THE INFORMED DEMOCRAT OF SWFL

LeeCountyDems.org
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LEE COUNTY

**April 2026**

## Meet the Democratic Candidates

Democrats, nationally and across Florida, have been flipping red districts blue! Now Lee County is stepping up to do the same thing here at home. Some great candidates have come forward for federal, state, and local offices and it's time for you to get to know them. Come, meet the local candidates seeking your support in their bids for School Board, State House and US Congress!

Each of the two US Congressional Districts in Lee County has a competitive primary race between candidates seeking the Party's nod to turn the Donalds' and Steube seats blue. Victor Arias and Howard Sapp, both seeking the Democratic nomination for Congress in District 19, will appear in a half-dozen side-by-side sessions over the next month. Matthew Montavon and Allen Spence, vying for the District 17 Congressional seat, will be at two of these Lee County sessions.

Meet these candidates and hear their views on the priorities of SW Florida. You will have a chance to submit questions which the moderator will pose to the panel of candidates. This is an important opportunity to help you make an informed choice in the August primary.

More opportunities to hear from these candidates continue to be scheduled so keep a close eye on the calendar of events for new dates and locations.

**Saturday, April 4th 2- 4pm** Ft. Myers Regional Library, 2450 First St.
Congressional Candidates (District 19): Victor Arias and Howard Sapp; School Board Candidates Debbie Jordan (District 2), India Palencia (District 6-"at-large"); Cindy Banyai (FL House 78) ; David Silverberg (FL Senate District 28)
To register for this event, click ***Candidate Forum: District 2 Primary - DEC - Lee County***

**Tuesday, April 7th**, **5:30-7:30 PM** Bonita Springs Library, 10560 Reynolds St., Bonita Springs Featuring District 19 Congressional Candidates Victor Arias and Howard Sapp in a forum moderated by David Silverberg of *The Paradise Progressive*. School Board Candidate India Palencia (District 6--"at-large") and James Anderst, candidate for Bonita Springs City Council, District 5 will also speak. To register for this event, click **Candidate Forum CD 19.**

**Saturday, April 11th, 2-4 PM** N. Ft. Myers Regional Library, 2001 N. Tamiami Trail
Congressional Candidates (District 17): Matthew Montavon and Allen Spence; (District 19): Victor Arias and Howard Sapp; School Board Candidates Debbie Jordan (District 2), India Palencia (District 6-"at-large"); Bryan Figueroa (FL House District 79)
Philip Carter (FL House District 76). To register for this event, click ***Democratic Party of Lee County - Candidate Forum - DEC - Lee County***

**Saturday, April 18th, 2-4 PM** South County Regional Library, 21100 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero
Congressional Candidates (District 19): Victor Arias and Howard Sapp; School Board Candidate India Palencia (District 6-“at-large”)
David Silverberg, FL Senate District 28. To register for this event, click ***Candidate Forum: District 3 Primary - DEC - Lee County***

**Saturday, April 25th 2:00-4:00** Cape Coral Library, 921 S.W. 39th Terrace
Congressional Candidates (District 19): Victor Arias and Howard Sapp; Kara Rogers, Candidate for Cape Coral Mayor; School Board candidates Heidi Fausel (District 1) and India Palencia (District 6-“at-large”); Bryan Figueroa, Florida House District 79.
To register for this event, click ***Candidate Forum -- District 1 Primary - DEC - Lee County***

**Saturday, May 2nd, 2:00-4:00** Lehigh Acres Regional Library, 800 Gunnery Road N.
Congressional Candidates (District 17): Matthew Montavon and Allen Spence; (District 19): Victor Arias and Howard Sapp; Cornelius Fowler, FL House District 77. To register for this event, click ***Candidate Forum - Zone 5 - DEC - Lee County***