



**Important Numbers:**

- **President**  
Donna Dennis  
727-447-7380
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Mary Freeman  
727-415-6629
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
MaryAnn Stickels  
727-724-0234
- **Corresponding Secretary**  
Diane Lebedeff  
727-252-3266
- **Recording Secretary**  
Open
- **Treasurer**  
Shelby Freeman  
727-742-5661
- **Regional Representative**  
Sherry Kinder  
704-240-0370
- **Legislative Liaison**  
Carrie Wadlinger  
704/240-0371
- **Parliamentarian**  
OPEN  
Sergeant-At-Arms  
Jasmina Forcan  
727-692-3472  
Media Chair/Historian  
OPEN  
Financial Review Chair  
Roberta Farr  
336-549-2737  
DWCUP Website  
[DWCUP.org](http://DWCUP.org)
- DWCF, Inc.**  
[DWCF.org](http://DWCF.org)
- FL Demo Party**  
[Fladems.com](http://Fladems.com)
- PCDEC**  
[Pinellasdemocrats.com](http://Pinellasdemocrats.com)

**Next Meeting**  
 NEXT MEETING March 26, 2018  
 Clearwater Main Library  
 100 N. Osceola Ave.  
 Clearwater  
 11:30-1:30 pm



Democratic Women's Club of Florida  
 President  
 Patricia Farley  
 Celebrating  
 "Women's History Month"

**The 2018 Theme for National Women's History Month is "Nevertheless, She Persisted: Honoring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women."**

We are honored to have as our Guest Speaker Patricia Farley, President of the Democratic Women's Club of Florida. Before being elected President, Patricia had served as 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Region VI Chair, Labor Chair and 2015 Convention Chair where she presented the club with a check for \$20,000. She has served in too many positions to mention. She recently retired as a public school teacher of 31 years. In her short term she has proven to be a powerful leader and with her "Experience, Hard Work and Determination," Patricia will take our organization to levels never before seen.

## President's Message:

by Donna Dennis

This last month has been overtaken emotionally by the shootings in Parkland. We spent much of the February meeting discussing the event and its aftermath. Each day we're seeing new initiatives, proposals and even corporate policy change. Dick's Sporting Goods will no longer sell assault weapons and will sell no guns at all to anyone under 21. Even Walmart says it will not sell any guns to those under 21. We know many companies have asked to be removed from the NRA website.

I applaud those changes as I have long felt that the NRA is the unelected governing body of this country. It's frightening to see how tight their grip is on so many legislators and elected officials at all levels of government.

And we applaud the young people of Marjory Stoneman Douglas H.S. who stood up to Sen. Rubio and lawmakers in Tallahassee demanding more be done. Of course, the ban of assault weapons is nearly dead in the state capitol, but if there are changes like raising the age of gun purchase, intensive background checks and waiting periods, that's a start. Arming school teachers in the classroom, however, is ludicrous, and the concept is merely a smokescreen to deflect the discussion of an actual ban of weapons of war in the hands of civilians.

Our Club needs your help. We are in dire need of a recording secretary who would take brief notes at our membership and board meetings (or notify the president to get a sub when the secretary can't attend). Please call or email me if you have any interest in helping in this manner.

We've added a fun event in the upcoming week—which seems appropriate in these heavy days. Next Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, anyone who wishes will meet at the Cobb Theater in Countryside Mall in Clearwater to see "The Black Panther" as a group. Matinee tickets are \$8.50, but on Senior Tuesday, for those 60+, matinees are only \$6! Meet there by 1 pm so we can buy our tickets and go in as a group. It's considered a ground-breaking, timely and exciting film. Anyone who wants to may go to the Food Court afterward to have a bite and discuss the movie. We'd love to have you join us!

So make your calls and make your voice heard to local legislators—see Carrie Wadlinger's timely article in this newsletter—and then consider joining us for the movie, the March for Our Lives on March 24<sup>th</sup>, and the next Club meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>. We're welcoming our DWCF state president, Patty Farley. She's awesome!

Bring in those unused **hotel toiletries** you have collected and we will deliver them to the women at the Haven by RCS

**DWCUP** dues are \$20.00 for the year.

PLATINUM – 3yrs. - \$50

SILVER – 6yrs - \$100

Gold – Forever Member - \$200

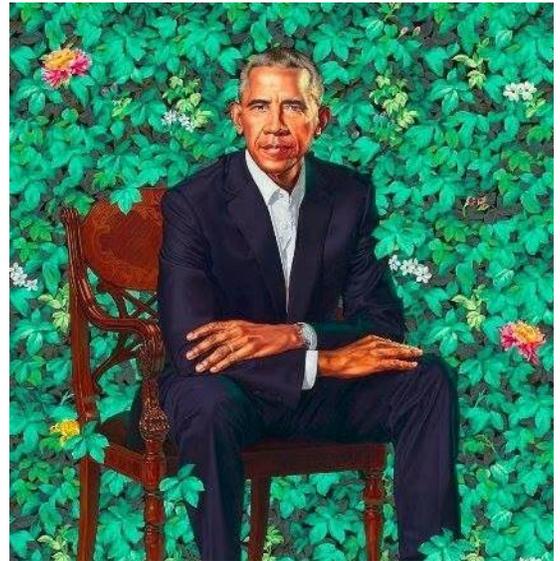
Checks, preferably, payable to:

