I still remember the federal elections when States' Rights parties garnered many votes, especially during the presidential candidacy of George Wallace as a representative of the "Old South."

My concern today is if a "right" is essential to human existence, then it is the prime role of the federal government to protect that "right" across the county – no state boundaries with a hodge-podge of crazy laws and no intrusions into the private lives of citizens.

This year celebrates the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights March On Washington. Thank you, Dr. King, and to those who helped organize the 1963 and 2023 marches.



2023 State Convention will be held at the Rosen Centre in Orlando October 27th-29th.

Sign up at fdpconvention.com to make sure you receive all upcoming State Convention updates. The room block for State Convention is now open and availability is limited — be sure to reserve your room before the September 27th deadline!

[Click Here for Updates](#)

FLORIDA 'TICS

Dear Democrats,

Today we stand in unity with Jacksonville and the Black community in mourning three innocent lives taken in a hate crime. My condolences are with the families of the victims, and the full FDP team offers its unwavering support to our leaders in Jacksonville and Duval as they seek answers and healing for their communities. Please join us in offering both prayer and action to those affected.

In an abundance of caution due to Hurricane Idalia, please note we have postponed Week 5 of the *Take Back Florida Tour* to prepare to assist with storm recovery efforts.

Forward, Forward, Forward!

Nikki Fried
Chair, FDP



A message to the Solivita Democratic Club from a past club president:



CIVIL RIGHTS

You Better Check Your Voter Registration!

I called Polk County on July 24 because I had heard while I was driving home that Republicans had voted to have Florida voters removed from the voting rolls. I have a valid and current voter registration, but when I spoke with them they told me that my wife, Bernice, and I had been removed. I asked them why had we not received any written notice, that the legislation was new and we would need to register again.

Check your voter registration at this link:

<https://www.polkelections.com/Voter-Services/Voter-Lookup>

Stan Dillard



CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER is...

- 9/1 National Food Bank Day
- 9/2 VJ Day, World War II Victory of Japan
- 9/4 Labor Day, National Holiday
- 9/7 International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
- 9/9 Stand Up To Cancer Day
- 9/10 Grand Parents' Day
- 9/11 Patriots' Day
- 9/15 Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown
- 9/19 National Voter Registration Day
- 9/24 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown



Find more fun August holidays at: <https://nationaltoday.com/september-holidays/>

MAGA? Really?

Is this the America they want us to go back to?

MY WIFE
**JEAN IS HAPPY,
PRETTY & PREGNANT**
BOY, AM I GLAD I BOUGHT HER A NEW
HOTPOINT WASHER & DRYER

\$249⁹⁵ **\$199⁹⁵**

From the Oneida Co., Oneida, N.Y.

You can lose him in a minute!

**Successful Marriages
start in the kitchen!**

Now the new winners of the kitchen can get right ahead with more of these different dishes—starting tonight! Wash the hot water, get your all sorts of interesting little dishes and sets in the Kenwood that starts in going to make before five minutes!

**If your husband ever finds out
you're not "store-testing" for fresher coffee...**

... if he discovers you're still taking chances on getting flat, stale coffee ... use the safe way! For today there's a sure and certain way to test for freshness before you buy

Chase Sanborn Coffee

MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN

**Iver Johnson
Revolvers**

are not toys: they shoot straight and kill. You may need one only once in your lifetime: buy now, so you will have it at that time. **SAFETY** [®] **HUMERLESS** **ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE IMPOSSIBLE** **6.**

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The Chef does everything but cook—that's what wives are for!

I'm giving my wife a **Kenwood Chef**

Sabrina

DEMONSTRATES THE WORLD'S FINEST PROJECTION EQUIPMENT ... HER BELL & HOWELL HEADLINER COLOUR SLIDE PROJECTOR

BELL & HOWELL Headliner Color Projectors available at all leading Photographic Stores

"DDT is good for me-e-e!"

KILLING SALT CHEMICALS

of Great Britain an Authority - Paris - Rome

Try these delicious cool rum drinks made with

MERITO Rum

THE PERU RUM DISTILLERS' UNION

"SPARK PLUGS NEED CLEANING, TOO!"

