

THE INFORMED DEMOCRAT OF SWFL



Volunteers of the Month **The Club Builders** **September 1, 2025**

This month we recognize five Democrats who have stepped up to build clubs and caucuses in Lee County, bringing people together to socialize, learn, and take action.

Liz Schelper and Jackie Brown have both been active with the Lehigh Acres Club. Both took part in the August 23 protest over Alligator Auschwitz. Jackie recruited dozens of new members for the Democratic Club of Lehigh Acres at the volunteer fair in July. She put together a club committee to organize the Alligator Auschwitz protest. “As an educator for the past 40 years, I felt a strong need to fight against the latest danger of the present fiasco. “

Liz steps up to do whatever is needed, not just for the Lehigh Acres Club but for the Democratic Environmental Caucus of Lee County, and the Democratic Women’s Club. She spoke at the Lehigh Acres Club on behalf of the DECF and represented the DECF at the volunteer fair. Liz says, “The word “helper” is in my last name; I’ve got to hold up my end of it!”



Kaitlyn Schoeffel built Estero United, an umbrella group for several Estero neighborhood coalitions. Their mission is to support local, state, and national elections while ensuring the people in our community are heard. Kaitlyn says, “Whether you’re concerned about policy changes, eager to propose new ideas, or looking to engage in meaningful discussions, this group is for you!”

Estero United: Kaitlyn Schoeffel is kneeling on the right in the front row.



Donna Milbee is standing on the right.



Mike Ward

Donna Milbee (above) and Mike Ward are new precinct leaders for Precinct 407. The pair organized a house party for their precinct, which is leading to the development of a whole new group called North Fort Myers United.

Donna previously organized “like-minded ladies” in her gated community for canvassing and postcard writing. She is dedicated to helping reach 12 million true patriots, as The Majority Project says that 3.5% is the “tipping point” for regaining control of our country. Inspired by John Lewis, she says “I want to do everything I can to save our democracy for my grandchildren.” Mike Ward started out by being active on Facebook, bringing the positions and actions of Trump and MAGA to task. Now, as Precinct co-leader, he wants to do whatever he can to get the Democrat vote out in Precinct 407.