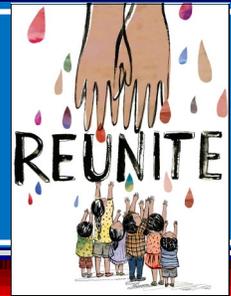




Democratic Progressive Club of Lee County

Action Needed:
RALLY TO REUNITE THE CHILDREN!
Page 8



Volume 16 • Issue 1 • March 20, 2019

Notice: The Democratic Progressive Club will gather on

Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m. at Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, Fort Myers, for a membership meeting.

Free refreshments, cash bar.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



In celebration of Women's History Month 2019, the Democratic Progressive Club of Lee County is honored to host a **panel of three dedicated women who stepped up to work on**

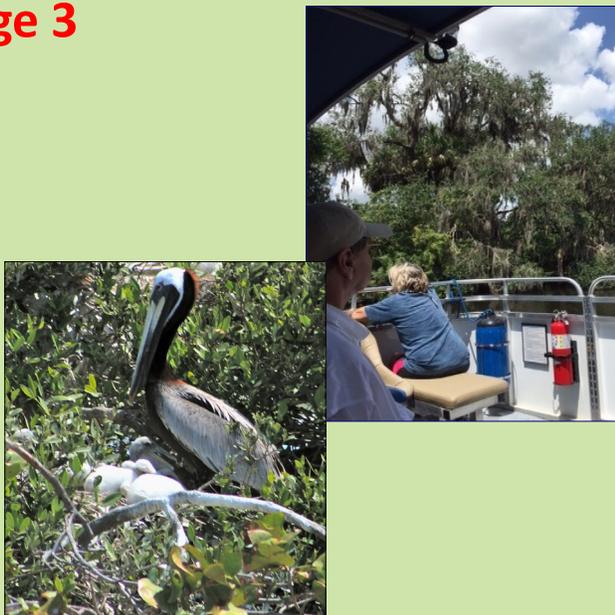
the 2018 campaigns of local Democratic women candidates.

- **Francie Hunt** managed Anissa Karim's campaign for Florida State Senate District 28;



(Continued on page 2)

● **We're going again!**
Join us for Caloosahatchee Oxbow & Riverlore Cruise.
Get your tickets now!
Page 3



Look Inside !

- How to WIN elections, Training, **Pages 6,7**
- Amazing Women in History, **Page 4,5**
- RALLY TO REUNITE THE CHILDREN! **Page 8**
- Workers Rights, **Page 14,15**
- Gun Legislation Info, **Page 16**
- Communicate with Legislators, **Page 17**
- Update on the ERA, **Page 12,13**
- A wall can't fix , **Page 10,11**

Presidents Notes

(President's Notes From page 1)

- Allison Sardonis**
 served as political director for Mary Barzee Flores campaign for Florida's 25th con-



gressional district; and



the woman behind the woman candidate and an



- Janelle Christensen**
 served as campaign manager for Parisima Taeb's bid for Florida House District 78.



Minutes and River Cruise

DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE CLUB MONTHLY MEETING REPORT

February 20, 2019

- **SPEAKER**---Bob Schaeffer national political consultant
- Discussion of the 2018 election
- What happened!
- Why!
- What's next?

An excellent discussion with many questions followed.

• Upcoming events

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation hosts the Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise to experience the historic Caloosahatchee. DPC's trip will be **April 6 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

Tickets are \$55 per person. Make reservations by emailing Don Richards (rahtide@hotmail.com)
Tickets are still available



We're going again! Join us for Caloosa- hatchee Oxbow & Riverlore Cruise

The Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation hosts

the Oxbow and Riverlore Cruise to experience the historic Caloosahatchee.

These guided trips provide a relaxing opportunity to gain a personal perspective on the river, its history, folklore, issues and solutions, as we explore the meanders of the historic upriver Caloosahatchee. We follow the river back to a time when a waterfall served as the headwaters of the Caloosahatchee and settlers braved living amongst the wilderness.

The 2.5 hour adventure begins by locking through the W.P. Franklin Lock in Olga. Heading east toward Alva. The cruise enters the historic bends of the river and revisit the activities of the pioneers who traveled the same river to find paradise. Stories of the settlements and their adventures are blended with an understanding of the river's ox-



bows, the wild creatures that call it home and the challenges the river faces.

Tours are guided by Rae Ann Wessel, a river researcher, long-time river advocate, historian and SCCF Natural Resource Policy Director. All seats have a great view for photographs and wildlife viewing.

