The Kings Point

Democratic Voice

Volume: March/April 20201

7620 Nob Hill Rd, Tamarac, FL 33321



President, Mona M Malbranche - Final Message as President - March 2021

Several years ago a gentleman by the name of Hubie Klombers (a person whom I did not know) sent a message to me to run for the Board of Directors of the Democratic Club in Kings Point in Tamarac. He was concerned that there wasn't enough diversity in the Club nor was there any on the Board. I complied because it was a challenge. I campaigned one day, and lo and behold, won. By the way our Club, with a membership of 500, only had two *Black* members. Mr. Klombers was the treasurer of the Board. That year, two of us became the first Black women on the board.

I represented diversity in that I was not just a *Black* woman but, a Haitian- American woman from the Caribbean. After 5 years, this woman became the first Black woman President in the history of this Club.

My goal for the Club was and continues to be, to get out the vote with joy & excitement, & to provide great knowledge and resources to our club and community. In order to do that ALL candidates (not just judicial) had to meet, greet, break bread, and mingle with the Kings Point seniors. We are an active living, senior community. It meant making sure that seniors continue to fulfill their civic duties. The Kings Point residents vote more than any other group. We're usually more civic minded, as many have lived through the Great Depression, two World Wars and other conflagrations.

In 2018, the Club entertained everyone on the ballot except for two candidates. In 2020, we could not do the same due to the *pandemic*, but we did our best; our seniors voted. The Club has become more diversified, We have lost many due to moving from Kings Point, illnesses, and sadly, death. At present we have a total of 39 Blacks and 5 Latinos in this Democratic Club. We hope to have even more diversification, as we engage and educate more people.

I want to thank the Board, the Elected officials and the entire membership for the respect, trust, love, and appreciation for my vision. Thank you for the support that I received since joining you. I hope that you will continue the fight to make *Florida blue*. I will remain on the board as Past President and will hopefully be a valuable resource for Julie and the Club's new Board. *Thank you and God bless all of you*

Mona M. Malnranche, President

Editor's note: Thank you Mona. Your leadership, untold hours, openness, and commitment are so appreciated by us all. With thanks, love and respect, Geoff on behalf of the officers, board and membership of the KPIT Democratic Club.

March/April 2021 "Julie Fishman's Message" KPIT Democratic Club, President-Elect



"Madam

President"

First and foremost, I want to thank Mona

for her leadership in a most trying time. Because of her leadership, this club has continued to thrive and continued to help get democrats elected!

I also want to thank the rest of the board for their hard work as well. It is each part of the team that makes great things happen!

I know that the Kings Point Democratic Club has a rich and auspicious history, and I hope to build on that history, and with the help of the new board, grow and train this club for the future of our Democratic Party here in Broward.

Building will be the key in this year so that we are in fighting shape for the elections in 2022. Now is the time to start working toward that goal. We need to continue to register voters here at Kings Point but also outside of Kings Point. We need to work with other clubs to do this.

We must be aware of what's happening in Tallahassee, with bills being heard that would limit the Home Rule authority of our local elected officials, and those bills that would restrict and criminalize our right to peacefully assemble and protest. We also need to be aware of what's going on with reapportionment/redistricting. Many districts at the state and federal level could change before the next 2022 elections, and we must be prepared!

Finally, as part of our growing and building, we need to look at new and different ways to get our message out while still keeping our tried-and-true methods in place. Look for more on this in the coming months.

I look forward to guiding this club for the next two years and to the work that will be done in that time!

I look forward to seeing so many friends, and meeting new ones at our April 21st Installation of Officers and Board. It will be so nice to be back in the confines of the KPIT Main Clubhouse.

I wish all the best of health and happiness to you all, along with your loved ones.

