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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Allison Alvarez Hedrick

Vice President of Communications

**P:** 800.354.9338 ext. 2240

**E:** [ahedrick@wedu.org](mailto:ahedrick@wedu.org)

## ***WEDU's Florida This Week Hosts Republican Candidates Days Before Pinellas County Vote in District 13 Primary***



**Tampa, FL – Florida This Week** hosted candidates in the upcoming Republican Primary Election during a special edition of the weekly television program. Set to broadcast Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. on **WEDU**, West Central Florida's primary PBS station, it may be the final debate opportunity for the candidates before Tuesday's

election. Tuesday's vote will determine which candidate will run in the March general election to replace the late Congressman Bill Young.

Candidates **Mark Bircher**, **David Jolly**, and **Kathleen Peters** were joined by *Florida This Week* Host **Rob Lorei** and Tampa Bay Times Political Editor **Adam Smith**, who posed viewer submitted questions to the guests.

"At the top of my list for questions were the Affordable Care Act, oil drilling, minimum wage, flood insurance and sea level rise, Federal Government spending, military action against Iran, among many others," stated *Florida This Week* host Rob Lorei.

The Primary Election for the District 13 Congressional Election is Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and the winner will face candidates Michael S. Levinson, Lucas Overby and Alex Sink in the general election on March 11th.

Viewers can watch this special edition of *WEDU's Florida This Week*, Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. and again on Sunday, January 12 at 12:30 p.m. The program will also available online at [www.wedu.org](http://www.wedu.org) beginning Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ABOUT FLORIDA THIS WEEK**

One of WEDU's local productions, Florida This Week is hosted by Rob Lorei. The program features local stories and issues discussed by a panel of journalists, academics, local officials and political insiders. Included are "Person on the Street" segments; and interviews. Past episodes can be viewed online at [www.wedu.org](http://www.wedu.org).

#### **ABOUT WEDU PBS**

WEDU is West Central Florida's leading PBS station and public media company reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of media platforms including: television programming, station's website, [www.wedu.org](http://www.wedu.org) and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Harris Interactive Trust QuickQuery, January 2013). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit [www.wedu.org](http://www.wedu.org); WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.

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