DPC's trip will be April 6 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tickets are \$55 per person. Make reservations by emailing Don Richards (rahtide@hotmail.com)

To reserve a ticket send your check (made out to DPC Lee) to Co-Chair of the trip, Don Richards, at 1466 Palm Woode, Ft. Myers, FL 33919-6719. Following the trip we are looking into a good local restaurant for those that would like to have lunch together. More info coming...Direct any questions to dpclee@gmail.com

Amazing Women in History

GLADYS WEST

MATHEMATICIAN. INSTRUMENTAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS)



GLADYS' DETERMINATION TO FIND SOLUTIONS INSPIRES THOSE WHO WANT TO WORK ON PROJECTS THAT CAN CHANGE THE WORLD IN UNIMAGINABLE WAYS. ALL 'SMART' DEVICES USED IN THE WORLD TODAY HAVE BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY THE WORK OF GLADYS.

ARTIST - GENEVA B

NEVERTHESSPODCAST.COM Pearson NEVERTHESS STORYTHINGS Adra's List

CYNTHIA BREAZEL

SCIENTIST AND ROBOTICIST. PIONEER OF THE WORLD'S FIRST SOCIAL ROBOT.



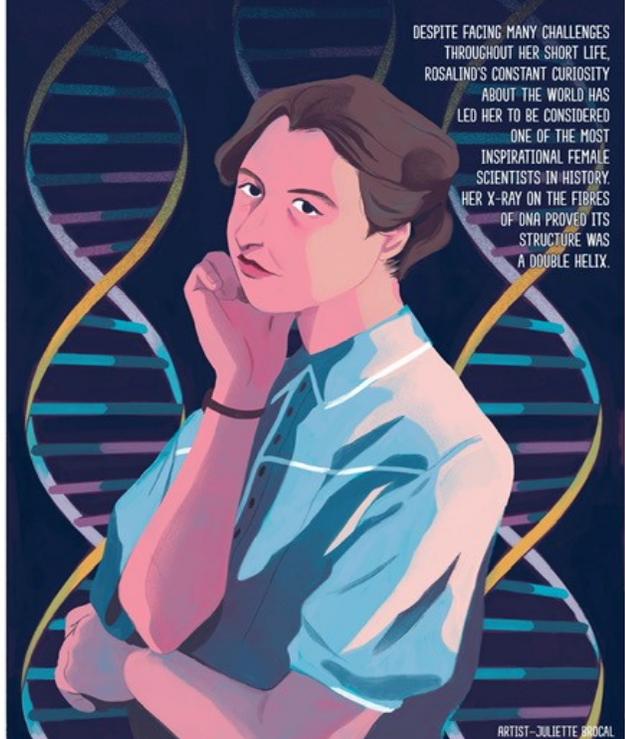
CYNTHIA'S APPROACH TO INNOVATION HELPED HER DEVELOP SOCIAL ROBOTS THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PEOPLE'S LIVES. SHE IS AN INSPIRATION TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO USE TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL BENEFIT THE HEALTH, COMMUNICATION, CREATIVITY AND EDUCATIONAL GOALS OF PEOPLE.

ARTIST - JOANA NEVES

NEVERTHESSPODCAST.COM Pearson NEVERTHESS STORYTHINGS Adra's List

ROSALIND FRANKLIN

SCIENTIST. INSTRUMENTAL IN DISCOVERING THE STRUCTURE OF DNA.



DESPITE FACING MANY CHALLENGES THROUGHOUT HER SHORT LIFE, ROSALIND'S CONSTANT CURIOSITY ABOUT THE WORLD HAS LED HER TO BE CONSIDERED ONE OF THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL FEMALE SCIENTISTS IN HISTORY. HER X-RAY ON THE FIBRES OF DNA PROVED ITS STRUCTURE WAS A DOUBLE HELIX.

ARTIST - JULIETTE BOCCAL

NEVERTHESSPODCAST.COM Pearson NEVERTHESS STORYTHINGS Adra's List

MAE JEMISON

ASTRONAUT AND DOCTOR. FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN IN SPACE.



MAE INSPIRES MANY AS THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN TO TRAVEL TO SPACE. MAE BELIEVES THAT YOU SHOULD STOP TALKING ABOUT 'ACHIEVING YOUR DREAMS' AND START TALKING ABOUT 'WHAT YOU INTEND TO DO'.