Most sincerely, **Julie**

Julie Fishman - KPIT Democratic Club - President Elect

*** The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily express those of Kings Point in Tamarac Democratic Club,

or its membership, officers, or directors. Please address any concerns to the editor.***

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE NEWSLETTER, PLEASE ADDRESS THEM TO GEOFFREY GROSKY, DEMOCRATIC VOICE NEWSLETTER EDITOR, EITHER THROUGH THE KPIT DEMOCRATIC CLUB, OR DIRECTLY TO GEOFF VIA EMAIL: CRUZNCLASS@AOL.COM, OR BY PHONE: (954) 366-1791, OR BY TEXT: (508) 284-2561. WE'D LOVE TO HAVE ARTICLES OR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP. ANY MATERIAL SUBMITTED MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND CONTACT NUMBER FOR EDITORIAL PURPOSES.

Random Thoughts - by: Geoff Grosky, Editor

***WHAT THE HELL DOES THIS 21st CENTURY REPUBLICAN PARTY STAND FOR?**



Interestingly, I am not positive that if their party leaders were talking in honest terms, that they could adequately answer that question. Of course I am also not positive, that they could actually talk in honest terms.

That of Republican Party of Abraham Lincoln would likely not recognize what his Grand Old Party looks like... and stands for, these days. The small-sized government/low taxes platform, that it has historically spoken about has been replaced with a, "Do whatever it takes to allow our party to be in power" mantra. That party allows for lying, cheating, conspiring, and even allowing a total takeover of the party - simply to gain or keep power. That takeover is apparently acceptable, even if it results in kowtowing to every support group helping elect your candidates, regardless of core values (or lack of same).

"Working across the aisle" seemingly has been replaced with a refusal to compromise, "obstructionist" way of doing business, that was first seen 12 years ago, as Republicans looked at their primary goal during Obama's first term, as simply to insure that there was NOT a 2nd Obama presidency term.

In just these past 6 weeks, The American Rescue Plan of 2021 (stimulus bill) was passed WITHOUT A SINGLE REPUBLICAN CONGRESSPERSON voting in favor of it, both in the House and Senate. Not one Rep or Senator could find it within themselves to formally back a plan supported by over 70 % of the American populace. Not Mitt Romney, Susan Collins, Lisa Murkowski, nor Ben Sasse, voted for the bills, even with the aid that goes to their constituents.

Once upon a time, I was told in a civics class that the reasons we couldn't feed and house our poor, take care of our veterans, stop gun-violence, or protect our minorities (by race, religion, creed, or sexual orientation) were not of simple answers. The professor went on, predicting doubt, and explaining that expecting our government to be able to balance their own core beliefs, and those of their voting base, with what we as young and eternally optimists, found to be just and right, could and probably never would never be reconciled. (Yes, we were once both young and optimistic.) At that time, I declared this instructor's words to be absolute BS. Today, I still (1/2 a century) believe his rationale to be so very misguided... but his ultimate prognostications, and their results are unfortunately confirmed.

And if this is in 2021 the case, it is incumbent on our Democratic Party to accomplish as much as possible in these two years of having the Presidency and BOTH Houses. That my friends, will require that we use every legislative maneuver at our disposal, starting with a necessary and immediate change in the "Filibuster" rules of the Senate. Such a maneuver may not be the nicest, cleanest way to achieve our party's objectives. But it's time we fight Republican fire with some of our own. But if the poor and middle class can succeed because of it... If our vets, our minorities, our children can succeed because of it... then damnit, let's follow the NIKE slogan, and "JUST DO IT!"

I think Honest Abe would agree, as would Ronald Reagan, both George Bushes, Teddy Roosevelt, and all Republicans who wish the best for America.

Dear Friends, This



March we commemorated Women's History

Month, honoring all women for their incredible achievements, strength, and dedication to our nation. However, the fight for gender equality and justice is far from over. I applaud President Biden and his administration on taking action for advancing gender equality for women who have made countless sacrifices for their family and loved ones. Not just in the month of March, but throughout the year, we must continue the fight together for true gender equality and ensure a better future for the next generation of women.

As our nation continues to grapple with the coronavirus pandemic, House and Senate Democrats proudly passed the historic *American Rescue Plan Act* on March 10th. This legislation prioritizes: putting vaccines in arms through a national vaccination program that includes community vaccination sites, putting money into people's pockets by providing direct assistance to Americans with checks of \$1,400 per person, putting children safely back in school with a plan that includes a \$130 billion investment in K-12 school re-openings, and putting people back in jobs through a plan that will provide crucial support for the hardest-hit small businesses. Much needed help is on the way!

