

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB of MANATEE COUNTY

DWCManatee.com

October 2011

TUESDAY, October 11, 11:30 AM
DWC Luncheon Meeting

at Bradenton Country Club, 4646 9th Ave East

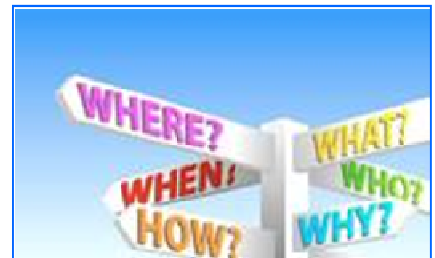
Speaker: Pat Barber on
"Teachers in Manatee County"

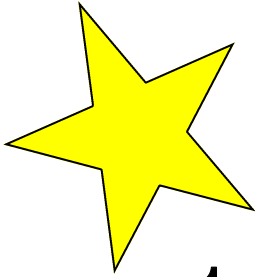
Menu choices: Roast Breast of Turkey
with bread stuffing and cranberry sauce.
Vegetarian: Fettuccine Alfredo

Please Call Phyllis Virzi, 795-7608
to reserve your place and name your meal choice.

Pat Barber of the Manatee Teacher's Union will be our guest speaker for October. She will discuss what is happening in Manatee County education and to Manatee County teachers. Many teachers have had their monthly salary decrease (one teacher's was reduced by \$125 a month, the result of increases in medical insurance and a cut in pay).

Thank you, PINK-SLIP RICK.




NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Meetings, Speakers and Events

TUESDAY, October 11 — DWC Luncheon 11:30 AM
 Bradenton Country Club. Pat Barber, "Teachers in Manatee County" Call Phyllis Virzi to reserve la place.

October 15 - DWC table at SWAT Team event 8 to 5,
 Bradenton Auditorium; DWC volunteers needed for 2 or 3-
 hour shifts. Call Shirley Snyder 798-9882.

October 28—30 — Florida Democratic Party Convention, Lake
 Buena Vista

**October 29 — Planned Parenthood's "Safe Sex: Halloween
 Bash" 9 PM- 1 AM,** Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, (777 N Tami-
 ami Tr, Sarasota). Spooky twist on the annual fund-raiser (open
 bar, delicious bites from Michael's-on-East, DJ/dancing, enter-
 tainment, costume contests, take-home "shag-bags,"shocking
 surprises) www.SafeSexHalloweenBash.com; 365-3913, ext 1124.

November 5 —(First Saturday of every month) Canvassing
 a selected precinct with Mary Duda (708-0713) Walk door to
 door with a fellow Dem, talking with Registered Dems at home
 about Getting Out the Vote and Voting by Mail in 2012.

November 10 — Planned Parenthood "High Tea at High Noon,"
 12 noon, mimosa reception, luncheon, and fashion show at Van
 Wezel Performing Arts Hall (777 N Tamiami Tr, Sarasota)
 www.myplannedparenthood.org or 365-3913

CHECK OUT THE DEC WEBSITE

www.manateecountydemocrats.com for other activities.

CLUB OFFICERS/LEADERS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE October 2011

I found our DWC tour of the Galvano One Stop Center (after our September luncheon meeting) quite eye opening. How have we come so far but yet not far enough to help those who are in great need and comfort? We need to continue to collect our food for Our Daily Bread and bring all of the clothing that we do not use or let hang in our closets from year to year. Thank you, Adell and the entire staff at the One Stop Center; you are all angels in disguise.

Fay Murphy, Howard Dobson, George and I attended the Democratic Women's Club of Florida Convention in Deerfield Beach, along with 100 like-minded members of Florida's DWC. Also present--to power us up and remind us why we are needed to run for office--were State Representatives Gwyndolen Clarke-Reed, Hazelle Rogers, Lori Berman (who will be bringing the ERA to the floor again), Kelly Skidmore; and Senators Nan Rich, Gwen Margolis, Eleanor Sobel, and Maria Sachs; and Broward County Commissioner Kristin Jacobs. In addition, Buffy Wicks of Obama's campaign out of Chicago and the White House was present. Two speakers from the League of Women Voters, Pamela S. Goodman and Corinne T. Miller, who did a wonderful job explaining the issues of Voter Suppression and Redistricting.

Both resolutions submitted to the DWC Convention delegates (Therapeutic Cannabis and Amending the Constitution to Restore the People's Power to Limit Corporate Spending in Elections) passed.

The new officers of the Florida DWC are President: Janet Goen; Vice President: Pat Benson; Treasurer: Marie Varon; and Second Vice President: Julie Heckendorn.