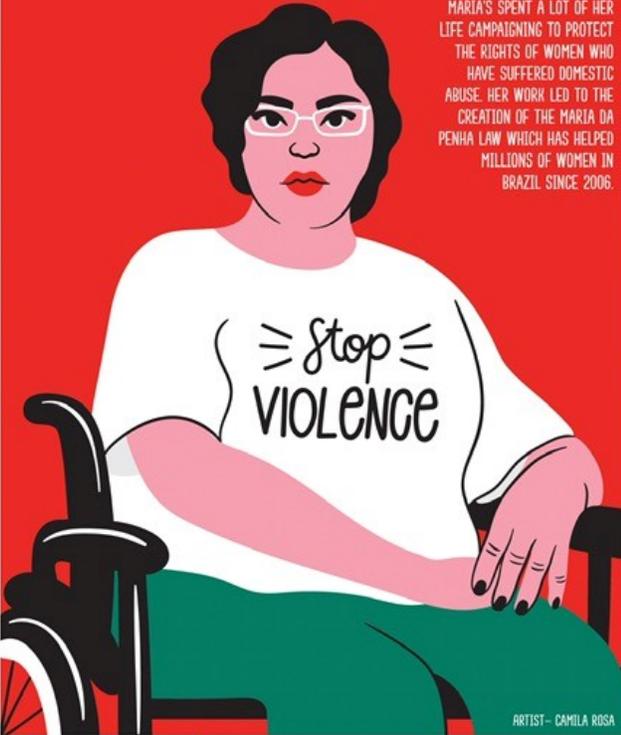
ARTIST - KARINA PEREZ

NEVERTHESSPODCAST.COM Pearson NEVERTHESS STORYTHINGS Adra's List

Amazing Women in History

MARIA DA PENHA

BRAZILIAN BIOPHARMACIST AND DEFENDER OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN.



MARIA'S SPENT A LOT OF HER LIFE CAMPAIGNING TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN WHO HAVE SUFFERED DOMESTIC ABUSE. HER WORK LED TO THE CREATION OF THE MARIA DA PENHA LAW WHICH HAS HELPED MILLIONS OF WOMEN IN BRAZIL SINCE 2006.

ARTIST - CAMILA ROSA

NEVERTHELESSPODCAST.COM Pearson <NEVERTHELESS> STORYTHINGS <Ada's List>

JULIANA ROTICH

TECHNOLOGIST AND ENTREPRENEUR. BUILT CROWDSOURCING TOOLS THAT DEMOCRATISE INFORMATION.



JULIANA'S MISSION IS TO MAKE THINGS, FIX PROBLEMS AND HELP OTHERS. AS CO-FOUNDER OF BRCK AND USHAIDI, SHE HAS BROUGHT CONNECTIVITY TO DIFFICULT ENVIRONMENTS, ENABLED COLLABORATION AND HELPED PEOPLE TELL THEIR OWN STORIES.

ARTIST - THANUWE TSHARALALA

NEVERTHELESSPODCAST.COM Pearson <NEVERTHELESS> STORYTHINGS <Ada's List>

DR. HAYAT SINDI

SCIENTIST AND INNOVATOR. FIRST SAUDI WOMAN WITH A BIOTECHNOLOGY PH.D FROM CAMBRIDGE.



HAYAT HAS SPENT MOST OF HER LIFE BREAKING NEW GROUND. CO-FOUNDER OF DIAGNOSTICS FOR ALL WHICH BENEFITS POORER PEOPLE, AND THE I2 INSTITUTE TO INSPIRE YOUTH, SHE HAS DEVOTED HER LIFE TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

ARTIST - LIDIA TOMASHEVSKAYA

NEVERTHELESSPODCAST.COM Pearson <NEVERTHELESS> STORYTHINGS <Ada's List>

TU YOUYOU

CHEMIST AND EDUCATOR. FIRST WOMAN FROM CHINA TO RECEIVE A NOBEL PRIZE.



TU YOUYOU LED A GROUP OF SCIENTISTS TASKED WITH FINDING A CURE FOR MALARIA. WHEN SHE STARTED HER SEARCH, OVER 240,000 COMPOUNDS HAD ALREADY BEEN TESTED, WITHOUT ANY SUCCESS. HER DISCOVERY OF ARTEMISININ HAS SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES.

ARTIST - YU HUI

NEVERTHELESSPODCAST.COM Pearson <NEVERTHELESS> STORYTHINGS <Ada's List>

CANDIDATE TRAINING SESSION ! DO IT!

WINNING!

That's what it's ALL ABOUT!

A Special Non-Partisan Seminar

How to WIN Elections on a Tight Budget

March 30th

Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00

Reception following session • Lunch provided



Florida Gulf Coast University

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117 Herald Court, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Free Parking in Parking Complex



Our mailing address is:
13800 Lily Pad Circle
Ft. Myers FL 33907



CANDIDATE TRAINING SESSION ! DO IT!



