



Democratic Women's Club of Upper Pinellas

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, January 24, 2022

Once again, we will be meeting on **Zoom**.

No in person meeting this month

GUEST SPEAKER



Kelly Nelson, Founder of TBAF, will discuss Tampa Bay Abortion Fund's work to ensure access for low income, rural, and those traveling from neighboring states with bans or barriers to abortion access.

TBAF works to spread information on self-managed abortion and how you can help; TBAF is promoting the Women's Health Protection Act and how you can help; as well as efforts to lobby Floridian legislators to leave our 24-week ban in place. Kelly will also discuss organizational needs for volunteers like driver escorts, pro bono attorneys, intake coordinators and client case managers. Here is a link to the annual

report for TBAF:

<https://www.facebook.com/TBAFund/photos/pcb.787854192613730/787853039280512>

Our wonderful **BJ Star** will be here with additional information on abortion.

2022 Florida Fight for Repro Freedom

January 12th



Join us for the 2022 Florida Fight for Repro Freedom as we take our power to the Florida Capitol.

Join us in Tallahassee on your own!! Sign up to join us for the rally and press conference at the Florida Capitol. Please note, all participants will be required to wear masks during the duration of the trip and show proof of vaccination or negative COVID test within 48 hours of departure.

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Florida Democratic Party
Fladems.com

Pinellas County
Democratic Executive
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Pinellasdems.com

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you got voting in a phenomenal team. Donna, Ruthann, Karen, Diane, and Cora are all innovating women. I am confident in our TEAM.

A little background on me.



I am an activist with the Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee and now, President of the Democratic Women's Club of Upper Pinellas. I am feisty and I will ruffle feathers.

OUR fight to keep Pinellas **blue** is a fight that we will have to start immediately. I encourage you to sign up for the Florida Democratic Party's Voter Registration training as soon as possible.

Pinellas is a bellwether county for the country. We fought hard to get Biden a win here and succeeded. But we lost so many down ballot races, so much so that the current GOP-centric Florida legislature has an arrogance that must be challenged. Tallahassee has become closed to any discussion with the Democratic Party. The door will be shut permanently if we lose 2 more legislative seats. Just TWO.

Since the 2020 Biden win, the pressures of the Florida legislature have heated up. The far-right has engrained itself into every single aspect of a Floridian's life. I am updated weekly with bills and the ambiance of the House and Senate.

The Democratic Party has had the wind blown out of it and it is difficult to get the multi-agenda driven, highly focused folks on board with a singular message. With a new legislative session, our need for an all-inclusive, every person, message is needed. This is my focus as I traverse the next election cycle. I say, "How does it affect my wallet?"

Our Club's mission is to get democrats elected and to focus on women's issues. I am adding that every discussion with a voter should include a tie-in with how our platform will assist voters economically. Whether it is abortion, environment, or taxes, please get into the habit of bringing the discussion to how Democrats will be the best choice for your wallet.

In addition, I am going to ask each one of you to be uncomfortable for the next 2 years and reach into your inner **warrior**, knock-on doors and engage your neighbors. The democratic neighbors first then move on to other parties. We can do this.

We are also being asked by our state organization, the Democratic Women's Club of Florida, to join forces locally and set up rallies and press conferences that will echo the organizations message.

If you have ANY talent in these areas, we need your assistance.

With this we can win!

I will be ceremoniously changing into my sneakers right after this speech. I have retired one pair during my tenure with the North Pinellas Democratic Club. New shoes for a new job.

Thank you for listening to me and I am, again, humbled to follow in footsteps of these amazing women before me.

Happy holidays, EVERYONE!!

NOW LET'S GET TO WORK!

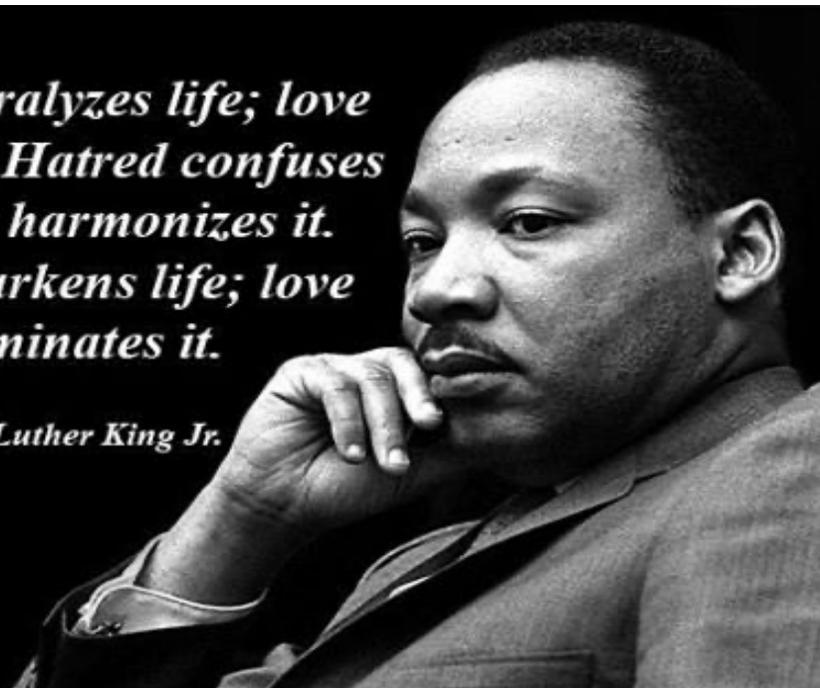
Karen Mullins
(She/Her/Ella)

~You are the change. You are the government. You are the power.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations are in St. Petersburg & Clearwater
January 17th (See Events)

*Hatred paralyzes life; love
releases it. Hatred confuses
life; love harmonizes it.
Hatred darkens life; love
illuminates it.*

Martin Luther King Jr.