As the 117th Congress continues its work for the American people, I will continue doing all that I can for the people of Florida's 20th district, our state, and nation. For more information on the various issues that I am working on, visit my official website at www.alceehastings.house.gov. With warm personal regards, I remain, Sincerely, Best wishes.

Alcee L. Hastings, Member of Congress







STOP VOTER SUPRESSION



Letters to the editors are always appreciated and much valued, in our Democratic Club. We want to hear what's on your mind. Please share you thoughts with our members and the local, state, and national leaders and groups who receive this newsletter. 25 words, or 250 words - tell us what's on your mind. Tell us what you'd like to see from the KPIT Democratic Club, as well as from Tamarac, Broward County, Tallahassee, and Washington DC. And, please, please, PLEASE - also tell us how YOU can join in our own Democratic Club's varying and critical efforts.



<u>VOTER SUPRESSION</u>: Florida, Georgia, Texas and <u>FORTY</u> other states are currently debating a series of bills, all calling for restrictive and expansive voting legislation. Red states, blue states, and purple states are all among jurisdictions, looking to make it more difficult to accomplish mail-in voting, early voting, and even the delivery of ballots to city/town, county, and state voting registration offices. Where do these restrictive bills target? To no surprise, they look to restrict poor areas, with a majority of people of color. Write to your state and federal Congressmen and women. Have family & friends across the country do so, as well! Let's stand up and speak out for a fair and equitable system of voting - EVERYWHERE!

<u>APRIL 2021 - History Knowledge</u> - <u>TRUE OR FALSE TEST</u>

(Our retired teacher/editor just has to test us... again!)

(answers on bottom of page 6)

Though some of these questions may be tough, they are ALL straight-forward with no trickery built-in. none of the answers are based on spelling errors. Nor are any of them made to be false by me being sneaky and changing a date by one year. For example, in number 6, James Cox may or may not be the loser by the largest vote percentage, but that election was in 1920. NOTE: FYI - THERE ARE TEN TRUE ANSWERS and TEN FALSE ANSWERS

1.) True or False:	Donald Trump was the first P	resident to win office, while losing the popular vote.			
2.) True or False:	Joe Biden was the oldest US F	President to take office, at 78, when inaugurated.			
3.) True or False:	Kamala Harris was the first ev	ver Democratic Party woman Vice President nominee.			
4.) True or False:	Doug Emhoff's (US "2nd Gent	leman") occupation is that of a chiropractor.			
5.) True or False:	The Democratic Party was on	ce known as PPOA (Populist Party Of America)			
6.) True or False:	James Cox (D) suffered larges	t Presidential popular vote % loss to W Harding (1920)			
7.) True or False:	Virginia boasts the most nativ	ve (born in state of VA) US Presidents.			
8.) True or False:	John F Kennedy (D) was the y	oungest to ever take office as a US President.			
9.) True or False:	John F Kennedy (D) was the y	oungest US President to die in office.			
10.)True or False:	FDR is the only President to	serves more than 2 terms, dying during his 4th term.			
11.)True or False:	3 Presidents were born outsi	de of the US or the territory now known as the US.			
12.)True or False:	Hawaii was our 49th US state	e and Alaska was our 50th state.			
13.)True or False:	All 13 colonies, at the time o	f our US Independence, became US states.			
14.)True or False:	8 Presidents have died in off	ice, 4 by natural causes & 4 by assassination.			
15.)True or False:	Baby Ruth candy bar was na	med for Grover Cleveland's daughter NOT Babe Ruth.			
16.)True or False:	Washington was 1st elected President unanimously by country's 69 electors.				
17.)True or False:	Andrew Jackson was the first Democratic Party President to be elected.				
18.)True or False:	Sen McCain is the only 21st o	entury candidate to lose twice in Presidential elections			
19.) True or False:	_ Donald Trump is one of 3 Pr	esidents to be impeached <u>twice</u> . (all Republicans)			
20.True or False:	George H W Bush was dubbed	d the "Rough Rider" due to his Texas steer riding.			
Starting at 100 points, subtract 5 points for each incorrect answer (ie: 5 incorrect answer yields a 75% grade)					
100%: ABSOLUTE PRESIDENTIA	AL HISTORY GENIUS,	90-95 %: incredibly astute in history or very lucky,			
80-85%: Very, very good Presi	dential trivia knowledge	70-75%: Far better than the average KingsPointer			
60-65%: Needs mini-refresher	course, barely passing	BELOW 60%: You've qualified for KPIT Republican Club			
		(Just messing with you all a little Republican Club friends)			