PROGRAM

GETTING STARTED

- When
- Are you the right candidate?
- The Commitment and your organization
- Public speaking
- Image

THE PLAN

- Creating a campaign plan
- Networking
- Fundraising

CREATING YOUR MESSAGE

- Know the facts
- Pick your issues
- Know your opponents
- Are you ready?

VOTER OUTREACH

- Mail
- TV
- Radio
- Newspaper
- Social Media

RESERVATION AND FEE \$100

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

PAYMENT

Credit Card payment via ___MC ___VISA ___Discover___
 Name as it appears on card _____
 Card # _____
 Expiration date _____ 3 digit code _____
 Card Holder signature _____

Make Check Payable To:
 ELECT U 13800 Lily Pad Circle, FT. Myers, FL 33907

Charlie Flores
 Charlie@electu.icu
 239-822-7997



RALLY TO REUNITE THE CHILDREN!

A photograph of a young child with dark hair, wearing a bright red jacket and dark pants, standing and crying. The child is looking upwards and to the right. The background is dark and indistinct.

Reunite the Children Rally

**Sunday, March 31st
Corner Daniels & US 41
Ft. Myers. 1-3 PM**

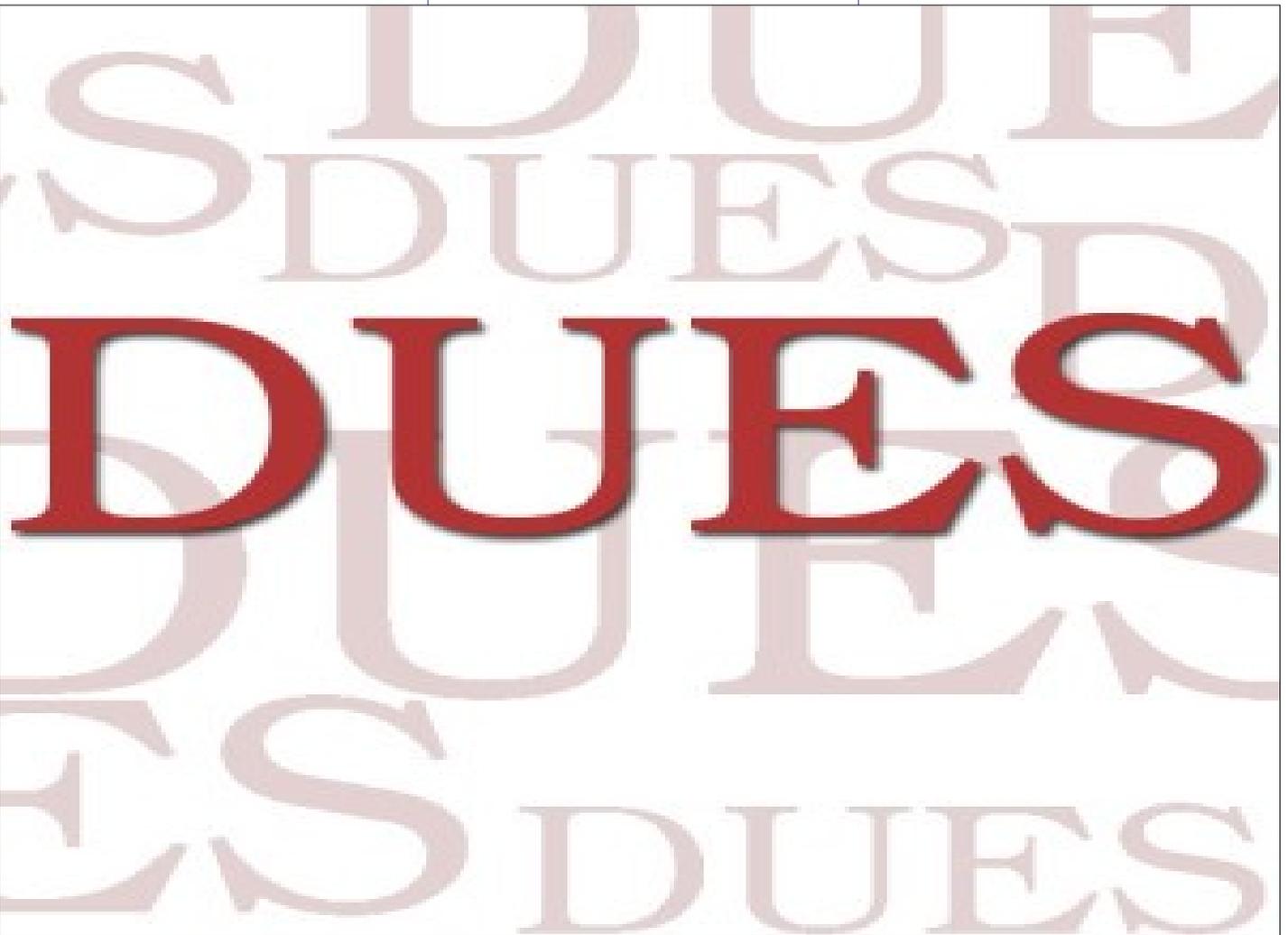
**Sponsors Pine Island ROAR
and Democratic Progressive Club of Lee Co.**