WONDERFUL HOLIDAY PARTY!



The most wonderful time of the YEAR!

We squeezed in a holiday party between Covid 19 variant outbreaks.

Joyfully, no one caught the virus as a result.

We welcomed Commissioner Pat Gerard, Representative Michelle Rayner, Councilmember Kathleen Beckman along with candidates Maranda Douglas, Eric Lynn & Eunic Ortiz. For our installation of officers, DWCF Chair of Chairs Sandra McClinton drove for hours to attend. On the piano we had Peter Boesen.





The fantastic crew of the Democratic Women's Club of Upper Pinellas. L-R, Cora Kostka, Runthann Richwine, Karen Miracle, Diane Lebedeff, Karen Mullins, Donna Dennis, and Mary Freeman. (Joe Biden as well)

DWCUP Annual Membership Dues:

\$20.00

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<https://dwcup.com/donate>



Must be paid by January 31, 2022

TO PAY YOUR DUES, SIGN UP FOR EVENTS,
OR CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF UPPER PINELLAS!

**Democratic Women's Club of Upper Pinellas
donations:**

<https://dwcup.com/donate>

ActBlue

As a nonprofit organization, our mission is to build tech and infrastructure for Democratic campaigns, progressive-aligned causes, and people trying to make an impact to fuel long-term, people-powered change. We take care of building the digital fundraising tools and processing contributions for the groups that use our platform.

Your donation goes straight to your chosen candidate or organization. This means campaigns and organizations can spend less time depositing individual checks mailed in from lots of donors.

How does ActBlue work?

ActBlue is a nonprofit tech organization that builds digital fundraising tools for Democratic candidates and committees, progressive organizations, and other nonprofits. These groups use ActBlue's fundraising platform to create online contribution forms, securely process donations, and track their contributions from grassroots supporters. (<https://secure.actblue.com/about>)

Here's how it works:

1. A candidate or organization creates a contribution form on ActBlue.
2. That candidate or organization asks supporters to contribute on the form (through a fundraising email, an ask on their website, at an in-person event, etc.).
3. The supporter contributes on the form.
4. We process the contribution and send it straight to that candidate or organization.
5. We report the contribution to the relevant reporting body (like the FEC, IRS, or your secretary of state).

It's helpful to remember that when you're donating to a candidate or organization, you give *through* ActBlue, not *to* ActBlue!

EVENTS:

- **Vigil For Democracy**
 - January 6
 - 5:30 – 6:30pm EST
 - **South Straub Park** Beach Drive Northeast & 2nd Avenue Northeast **St. Petersburg, FL 33701**
- **Democratic Women's Club of Florida (DWCF)**
 - **People's Rally in Tallahassee** in partnership with the Florida Democratic Party
 - January 11, 2022
 - 10-10:30 am ET in partnership with the Florida Democratic Party
 - ***P.S. If you can stay overnight, there will be an all-day statewide Florida Fight for Repro Freedom rally and press conference at the Capitol on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Join us!***
- **2022 Florida Fight for Repro Freedom**
 - January 12th
 - Join us for the 2022 Florida Fight for Repro Freedom. Following our statewide mobilization that turned out over 12,000 people statewide, we're taking our power to the Florida Capitol.

Registration for bus transportation and food has closed. However, you can still join us in Tallahassee on your own!! Sign up to join us for the rally and press conference at the Florida Capitol.

Please note, all participants will be required to wear masks during the duration of the trip and show proof of vaccination or negative COVID test within 48 hours of departure.

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations**
 - January 15th, 10am-12:30pm, Weaver Park, Dunedin
 - January 17th 9am, Greenwood Rec Center
 - January 17th 11am-1pm Downtown St. Petersburg
- **DWCUP Executive Board Meeting**
 - January 19th
 - Zoom
- **DWCUP Membership Meeting**
 - January 24th
 - 12 pm
 - Zoom
- **Tally Days**
Democratic Women's Club of Florida, Region 8's Week of Legislation
 - February 7 – 10, 2022
 - Tallahassee, FL
- MORE EVENTS:
 - Click Here: <https://www.mobilize.us/pinellascountydec>

DWCUP Words of Inspiration

With each New Year comes inspiration for change.

Consider that in January of 2021, not long after the infamous January 6th, at the inauguration of President Joe Biden, Amanda Gorman, our youth poet laureate, called for us to “leave behind a country better than the one we were left with ... if only we're brave enough to see it, if only we're brave enough to be it.”

Yet, 2021 was a surprising struggle. For 2022, Democratic women hope for freedom and to find our strength renewed by answering the call for activism and unity contained in Gorman’s “New Day’s Lyric”: “Come over, join this day just begun. For wherever we come together, we will forever overcome.”

Indeed, this year we Democratic Women so desire to come together to overcome and succeed. ~**Diane Lebedeff**

What Biden Has Accomplished:

Biden [signed](#) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, providing over \$1.2 trillion in infrastructure spending in every state in the country

Biden [enacted](#) an action plan to alleviate supply chain problems at ports and waterways

Biden [ordered](#) the EPA and the Department of Transportation to rollout increased fuel emission standards that will lead to 40-50 percent of US cars being electric by 2030

Biden [allocated](#) \$5 billion from FEMA for communities affected by climate-related disasters

<https://oliverwillis.com/joe-biden-accomplishments-the-full-list/>

S  VE THE DATE!



DWCF 66th Annual Convention
April 28 - May 1, 2022



Next Meeting

Location: TBA

February 28

12pm-1:30pm