The next DWC state convention will be held in Tallahassee on August 2-5, 2012. I really hope more of our Manatee DWC ladies can save their money and travel along with us. We learn so much, and Tallahassee is our state capitol.

Tally Day, February 5-7th will be our annual trip to Tallahassee with the DWC of Florida. We will be visiting with our legislators and enjoying tours, meetings, and social events. More information will follow as it becomes available. Again, please join our group from Region VII. We'll have a good time.



Patty



Why Governor Scott Must NOT be Reelected

by Myra Jones

In criticizing our governor, I know that I am preaching to the choir, but sometimes it is helpful to have the facts at your fingertips, just in case you want to enlighten anyone who might vote for him in the future. His sins are too numerous to cover in one short article, so I will concentrate on what he has done with our money.

Since becoming governor, Scott has rejected more than \$2 billion for high speed rail and health needs. These include senior citizen health care; cancer care; and prevention of child abuse HIV/AIDS, and pregnancy. But it's not a matter of principle with him, even though he may claim it. He has accepted money for a sex education program--it's based on abstinence alone. You know, the plan that has always been a complete failure.

He has declared that he will reject any money in Obama's Jobs Bill, if it should pass. This will include over \$1.6 billion to prevent layoffs to 26,000 educators and first responders and \$1.3 billion to support infrastructure construction. Just the school construction/renovation part of this bill would generate 16,600 jobs.

He obviously puts politics ahead of the welfare of the people he was elected to serve. But he does not forget to use all his actions for his own benefit. For example, he is promoting his own high speed rail project--it would not generate nearly as many jobs as the federal project and would not be located where it would do the most good, but it would help his cronies. While rejecting money for medical benefits for all Floridians, he has his own sweetheart medical plan costing him a whole \$30 a month for his whole family. He has decreed that MEDICAID patients must use HMO's. And--what a coincidence!--his family owns an HMO.

He has involved the state in expensive, tax-funded lawsuits. For example, the Republicans don't want to redistrict fairly. Naturally not. Fairly drawn districts would not fragment Democratic populations, and that would mean that Democrats would be more likely to win elections. So he filed a lawsuit to prevent the peoples' will from being carried out. The really enraging part of this is that the taxpayers are being forced to pay for BOTH SIDES of this lawsuit. And it isn't the only suit against his actions. Teachers have filed suit about his merit pay feature, claiming that it violates a contract in effect. And there is a suit about his voter suppression law (another effort to prevent Democrats from voting).

He is also officially the most unpopular governor in the country. And that's going some, because he has a lot of competition. All this may have some benefits though. He has so angered Floridians that there is an effort under way to get a Governor Recall Amendment on the next ballot.

My information comes from an interesting news service that you might want to tap into. It's a daily summary of press information helpful to Florida democrats: Democratic Member Press Releases <

DemocraticMemberPressReleases@myfloridahouse.gov>

Myra Jones, 755-6091 or e-mail me at mjones672@tampabay.rr.com.

Myra Jones

Please Help the Helpers



Our Daily Bread food donation for September was 34 pounds of food! Our Goal is to exceed or meet last year's total of 208 pounds. Bring canned and non-perishable foods to our DWC luncheon meetings. After the food is weighed, it will be delivered to ODB. Every little bit adds up! Thank you to everyone!

Brenda Katz



I need help from DWC members to man our table at the Bradenton Police Department SWAT Team rummage and arts/crafts sale on October 15 at the Bradenton Auditorium. Please let me know if you can help for 2 or 3 hours on that day. This is an opportunity for Democrats to make an appearance at a police event. The first six people to call will get these coveted spots at the table! Call Shirley at 798-9882.

Shirley Snyder

We all need to get out now to talk with our fellow Democrats to get them aboard our election work team. You can help doing this by coming with us canvassing on Saturday, November 5th from 10:30 to 1:30 PM. If you have not participated before in a Monthly Precinct Canvass, we welcome your help! We will pair you up with an experienced partner for your canvass of about 25 Democratic households and will provide you with a list of and map to the super Democratic voters you will be talking to. Plus we will tell you what to say and give you a bag full of information for each household. Contact me, PDT Chair Mary Duda at either 708-0713 or mcmduda@aol.com to sign up to canvass or if you have questions. You will enjoy canvassing and will be doing something crucial for our future!

Mary Duda

The annual "Veterans Stand Down" day (this year on November 5th) serves many needy vets by providing free--a hot full breakfast (eggs-bacon-and-more) and personal services (showers, haircuts, flu shots, clothing) and also--dental and medical services, legal help, and advice on housing and employment). Last year 700 attended Manatee's Stand Down, and this year even more are expected. Your Donations of clothing (the biggest need is for new, white underwear: t-shirts, briefs and socks but donations of all kinds are welcome. And donations of money are always appreciated, as well! Contact Linda Gaines at 747-1509 (ask for Linda) or by email LGaines@cchomeless.com.