Welcome to Progressive Democrat Club

[Visit our web page - https://www.dpcllee.org/](https://www.dpcllee.org/)

Please check our webpage on a regular basis for updated information on [political happenings, events, planned actions and activities including details for the upcoming Oxbow River Cruise and Tour in conjunction with Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation - Saturday, April 6 - \\$55 per person. Reservations necessary.](#)

<http://sccf.org/programs/programs/calosahatchee-oxbow-and-riverlore-cruise>



“A wall can’t fix what global migration and refugee compacts can”

The January 8 address to the nation by President Trump about the illegal immigrant crisis rooted in the migrant caravans from Central America was based on two falsehoods: This is not a crisis and the migrants are not illegal.

In fact, the number of apprehensions on the southwestern border of the U.S. is at its lowest point since the early 1970s, though recently, the number of families being apprehended at the border (consistent with the idea that these people are fleeing violence altogether as families) rose.

According to U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services, to request asylum in the U.S., applicants must be physically present in the

country or make their request at a port of entry. In other words, there is nothing illegal about people at the border submitting asylum claims (those claims can be denied, too, without making so much noise about it). It looks like the president hasn’t read the law.

Nonetheless, President Trump keeps looking for a solution where there isn’t any.

Asylum requests will persist with or without a wall; as my economist colleagues Treb Allen, Caue Dobbin,



and Melanie Morten have shown, physical barriers do little to stop illegal crossings. In fact, almost half of the undocumented migrants in the U.S. are visa overstayers who entered the country legally. A wall cannot stop that.

Protecting the borders is crucial, but doing so requires coordination. That is why the Trump administration’s decision to pull out of the Global

(Continued on page 11)



“A wall can’t fix what global migration and refugee compacts can”

(Continued from page 10)

Compacts on Migration (GCM) and on Refugees (GCR), adopted by most country-members of the United Nations, was ill advised. The withdrawal constituted a big disservice to the American people, and in particular, to the ability of the government to safeguard the border. In fact, almost half of the undocumented migrants in the U.S. are visa overstayers who entered the country legally. A wall cannot stop that.



The agreements are meant to serve as connecting platforms that allow countries to collaborate so as to better manage migration flows while helping migrants and potential asylum seekers make informed choices ex-ante. All this while reaffirming each country’s sovereignty to control their borders.



In reality, *not* signing onto the compacts makes it harder—not easier—to control the borders and to maximize benefits from migration. How so?

The agreements call for multilateral investments to improve the conditions that compel migrants and refugees to flee their homes. In the case of Central American countries, where the notorious migrant caravan originated, multilateral efforts to reduce criminal drug activity could be a game changer when it comes to reducing migration flows from the northern triangle in Central America. In addition, the

two compacts ask participating countries to manage borders in an integrated, secure, and coordinated manner. Such an approach would provide a platform for the U.S. and Mexico, for example, to collaborate on a mutually beneficial plan to reduce illegal crossings by investing in technologies that can be monitored by authorities on both sides, instead of a tall concrete or steel wall projected to cost American taxpayers at least \$5 billion dollars. ■



Author, Dany Bahar

David M. Rubenstein
Fellow - [Global Economy and Development](#)
Brookings

UPDATE ON ERA FROM DWCF FLORIDA

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF FLORIDA

Democratic Women's Club of Florida Supports the New National Equal Rights Amendment Legislation

Equal Rights Amendment Legislation is currently before the 116th Congress and the National Federation of Democratic Women (NFDW) and the Democratic Women's Club of Florida (DWCF) is supportive of all three resolutions. At present neither a Senate nor House committee has considered these resolutions. NFDW requests that the following bills be given timely hearings and passed:

S.J. Res. 6: A joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.
Sponsor: Senator Benjamin Cardin [D-MD]

H.J. Res. 35: Proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women. Sponsor: Representative Carolyn Maloney [D-NY 12]

H.J. Res. 38: Removing the deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. Sponsor: Rep. Jackie Speier [D-CA 14]

The legislation that Congress passed March 22, 1972 and sent to the states, has now been passed by 37 states, including Nevada in 2017 and Illinois in 2018. The legislation is now prime for one last state to complete the 38 state mandate. This process for finishing the ratification is based on the precedent set by the Madison Amendment.