**"DWCUP"**

Send to: Shelby Freeman

960 Starkey Rd. #1404 Largo, FL 33771

.DISTRICT 66  
 "BUILD THE BASE"  
 SOCIAL/FUNDRAISER  
 SUNDAY MARCH 18  
 3:00 -5:00  
 SEABREEZE FAMILY  
 RESTAURANT  
 6864 SEMINOLE BLVD.  
 Raffle items, chef cooked  
 meals, coupons good at local  
 businesses, specialty baskets.  
 Meet new friends, Local  
 Candidates and Elected  
 Officials.



9th Annual Democratic Picnic  
 Saturday, April 7, 2018

**Politics in the Park**



11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Pavillion 4

Taylor Lake Park  
 (across from Pinecrest Golf on 8th Ave)  
 Largo

Super Dooper  
 HOT DOGS!



Statewide and local Democratic office holders and  
 candidates will be on hand to meet voters and speak.

SODAS!  
 Lemonade!  
 JOIN US!



Lots of  
 CANDIDATES!

Admission is \$10.

Tickets may be obtained from:  
 Mary Lou Ambrose 443-4045 or  
 Bob Glass 319-6031



Parkland school shooting  
 victims:

17 lives lost too soon.



**"MARCH FOR OUR LIVES"**

**Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am**

**13025 Starkey Rd.**

**Largo**

**Bring your signs and join  
 those who want sensible  
 gun laws.**

**NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION!**

**DMV Office**

**"She was warned...  
 She was given an explanation.  
 Nevertheless,  
 She Persisted."**

## Friday Evening Meet & Greet / Hotel Check-In

Date: Friday, May 4th, 2018      Time: 6:30pm  
Location: The Hampton Inn & Suites Deland  
20 Summit Oak Place, DeLand, FL 32720  
(386) 279-7808

**THE DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF FLORIDA**  
INVITES ALL DEMOCRATS AND ALLIES TO JOIN US FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL PERSISTERS RALLY IN CELEBRATION  
OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S MONTH

**SATURDAY, MAY 5TH, 2018**  
EARL BROWN PARK  
758 E. ALABAMA AVENUE  
DELAND, FL 32724  
**9AM - 4PM**



*Persisters*

Invited are Democratic Clubs, Caucuses, Candidates and Elected officials as we stand together  
to channel the energy and passion we have amassed and turn it into tangible democratic votes!



This statewide event includes notable speakers, live entertainment, music, BBQ and a banner  
parade around the park. Visit [www.dwcf.org](http://www.dwcf.org) for more information.

Please join the *Tuesday Morning Game Changers* on  
Sunday March 18th at 3:00 PM to meet other good  
Democrats and raise money so that District 66 can  
continue their work of **GETTING DEMOCRATS ELECTED**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR  
FUNDRAISER/SOCIAL EVENT FOR  
DEMOCRATIC DISTRICT 66 "BUILD THE BASE"**

From 3:00 - 5:00 PM

**SUNDAY MARCH 18, 2018**

AT THE:

**SEABREEZE FAMILY RESTAURANT**

**6864 SEMINOLE BLVD**

**SEMINOLE, FL 33772**

**RAFFLE TICKETS \$10:00**

**RAFFLE ITEMS:**

**CHEF-COOKED MEAL BEER FOR \$1.50 WITH FOOD  
COUPONS GOOD AT LOCAL BUSINESSES  
SPECIALTY BASKETS**

**THIS EVENT IS HOSTED BY THE  
"TUESDAY MORNING TO RAISE MONEY TO FUND  
OUR GAME CHANGERS"**

**ACTIVITIES SUCH AS  
REGISTERING VOTERS,  
DEEP CANVASSING TO BUILD OUR BASE,  
FINDING, EDUCATING, AND TRAINING  
PRECINCT WORKERS,  
ASSISTING AT FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENTS,  
PARTICIPATING IN MARCHES AND LOCAL  
PARADES,  
AND BUILDING OTHER ALLIANCES WITH OUR  
NEIGHBORS.**