**Community Coalition on
Homelessness at the
Galvano One-Stop Center**



Patricia Hickey is looking for a position as live-in companion to someone who needs help. Pat will not be able to lift heavy weights but she can clean, cook, and run errands. If you know of anyone needing help, Please get in touch with DWC member Minnie Lee Jones yatt22@aol.com (941)739-2250



Bradenton's One Stop Center and The Community Coalition on Homelessness

What goes on in Bradenton's Galvano One Stop Center? Well, just about everything, apparently, though it's not so apparent from the outside. When after our September lunch we toured the Center, we were astonished by the intensity and activity we saw everywhere.

The One Stop Center (701 17th Avenue West) is a 17,000 square foot building that offers under one roof--

- Meals: Our Daily Bread (cooking and serving a free hot lunch everyday) kitchen and dining area are in the east wing of the building
- Personal Services (showers, laundry facilities, counseling, and access to the free medical and dental clinics)
- Supplies (clothes and shoes, bedding, bicycles and more) stored in the "bat cave" in the west wing of the building
- Medical and Dental Clinics (professionals volunteering their time and skill come from private practice and from Lake Erie College of Medicine) in a row of well-lit, freshly painted clinic rooms
- Jobs preparation: Suncoast Workforce (the new name for Jobs, ETC) (trains job seekers in filling out application forms, interviewing skills, using the computer and handling the job search); a row of computer desks stand below motivational posters
- A postal address: homeless people can use the Center to receive mail and for getting an ID

In addition, the Center has many small offices and work areas for other agency services (we saw some in action)--

- Family Promise (churches providing housing for homeless families)
- Veterans Affairs (multiple services)
- Florida Clinical Research (medical research and patient education, including " Living Safely with Hepatitis C")
- Goodwill (job training and counseling services)
- Manatee Glens (psychological counseling)
- Project Heart (Manatee school district's program for homeless students) and Street Outreach serves ages 16-25 (there are 1,500 homeless young people in our county)
- Unemployment Assistance
- Rental Assistance (for people who are able to show sustainability *(continues next column)*)

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT RANDOLPH RESPONDS TO FEDERAL COURT DECISION UPHOLDING FAIR DISTRICTS

Sept 9 2011 A federal court in Miami today rejected a lawsuit filed by two members of Congress and the Florida House of Representatives. The amendments are intended to require compact districts that do not favor political parties or incumbents. Representative Scott Randolph (D-Orlando) issued the following statement:

"I am pleased that the court upheld the wishes of 63 percent of Florida voters. Voters deserve the fair districts for which they voted—and they don't need politicians standing in their way and spending their tax dollars to challenge their vote. "Speaker Cannon and the other plaintiffs in this case have cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars to pursue this frivolous lawsuit. Because the state has also been defending this case, I urge Secretary Browning to ask the court to require the plaintiffs in this case to pay attorney fees pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, as well as other penalties to the attorneys for filing and pursuing such a frivolous case."



The Center's "wish lists" give a close-up view of the clients' needs: medical supplies (walkers and canes; tube-feeding supplies, tubing; liquid foods, as Ensure and Gevity; ostomy supplies), clothing and shoes; sleeping bags and bicycles; shower supplies (soap, shampoo, deodorant, towels, wash cloths); dental supplies (toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss). The Center uses everything. I've taken several loads of donations there--some oddities included--but nothing has been turned away. The Center staff is practical and ingenious: "Somebody will need it."

Meg Newcomer

Democratic Women's Club of Manatee

DWCManatee.com

1705 Roslyn Avenue
Bradenton, FL 34207

Welcome, New Members

Nancy Ely
Aileen Haines



We were sorry to learn that Nora Leakey's husband, Paul, passed away on September 25th. Paul was 92. He and Nora were married for more than twenty-four years. Our sincere condolences to Nora.

Please tell our Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Snyder, if you know of a DWC member who is ill, recovering, or would appreciate a word of comfort or a helping hand. Shirley will send a card, and if appropriate will tell us so we can let you know (via the DWC newsletter) who would welcome a card or call. Contact Shirley at 798-9882 or srs2918@yahoo.com Thank you.

For membership and dues:
Judy Drake (753-2132)
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CONTACT OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

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www.whitehouse.gov 202/456-1111 (comments)

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Bill Nelson (D) 202/224-5274 813/225-7040
billnelson.senate.gov

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