The new ERA legislation S.J. Res. 6, H.J. Res. 35, and H.J. Res 38, will prevent Congress or the Supreme Court from rejecting the three state strategy and our country will have moved ahead and restarted this riveting process of making women and men whole under the U.S. Constitution.

Current Florida Legislation Numbers

HCR 209 Equal Rights for Men and Women

Concurrent Resolution by Johnson and Good which ratifies the proposed amendment to the US Constitution.

HCR 255 Equal Rights for Men and Women—similar version by Williams

SCR 266 Equal Rights for Men and Women Concurrent Resolution by Gibson ratifying the Proposed Amendment to the US constitution.

UPDATE ON ERA FROM DWC FLORIDA

The Equal Rights Amendment *(as passed by Congress in 1972)*

Section 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

Section 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

Position: It is the position of the NFDW that we commit ourselves to end discrimination in all forms, including to incorporate the principle of equality of men and women in our legal system, (support ERA) abolish all discriminatory laws and adopt appropriate laws prohibiting discrimination.

What the ERA Would Do

- Guarantee that the rights affirmed by the U.S. Constitution are held equally by all citizens without regard to sex;
- Provide a fundamental legal remedy against sex discrimination for both women and men;
- Clarify the legal status of sex discrimination for the courts, where decisions still deal with such claims;
- Make "sex" a suspect classification, as race currently is, so that governmental actions that treat males or females differently as a class would have to bear a necessary relation to a compelling state interest in order to be upheld as constitutional.

We Need the ERA Because . . . We don't have it!

- The Constitution does not guarantee equal rights. The only right that the Constitution specifically affirms to be equal for women and men is the right to vote (19th Amendment, 1920).
- The 14th Amendment's equal protection clause has never been interpreted to protect against sex discrimination to the same extent that the ERA would.
- We need a clearer and stricter judicial standard for deciding cases of sex discrimination. Sex discrimination should get the highest level of strict judicial scrutiny, just as race discrimination does, but it currently receives only a heightened level of intermediate scrutiny.
- We need a constitutional guarantee of equality to protect against current threats to the significant advances in women's rights achieved over the past half century.
- Without the ERA, women and men still have to fight long, expensive, and difficult political and legal battles for equal rights under the law.
- We need to improve the standing of the United States globally with respect to equal justice under law, since the governing documents of many other countries, however imperfectly implemented, specifically affirm legal equality of the sexes.

World View

- In pursuit of democracy across the globe, the US Congress believed it was absolutely mandatory that the 2003/04 Afghan Constitution (and later the Iraqi Constitution) include an ERA for their women.
- In fact, most countries in the world have an ERA, many of them written into constitutions by US Army lawyers after World War II.
- In 1979, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) specifically called on countries to establish equal rights between men and women in all areas of life.
- 189 countries of the world have ratified this treaty. Sudan, Somalia, Iran, Palau, Tonga, the Holy See and the United States have not.

Issues and Implications:

Passage would influence many areas, including, but not limited to political participation, civil rights, healthcare, employment, marriage, education, and poverty.

Workers Rights

Schedule Stability: A Win for Retail Businesses and Their Workers

MARCH 7, 2019 • RACHEL KORN

Businesses are starting to catch on that shifting their workers to more stable schedules can have big impacts on sales and productivity. New research supports the argument that stable schedules are better for both businesses and workers. [A study done](#) by researchers at the Center for WorkLife Law at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, the University of Chicago, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in which I was one of the participating researchers, clearly makes this case.

For workers, we found that unstable scheduling resulted in serious detriments to health and wellbeing. Almost half (47 percent) of workers said that their work schedule interfered with their sleep. They reported sleeping an average of 6.2 hours a night before the days they worked, [lower than the](#)

[amount needed for good health](#). The stress of unstable schedules manifested itself physically for even more workers. Sixty percent reported symptoms like stomach-aches or headaches unrelated to a medical condition.

In addition to health impacts, workers reported struggling to arrange their lives around their work schedules. In the three months before the survey, 56 percent of fathers and 39 percent of mothers reported having canceled an event that was important to their child because of the parent's work schedule. Twenty-eight percent of retail workers who were students – who made up about half of our sample – had difficulties coordinating their classes with their work schedules.