**MEET NEW FRIENDS  
MEET LOCAL CANDIDATES AND ELECTED  
OFFICIALS**

## **Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee**

**Prelude To Victory Gala with  
special guest US Rep.  
Cheri Bustos (D-IL)**



**Sat, March 24, 2018  
5:00 PM - 11:59 PM EDT**

**Kapok Special Events Center**

**923 N McMullen Booth Rd, Clearwater,  
Tickets \$125  
Balcony \$80**

Legislative Report March 2018

By: Carrie Wadlinger

### **“IT’S NOT TOO LATE”**

It’s not too late now or for the mid-term elections to make a difference on GUN safety laws or vote out officials run by the NRA. It has been just two weeks and our Florida legislators have pushed new gun bills through committee. One of the many bills will pass all committees and come for a vote in the Florida Senate or Florida House later this week or early next week. The federal legislators are on the way to sending gun bills through committees but will take a little longer. Our House Appropriations Committee approved training teachers to carry guns in class. I don’t know how you feel but I can tell you every teacher and parent I’ve talked to say that’s insane and can lead to more harm than good. There are some good measures, that in the future can be expanded on. They include a three-day waiting period for gun purchases and raising the age to buy any gun from 18 to 21. There are loopholes since there is no mention of these laws being enforced through private sale.

Pinellas School Board voted 6 to 1 to support a ban on assault weapons. The board members also expressed support for Gov. Rick Scott’s \$500 million plan to boost school safety and mental health. There are so many sides and issues when it comes to guns and assault weapons. Gov. Rick Scott and Senator Marco Rubio oppose arming classroom teachers. President Trump supports it.

What we do support: 1. Ban on all assault weapons. 2. Ban on Bump Stocks. 3. Age limit of 21 to purchase guns, even through private sale. 4. No arming teachers in the classroom.

For now, let’s concentrate on the above because; “IT’S NOT TOO LATE”.

PLEASE CALL:

Gov. Scott, 850 – 488 – 4441; State Rep. Chris Latvala (# 64) 850 – 717 – 5067;  
State Rep. Larry Ahern (#66) 850 – 717 – 5066| State Rep. Chris Sprowls (#65)  
850 – 717 – 5065.

Don’t forget to also call: US Senator Bill Nelson, 202 – 224 – 5274, US Senator Marco Rubio  
202 – 224 – 224 – 3041, Congressman Gus Bilirakis (#12) 202 – 225 – 5755, Congressman  
Charlie Crist (#13) 202 – 225 – 5961.

At our monthly meeting, St. Petersburg’s City Council President, Lisa Wheeler Bowman, told her story about her son being shot 9 times with no suspect in sight. She stood strong, stayed determined and, in the end, helped catch the man who did the shooting and watched him get life in prison. Lisa’s story aired on ID Channel, Dateline Crime last fall. The episode title is “Code of Silence.”

**Join us to see “Black Panther”!**

**Our Club members are going as a group on Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Cobb Theater in Countryside Mall. Gather at 1 pm at the box office. Matinee price is \$8.50, but it’s Senior Discount Day for those of us 60+. GET IN FOR ONLY \$6! Come see this amazing, paradigm-shifting film!**

**President Jimmy Carter's Message to the nation designating March 2-8, 1980 as National Women's History Week.**

*"From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended them, men and women have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well. As Dr. Gerda Lerner has noted, "Women's History is Women's Right." – It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision." I ask my fellow Americans to recognize this heritage with appropriate activities during National Women's History Week, March 2-8, 1980.*

*I urge libraries, schools, and community organizations to focus their observances on the leaders who struggled for equality – – Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Lucy*

*Stone, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, and Alice Paul.*

*Understanding the true history of our country will help us to comprehend the need for full equality under the law for all our people.*

*This goal can be achieved by ratifying the 27th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states that "Equality of Rights under the Law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."*

**DWCUP Words of Inspiration  
February/March 2018**

Our February meeting salutes Black History Month; next, we enter March and Women's History Month. The joining of these months is the perfect moment to consider intersectionality.

Intersectionality emphasizes that aspect of our identities--race, gender, economic class, age, disability, sexual orientation and other groupings--bear upon our individual privileges and deprivations. The term reminds us that where burdens exist, those burdens are cumulative.

One can find no better encapsulation of intersectionality than the words of feminist welfare reformer Johnnie Tillmon: "I'm a woman. I'm a black woman. I'm a poor woman. I'm a fat woman. I'm a middle-aged woman. And I'm on welfare. In this country, if you're any one of those things you count less as a human being. If you're all those things, you don't count at all. Except as a statistic." (Welfare is a Women's Issue. (Ms Magazine, Spring 1972).

Intersectionality is a new term, coined by African American law professor Kimberle' Williams Crenshaw in 1989. Although it can sound complicated, as Alice Paul reminded us, "There is nothing complicated about ordinary equality." Equality remains our struggle, every day of the year.

**Diane Lebedeff  
DWCUP Corresponding Secretary**



**Next Meeting  
April 23, 2018  
11:30-1:30 pm  
100 N. Osceola  
Clearwater Library**