<u>Editor note</u>: I really am just teasing on the meaning of the score percentages & the accompanying comments. Some of these are VERY TOUGH QUESTIONS, that require more than knowledge & skill. They also require some lucky guesses!

Our New 2021/2022 Kings Point in Tamarac Democratic Club Officers and Board

Officers

President Julie Fishman

1st Vice President John Donnelly

2nd Vice President Lurow Hall

Secretary Annie Latimer-Beeks

Treasurer Sid Prine

Past President Mona M Malbranche

WE MOST WARMLY WELCOME MS. JULIE FISHMAN
TO THE PRESIDENCY OF
OUR KINGS POINT DEMOCRATIC CLUB! SHE SURE
HAS BIG SHOES TO FOLLOW. BUT WE KNOW JULIE'S SHOES WILL BLAZE
NEW AND EXCITING TRAILS
WITH & FOR OUR CLUB'S
ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP.

Board of Directors

Norman Bykofsky
Judy Camel
Geoffrey Grosky
Gerald Heller
Helen Stoddard
Burt Scholl
Dyanna Skolnick
Monique Sajous
Gerry Streete

Democratic Voice Committee Chairs

Communication Committee Burt Scholl, Monique Sajous, Norman Bykosky

Membership Chair Gerry Streete

Newsletter Editor Geoffrey Grosky



These new KPIT Democratic Club,
Officers and Board of Directors
positions are effective as of our April
21st Installation meeting.

ANSWERS TO TRUE/FALSE TEST

- 1. False was 1 of 5
- 2. True
- 3. False Geraldine Ferarro
- 4. False Lawyer
- 5. False "PPOA" is a made-up name
- 6. True
- 7. True
- 8. False Teddy Roosevelt was 42, JFK was 43
- 9. True
- 10. True

- 11. False No Presidents were born outside
- 12. False Alaska was 49, Hawaii was 50th
- **13. True**
- 14. True
- 15. True
- 16. True
- 17.True
- 18. False McCain lost only once
- 19. False Trump is only 1 impeached twice
- 20.False Teddy Roosevelt was Rough Rider

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



Presented to "Judy Mager" - April 1, 2021

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Kings Point in Tamarac Democratic Club, hereby recognize the invaluable achievements and service of Judy Mager in helping our Club, Democratic candidates, and officials, and so many citizens - in the City of Tamarac, neighboring communities, Broward County & across Florida, as follows:

- ⇒ Voter Registration Liaison/Coordinating Volunteer for over 5 years - registering new and repeat voters, collecting ballots, and taking responsibility for securing and delivering ballots with proper signature authorization.
- ⇒ KPIT Democratic Club Board of Directors: 2014 2016
- ⇒ KPIT Democratic Club Parliamentarian: 2017 2019
- ⇒ KPIT Democratic Club Secretary to Board: 2019 2021
- ⇒ Decorating Committee made centerpieces for events, assisted in shopping, and provided storage at her home.
- ⇒ Resource person to budget committee and to so many within our club and countless others both inside and outside of our Kings Point community.

For the above reasons, as well as Judy's countless other leadership roles and involvement in activities that support the platform principles of the Democratic Party, we wish to formally thank and congratulate Judy Mager. Our club's accomplishments are better for Judy's most positive attitude, along with her many countless hours of involvement.

