

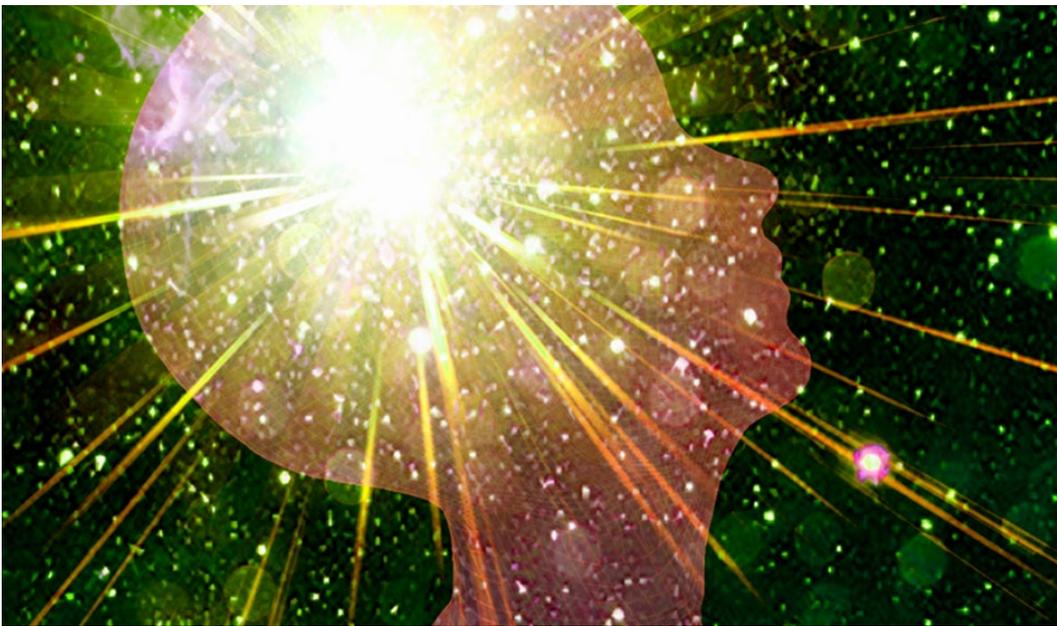


A Community #ForAllAges

Age-Friendly Sarasota

February 2020

Mental Health Special Dependent District Survey



Sarasota County has launched an [online survey](#) to gather public feedback regarding a proposed mental health care special district. This short, non-scientific survey, which is open Feb. 6-28, is an effort to gauge the public's interest in the district and potential millage rate that would fund the district's budget.

Services being considered for the proposed district could include providing and maintaining mental health facilities, caring for the mental health of indigent citizens, funding partner agencies that provide mental health services; those services may include prevention, intervention, treatment, crisis and supportive services for individuals with a mental health disorder. The proposed district could also participate in state and federally funded healthcare programs.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)...it only takes a few minutes!

For more information, call the Sarasota County Contact Center at 941-861-5000 or visit www.scgov.net.



Caregiver College:
Come to one or come to all

Mondays
10:30am - 12:00pm

The ReCODE Protocol

Tuesdays
February 4, 11, 18
5:30pm - 7:30pm

The Parkinson' Expo

Saturday, February 29
9:00am - 3:30pm

Exploring Life Through Art and Creativity

By Sue Firestone,
Sarasota County's Aging
System Policy
Coordinator



Shape Your Future



6 REASONS TO COMPLETE THE CENSUS

1. **Apportionment** - State population counts from the decennial census are used to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.
2. **Redistricting** - State and local officials use decennial census results to help redraw congressional, state, and local district boundaries.
3. **MONEY to States and Localities** - Census totals help determine the amount of funding that state governments and local communities receive from the federal government FOR THE NEXT DECADE.
4. **Planning** - Data from the census inform a wide range of government, business, and nonprofit decision making.
5. **Emergency Response** - Detailed population information is critical for emergency response in the wake of disasters.
6. **A Base for Federal Surveys** - The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program uses census data in combination with birth, death, and migration data to produce annual population and housing unit estimates.

Engaging and exploring our own creativity can help increase our lifespan, reduce depression, and just make life better!

Our community is fortunate to have so many cultural offerings; theater, music, dance, gardens, historical sites, trolley tours, and of course, art.

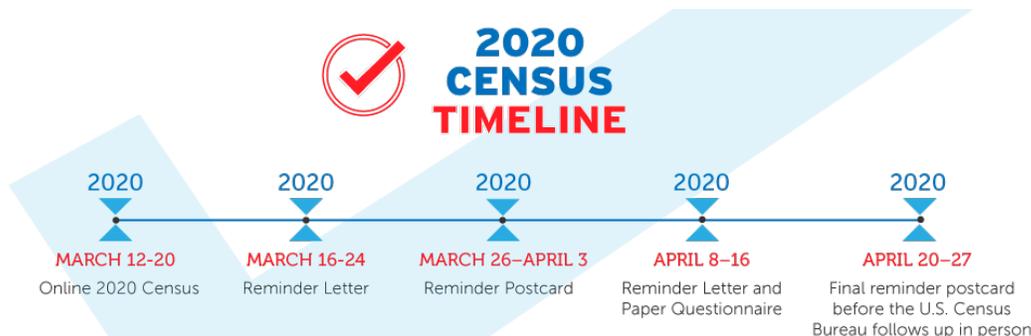
The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art is the state art museum of Florida. In addition to the museum, the grounds also host the [Kotler-Coville Glass Pavilion](#), [Circus Museum, Ca' d'Zan](#), [Historic Asolo Theater](#), [Johnson-Blalock Education Center](#), and the [Bayfront Gardens](#).