Political & Economic Facts Matter

BIDEN'S NUMBERS

JULY 2023 UPDATE FROM **FACTCHECK.ORG**

↑ JOBS +13,235,000	↓ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 3.6%	↑ JOB OPENINGS +37%
↓ REAL WEEKLY EARNINGS -3.4%	↑ ECONOMIC GROWTH (4TH QUARTER) +2.4%	↑ S&P 500 +20.2%
↑ NASDAQ +7%	↑ LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION +1.3 points	↓ CONSUMER SENTIMENT -6.4 points
↑ MANUFACTURING APPRENTICESHIPS +310%	↑ HOME PRICES +35.1%	↑ HOMEOWNERSHIP +0.2 points
↑ CORPORATE PROFITS +21.5%	↑ GASOLINE PRICES +51.2%	↓ PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE -1.3 points (MAY)
↓ FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS -0.6%	↑ REFUGEE ADMISSIONS +38.5%	↑ MANUFACTURING JOBS +793,000
↑ FEDERAL DEBT HELD BY PUBLIC +115.7%	↑ CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS +6.6%	↑ TRADE DEFICIT +30.1%
↑ CONSUMER PRICE INDEX +15.7%	↓ GUN SALES -35%	↑ U.S. CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION +8.2%

COURT CONFIRMATIONS: Supreme Court: 1 / Appellate: 34 / District: 100

NOTE: ALL FIGURES REPRESENT DATA AS OF 7/26/2023, SINCE 1/20/2021, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN OUR STORY.

CAUTION: NO SINGLE NUMBER CAN TELL THE WHOLE STORY

<https://www.factcheck.org/bidens-numbers-july-2023-update>



Under Biden

- ✓ Over 13 million jobs created, including 800,000 manufacturing jobs
- ✓ Unemployment has been under 4% for the longest stretch in 50 years
- ✓ Over 10 million applications for new small business—strongest 2 years on record



Under Trump

- ✗ Worst jobs record since the Great Depression
- ✗ Gave tax cuts to corporations and the ultra-wealthy while shipping jobs overseas
- ✗ Proposed cuts to Medicare and Social Security every year in office

TRUMP'S NUMBERS

2021 FINAL REPORT FROM **FACTCHECK.ORG**

↓ JOBS -2,876,000	↑ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE 6.3%	↑ JOB OPENINGS -25.7%
↓ REAL WEEKLY EARNINGS -8.7%	↓ ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE -3.4%	↑ S&P 500 -67.8%
↑ MEDIUM HOUSEHOLD INCOME +6%	↓ POVERTY RATE -1.3 points	↑ MURDER RATE +1.1 points
↑ US-MEXICO BORDER APPREHENSIONS +34.7%	↑ HOME PRICES -27.5%	↑ HOMELESSNESS -2.1 points
↑ CORPORATE PROFITS +8.5%	↑ FEDERAL REGULATORY RESTRICTIONS +0.9%	↑ PEOPLE WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE +1 million (MAY)
↓ FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS -1.7%	↓ COAL MINING JOBS -8,500	↓ MANUFACTURING JOBS -154,000
↑ FEDERAL DEBT HELD BY PUBLIC +50%	↑ CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSIONS +11.5%	↑ TRADE DEFICIT +40.5%
↑ CONSUMER PRICE INDEX +7.6%	↑ HANDGUN PRODUCTION +12.5%	↑ U.S. CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION -27.6%