Unstable scheduling also results in unpredictable and volatile earnings, and retail workers in our survey suffered from financial insecurity. A stunning 51 percent reported at least moderate food insecurity in the month preceding the survey. In the three months before the survey, 12 percent were late on rent or mortgage payments,

26 percent were late on utility payments, and 19 percent delayed going to the doctor or getting prescriptions filled because of financial concerns.

Our research team had the opportunity to conduct a true experiment with Gap to understand the impact of more stable schedules in stores. The results are good news for businesses: Sales increased by 7 percent in stores with greater stability. We found this result by implementing interventions in certain stores and comparing outcomes to stores that didn't make the changes. We focused on four dimensions of schedule stability:

- **Consistency:** Schedules were made more consistent from week to week.
- **Predictability:** Workers knew when they were working and how many hours they would get.
- **Adequacy:** Workers could work the number of hours they wanted.
- **Input:** Workers were given a say in when they worked.

Gap implemented two-week advance schedule notice and eliminated on-call shifts across all of its stores. Five additional components made up the rest

(Continued on page 15)

Workers Rights

(Continued from page 14)

of our intervention:

- **Tech-Enabled Shift Swapping:** After the schedule was finalized, workers could post shifts they didn't want and pick up other shifts.
- **Stable Shift Structure:** The number of different start and end times for shifts was reduced.
- **Core Scheduling:** Workers' schedules were made more consistent day to day and week to week.
- **Part-Time Plus:** Some workers were given a "soft guarantee" of at least 20 hours per week.
- **Targeted Additional Staffing:** Stores were given additional payroll hours for times they were understaffed. This flexibility allowed managers to give more consistent hours to workers.

These small shifts toward more stable schedules for workers resulted in positive outcomes for stores and workers. As noted, sales in stores with more stable scheduling increased by 7 percent, which is notable for an industry in which companies work hard to achieve increases of 1-2 percent. The shift towards more stable schedules in 19 stores

over a 35-week period resulted in \$2.9 million in increased revenue for Gap. And stable schedules let workers sleep better, too: the scheduling shift was responsible for a 6-8 percent average increase in sleep quality for workers.

Quality sleep is essential for workers' wellbeing. Lack of sleep is linked to negative health outcomes like cancer and cardiovascular disease. It's bad for business too: research shows that sleep deprivation leads to productivity losses and high [costs for businesses](#). When we don't get enough sleep, it's hard to think creatively and learn new things. This can make workers less productive and is especially problematic for the many retail workers who are also students.

Increasing scheduling stability offers great potential to improve the quality of retail workers' jobs and lives. Businesses can make small or large changes, and can choose among a variety of approaches. I've listed some promising practices here, and our research report offers more ideas. Given evidence that stable scheduling is linked to boosts in sales,

productivity, and employee health, it is clearly a win-win for businesses and workers.

About the author

Rachel Korn is the Director of Research at the Center for WorkLife Law, a research and advocacy organization at UC Hastings College of the Law that seeks to advance gender and racial equity in the workplace and in higher education. Her research at the Center has primarily focused on studying the correlates and consequences of inequality in the workplace. ■



2019 Gun Legislation



2019 Gun Legislation

PROGRESSIVE BILLS TO SUPPORT

HB 1025 (Polsky) Sale, Transfer, or Storage of Firearms

No Senate companion - Revises requirements for storage of firearms; provides criminal penalties if person other than owner access stored firearm & uses it in specified ways.

SB 108 (Book, Stewart) Regulation of Concealed Weapons Licenses

No House companion - Regulation of Concealed Weapons Licenses; Transferring the concealed weapons licensing program of the Division of Licensing of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to the Department of Law Enforcement.

HB 135; SB 654 (Good, Joseph; Book Taddeo) Transfers of Firearms

Transfers of Firearms; Requiring transfers of firearms to be conducted through a licensed dealer

HB 455; SB 466 (Smith, Farmer) Assault Weapons and Large-capacity Magazines

Assault Weapons and Large-capacity Magazines; Prohibiting the sale or transfer of an assault weapon or large-capacity ammunition magazine; prohibiting possession of an assault weapon or large-capacity magazine; providing enhanced criminal penalties for certain offenses when committed with an assault weapon or large-capacity magazine.

Other bills have been introduced by Democrats to limit the access and availability of firearms to domestic abusers and people found guilty of misdemeanor hate crimes; and to prevent concealed carry in childcare facilities.