In 2018, The Ringling rebranded its Community Engagement Group as the IDEA Team (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access). The concept is to make The Ringling a welcoming and inclusive experience for all people.

A visit to The Ringling has many accessibility options and features for people of all ages and abilities:

- Personal Care Attendants can receive complimentary admission with a care recipient ticket purchase.

- Trained service animals are permitted in



[\[click to enlarge\]](#)

The 2020 AARP Community Challenge is On!

The AARP Community Challenge provides small grants to fund "quick-action" projects that can help communities become more livable for people of all ages. Applications are being accepted for projects to improve housing, transportation, public space, technology ("smart cities"), civic engagement and more.



**AARP
COMMUNITY
CHALLENGE**

Grants to make communities livable
for people of all ages

aarp.org/CommunityChallenge

Community Criteria

Although communities that belong to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities are encouraged to apply, projects that benefit any community and satisfy all other criteria are eligible for consideration.

Eligibility

The program is open to the following types of programs:

- 501(C)(3), 501(C)(4) and 501(c)(6) nonprofits
- Government entities
- Other types of organizations will be considered on a case-by-case basis

Important Dates

- April 1, 2020: Applications are due by 11:59 pm (ET)
- May 26, 2020: Applicants will be notified of their status this week
- July 15, 2020: The selected grantees will be announced to the public - and the project work can begin - on or around this date
- November 9, 2020: All funded projects must be completed
- December 11, 2020: Deadline for after-action reports

Acceptable Projects

AARP will prioritize projects that aim to achieve the following outcomes:

animals are permitted in all public areas of the campus for individuals with disabilities, as defined under Florida Statue 413.08.

- Accessible parking, tram service (on ADA-accessible tram), and wheelchairs/strollers are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

- Visitors who are blind or have low vision, as well as those who are deaf or hard of hearing, can request special docent-led tours with advance notice that include tactile objects and visual descriptions.

- Assistive listening devices are available on all Mable's Tours, Ca' d'Zan, and docent-led tours in the Museum of Art.

- Ringling Reflections is a special tour for individuals with memory loss and their care partners on select Sundays. The tours are free of charge but require advanced registration.

- A sensory-friendly map is available to help describe and navigate the grounds for an enjoyable experience. The map is color-coded to indicate the type of environment - calm to stressful - with quite spaces noted in and around each sector.

The Museum of Art is FREE on Mondays, and there is reduced admission and extended

- Increase civic engagement with innovative and tangible projects that bring residents and local leaders together to address challenges and facilitate a greater sense of community inclusion and diversity. (Although this category is targeted to local governments, nonprofit organizations can apply for and receive a grant in this category provided they demonstrate that they are working with local governments to solicit and include residents' insights about the project or to help solve a pressing challenge.)
- Create vibrant public places that improve open spaces, parks and access to other amenities.
- Deliver a range of transportation and mobility options that increase connectivity, walkability, bikeability, wayfinding, access to transportation options and roadway improvements.
- Support the availability of a range of housing that increases accessible and affordable housing options.
- Demonstrate the tangible value of "Smart Cities" with programs that engage residents in accessing, understanding and using data, and participating in decision-making to increase the quality of life for all.

[SOURCE: AARP](#)

admission and extended hours on Thursday evenings. [Museums for All](#) offers **FREE** museum admission to families (up to four people) with a valid EBT, SNAP, or WIC card. Discounted museum admission is available to active US Military, Florida teachers, and college students.

If you are interested in exploring your creative side, The Ringling Museum, in partnership with [Friendship Centers](#), is offering [Outside the Lines](#), a drop-in art discussion and hands-on session. The next sessions are in March and April.

Stepping Forward Book Circles

Why would you step forward to Join a book circle?

Stepping Forward shows us how to channel our aspirations, energies, and frustrations to get on a more hopeful path. The book outlines how we can step forward to --

- ↪ See and hear each other and afford every person human dignity.
- ↪ Rediscover what we share in common by focusing on our shared aspirations, even amid our real differences.
- ↪ Recognize we must tap into our innate capabilities to produce meaningful change.
- ↪ Forge a new shared responsibility to gather community resources to solve problems and harness people's yearning for genuine engagement.

Many of you may be hearing about [Rich and The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation](#) for the first time. We hope by now we have earned your trust and you will take a leap of faith to explore the possibilities...

[LEARN MORE](#)