Mona M Malbranche - President KPIT Democratic Club

Julie Fishman - President-Elect KPIT Democratic Club



GUN VIOLENCE - MASS SHOOTINGS

For this article, my statistics define mass shootings as occurrences in which 4 or more persons are injured., as a direct result of that shooting incident. Does it seem like the there have been a growing number of these mass shootings, or are we just watching tv and reading news reports more often, during these covid times? We are less than 3 months into t2021. As of the date of my article (March 22nd), try to take a guess, of just how many mass shootings have taken place in the United States, in the first 80+ days 2021?

A - 33

B - 78

C - 107



If you opted for the max number of 107, you are correct. There have been a staggering 107 mass shooting incidents since New Years, with 122 fatalities, and an additional 378 people injured. The above numbers include shooting sprees that we've become accustomed to hearing about like schools, churches, malls, and clubs - but also include gang-related incidents and domestic violence acts that fit the pre-requisite numbers.

I did read that Great Britain and many other European nations were concerned with their number of 'knife" incidents, while their gun violence numbers remain close to nil. Why are we, the United States, who claims to be the greatest nation in the world, so deluged with such violent behavior?

Our fatality victims include children, pregnant women, parents, grandparents, police and first responders, teachers, clergy, students, and multitudes of others - too often identified by race, religion, sexual identity and other minority groups. Leadership, including Congress has failed us, by bending to the will of special interests and abject failure of not being proactive or even reactive.

Despite 100s of 1000's incidents in the past century, Congressional Republicans refuse to make substantive changes, in woefully lacking weapon licensing laws, regarding training, background due-diligence, and restrictions. Interestingly, so many states are so overly concerned today with voting restrictions to combat less than 1500 ever documented cases of voter fraud, while gun violence murders take a far-distant background seat. It really makes no sense. It really infuriates me!

If the Republicans won't act, the Democrats must take immediate emergency-type actions. As in an earlier article in this newsletter, the answer is that the Democratic Senate has to change the "filibuster" rules, to allow for a 51 vote majority to pass new laws. These actions are so very critical to our nation's safety. We need to fix this major problem - now! LET'S GO SENATE... DAMNIT!

IT'S BROKEN!



FIX IT!



BROWARD COUNTY COMMISSION MARCH/APRIL 2021 NOTES

Michael Udine - City Commissioner, Vice-Mayor

April has arrived, the weather is getting warm, and people are ready to travel again safely. The Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport is ready to go as people take to the skies. From new amenities like lounges, local restaurants, and the FL Library, FLL will be

working to meet your needs every time you fly. At a recent workshop, Director of Aviation Mark Gale showed the new stats indicating that passenger traffic is growing and has landed FLL in the Top 15 Airports nationwide. Wherever you decide to go in the post pandemic world, choose FLL for flying the friendly skies.

I have been working towards sustainable economic development for Broward County. By working with our small businesses, and recruiting others, our economy will continue to grow. A wide range of industries means a diverse offering of job and business opportunities for residents. Whether you are a tradesperson, an administrative worker, or brand new to the work force, Broward County will have the right opportunity. Expansion of a wide array of industry means investment in our community, and growth for all.

Broward County is learning more about what happens beneath the waves. Along with Miami-Dade and Palm Beach, Broward County has approved a grant that will fund the Marine Research Hub for local oceanographic institutions. Funds will go toward determining oceanic sustainability, and the effects that climate change has on our ecosystems. This exciting project will help us to understand the continuing effects and protect our shores for generations to come.

Tax season is upon us. The deadline to file or process an extension is April 15th. For simple tax returns check out local approved providers via irs.gov. Additionally, if you have not received your stimulus benefits for the previous year, this is your opportunity to claim any funds you are entitled to that have not been distributed yet. Using a tax pro to file your return this year will help you navigate all your questions and ensure your return is submitted correctly.

To all who celebrate, I would like to wish you and yours a Happy Easter and Passover. As we head in a positive direction, many of us are looking forward to seeing family after many holidays apart. Let's enjoy this time as we move towards safer gatherings.

The top priority for my staff and I is staying connected with the residents of District 3. We are available by phone, email, and social media. Reach me at MUdine@Broward.org or at my office at (954) 357-7003. Follow on social media @CommissionerMichaelUdine on Facebook and @MichaelUdine on Twitter or Instagram to receive important updates and see what is happening in our community. Let's connect!