PROGRESSIVE BILLS TO OPPOSE

HB 403; SB 1238 (Grall, Mayfield) Safety and Religious Institutions; SB 598 (Judiciary, Albritton) Firearms

No House companion - Authorizing a concealed weapon or concealed firearm licensee to carry a concealed firearm on the property of a religious institution when the property also contains a school – Bills are moving

SB 7030 (Education) School Safety and Security (arming teachers)

School Safety and Security; Requiring a sheriff to establish a school guardian program under a certain condition; requiring school districts to promote a mobile suspicious activity reporting tool through specified mediums; requiring the Commissioner of Education to review recommendations from the School Hardening and Harm Mitigation Workgroup; revising the duties of the commissioner to include oversight of compliance with the safety and security requirements of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act by specified persons and entities, etc.

SB 6007 (Sabatini) Licenses to Carry Concealed Weapons or Firearms

No Senate companion - Licenses to Carry Concealed Weapons or Firearms; Removes provision prohibiting concealed carry licensees from openly carrying handgun or carrying concealed weapon or firearm into college or university facility.

Effectively Communicate with Legislators

Before you approach your legislator, know these Five things that must change to improve Public education.

These five points came from over 140,000 teachers and education staff professionals.

1. Ensure Adequate Funding

Florida ranks number 41 in per pupil spending. How can you attract and retain qualified teachers and educational staff if we can't properly fund each and every student? If we are serious about student's education and future and providing qualified teachers it begins with adequate funding and fair compensation. Beginning with learning opportunities for 4 year olds through college with safe schools, small class size and modern educational tools.

2. Let Teachers Teach

When given the resources and opportunity educators can help every child unlock their full potential. Public School employees are deeply committed to student success, as students are the center of any educational endeavor. All elected officials need to recognize and trust the professionals that work everyday know what best practices to use when it comes to their classrooms, student learning and

assessment. Legislators must equip all teachers with resources mentoring and support. Teacher should have the authority to select the best methods and pacing to need their student's needs.

3. Reduce Time Spent on Testing

Out-of-control testing in FL cheats our students of valuable instructional time. Because of your work the tide is turning. Good education inspires student's natural curiosity and builds their desire to learn. That is what all stakeholder want as well. Florida's accountability system has failed and the burdensome testing regime is demotivating and hurting our students. All teacher know that teaching critical thinking skills and fostering creativity are far more important than test prep sessions and practice tests. We need to replace high stakes testing with rigorous assignments and class-work. This allow teacher to give immediate feedback and make real-time adjustments to instruction.

4. Restore Class size Limits

The legislature continues to skit the will of Florida's voters who said they want smaller class sizes. Our stu-

dents deserve class sizes that are small enough to allow one-on-one attention. we need to get back to the sure intent of the Class Size Amendment. Research shows smaller class size improves learning, strengthens discipline, reduces dropout rates and improves student grades.

5. Assure a Living Wage for Education Staff Professionals

Professionals make the difference in our schools - they deserve to be paid a living wage. No school can function without dedicated educational staff professionals. Our students depend on professionals to get them to and from school safely, be provided healthy meals, have clean and safe facilities, and preform numerous other vital duties to ensure student success. To do this we need to pay a living wage. ■





We cordially invite you to join us in making a difference. **The Democratic Progressive Club of Lee County** features: sharing ideas, supporting candidates, interesting speakers, group activities and providing a voice for local Progressive Democrats.



As the party 'of the people' our grassroots efforts are designed to inform and involve like-minded people to end the Republican ultra-conservative stranglehold on public policy on the national, statewide and local level. Membership is open to all registered Democrats and attendance is open to all who share our ideals.

If you care about the issues that affect our quality of life – as social security and Medicare, veterans and union issues, voters and civil rights issues, foreign affairs, education and the environment and all the other issues that have defined the Democratic Party – we welcome you to The Democratic Progressive Club of Lee County!

Name:		
Street:		
City:	State:	Zip:
E-mail Address:	Phone #:	
<input type="checkbox"/> I'm a registered Democrat. Here are my annual \$30 dues per individual, \$45 per couple.		

Mail To:

The Democratic Progressive Club of Lee County
 c/o Kelly Lawrence President
 13871 Eagle Ridge Lakes Dr. #202, Fort Myers 33912
 2019

Officers/ Contacts:

2019/2020

- President: Kelly Lawrence
 - Vice President: Tom Cox
 - Secretary: Jay Crean
 - Treasurer: Maria Polo
- Board Members**
 Don Richards
 Carol McCutcheon
 Steve Sherman, Past President

**Mail: Kelly Lawrence,
 President**

13871 Eagle Ridge Lakes Dr.
 #202, Fort Myers, FL 33912
 ka.lawrence77@yahoo.com

Newsletter Production:
 Lydia Lowell-Sherman

- E-MAIL: lydialowell@aol.com

Deadline: Second
 Monday each month.