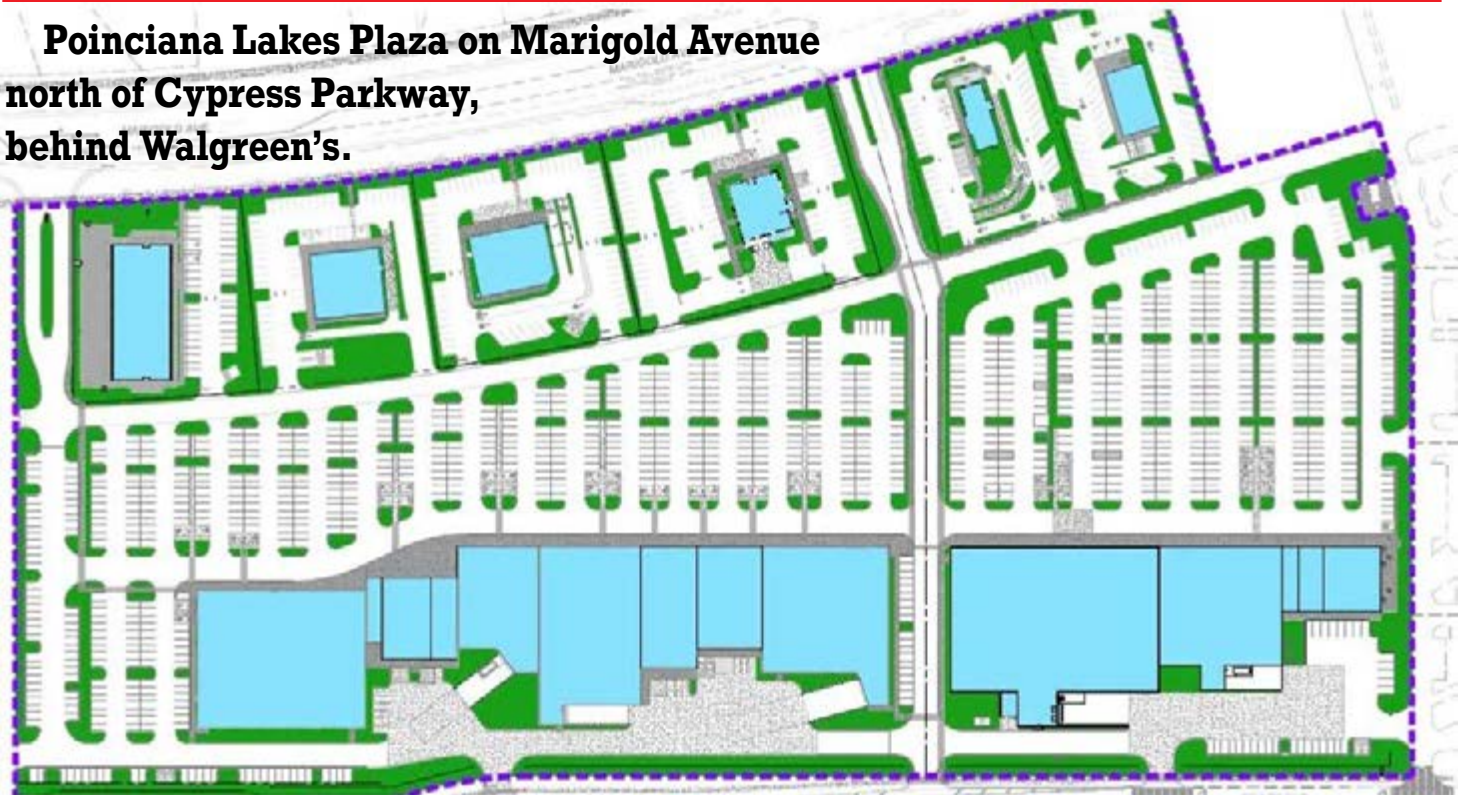
COURT CONFIRMATIONS: Supreme Court: 3 / Appellate: 54 / District: 175

NOTE: ALL FIGURES REPRESENT MOST RECENT DATA AS OF 10/7/2021, SINCE 1/20/2017, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED IN OUR STORY.

CAUTION: NO SINGLE NUMBER CAN TELL THE WHOLE STORY

<https://www.factcheck.org/2021/10/trumps-final-numbers>

Poinciana Lakes Plaza on Marigold Avenue north of Cypress Parkway, behind Walgreen's.



Poinciana Lakes Plaza
<https://eg3development.com/current-projects-1>
NEW CONSTRUCTION
 NW Corner of Marigold Ave & Cypress Parkway, Poinciana, FL

Print out this Membership Application for your friends and bring them to our next meeting!



A chartered club of the Polk County Florida Democratic Executive Committee

Membership Form
Annual Membership dues are \$15/person

Please make checks payable to: Solivita Democratic Club

Mail to:
SDC Treasurer
586 Villa Park Rd.
Poinciana, FL 34759

Date: _____ New Member Renewing Member

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Full Time Solivita Resident? (Check one) Yes No

I am registered as: Democrat NPA (No Party Affiliation) Other Party Republican

I am NOT registered to vote in Polk County, Florida



Membership Includes
Monthly Beacon Newsletter — Informative Meetings — Fun Events

Meetings are held at 7 pm, on the 2nd Wednesday of each month,
in the Solivita Starlite Ballroom and online via Zoom.

Visit Solivitademocrats.org for additional information.