Sincerely, Michael Udine

Michael Udine, City Commissioner, Vice-Mayor







FLORI

FLORIDA POLITICS

Marco Rubio's US Senate Seat and Ron DeSantis's governorship will both be contested in November 2022. It is critical that Florida's Demo-

crats compete, like never before, and win one - if not both of these seats. The KPIT Democratic Club, along with our Broward County team need you. Ask Julie what you can do to help. Southern Florida needs to lead the way, & have our neighboring counties across the state join us, in turning Florida BLUE. We've made progress in recent years, but no more baby steps. LET'S GET IT DONE THIS TIME! LET'S COMMIT TO REALLY WORK FOR DEMOCRATS! LET'S ELECT DEMOCRATS WITH DEMOCRATIC PLATFORMS.



PLEASE JOIN US, FOR OUR NEXT DEMOCRATIC CLUB, GENERAL MEETING, on the EVENING of WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21st. WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR INSTALLATION of KPIT DEMOCRATIC CLUB OFFICERS and BOARD of DIRECTORS, in our SOCIALLY DISTANCED "RENO ROOM" at the KINGS POINT MAIN CLUBHOUSE at 6:30 PM.



You are most cordially invited to join the Democratic Club's

"ZOOM" Executive Board Meeting: Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 1:00pm

(FURTHER DIRECTIONS WILL BE SENT TO EVERYONE VIA A SEPARATE EMAIL)

For additional information, contact: Mona Malbranche, President, (954)638-6883

GOOD NEWS DEPARTMENT: Joe Biden committed to the American people that he would have 100 million dosages to the Covid-19 vaccines available within his 1st 100 days in office. He exceeded his word in terms of numbers of dosages and in less time than promised. It is refreshing to again have a leader who lives up to his promises, in terms of both his words and his actions! The passing of the American Rescue Plan (Stimulus) of 2021 is a further example of an administration working for ALL American people!







We also want to profusely thank Kings Point and the City of Tamarac. They sure did their job, in providing vaccines for our residents 65 and over, so quickly and efficiently, at our KPIT Main Clubhouse in February and March. Perhaps our lives' normalcy is getting a little closer each day.



How many of you, still remember <u>Attorney Sidney Powell</u>? Ms. Powell was part of the bizarre collection of attorneys, who worked on behalf of Donald Trump and the Republican Party, in disingenuously attacking voting results, in a number of key battleground states. Her claims ranged from supposed illegal actions by poll workers, election registrars, and even some attorneys general in those "contested" states. She also made outrageous (and false) claims, that the

software of the voting machines was manipulated by Dominion Voting Systems, the manufacturer, to illegally change legitimate Trump votes to the camp of Joe Biden. Now being sued by Dominion for defamation, Powell's attorneys are now claiming that everyone knew that her declarations about the alleged fraud and about Dominion, were so "out there" - that no one of right mind could put any legitimacy in their credibility. This is their defense? It's kind of like their claims in public that they were suing because of "fraudulent voting and counting practices." But when in court and being questioned by a number of judges, they responded by telling the court(s) that they did not have documented proof, just the words or thoughts of a number of 3rd party observers. I'm reminded of the man who murdered his parents, throwing himself on the mercy of the court, seek-

ing leniency because he was an orpan. Ahhhh - Sidney, you and Rudy Giuliani made quite the team; It sure was fun (not) while it lasted! Attorney (?) Sidney Powell: Let me tell you; P T Barnum certainly had nothing on you! You, Rudy, and one Donald Trump, could certainly make a tidy sum, should you decide to remake the adventures, that once starred the legendary comedic trio, Moe, Larry, and Curly. We could title the TV series, "RETURN OF THE STOOGES," or perhaps, more



grandiose, if lit up on a Hollywood and Vine, bright-lights marquis, for the premiere of "THE THREE STOOGES

GO TO WASHINGTON." Academy Award worthy? You're the viewer; You decide! **NETFLIX anyone?**









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Please contact Geoff Grosky or Lurow Hall for details.



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