DWC NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF MANATEE COUNTY FLORIDA **WWW.DWCManatee.com**

Liv Coleman

Dr. Liv Coleman is a professor of political science and international studies at the University of Tampa. She earned her bachelor's degree from Smith College and her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Wisconsin-–Madison.

Dr. Coleman specializes in Japanese and East Asian politics, with research interests that include gender equality, social movements, political campaigns and elections, environmental politics, and digital democracy. She has conducted research at the University of Tokyo's Institute of Social Science and Harvard University's program on U.S.-Japan Relations. Her scholarly work has appeared in several academic journals, including *International Studies Quarterly* and the *Japanese Journal of Political Science*.

Beyond academia, Dr. Coleman has been active in Florida civic and Democratic politics. Inspired in part by the Women's March and the Indivisible movement, she ran as a Democrat for the Florida House of Representatives in 2018. Her experience as a political scientist and grassroots activist brings an informed perspective to discussions of elections, public policy, women's participation in politics, and the challenges facing democracy.

Dr. Coleman will discuss her views on the November midterm elections.

DWC Luncheon is November 12, 2026
11:30 AM
Doors Open at 11, Arrive Early

Cut-off date for your reservations and meal choice must be made by

November 8 3:00 p.m.

Peridia Golf & Country Club
4950 Peridia Blvd E, Bradenton, FL 34203

Reservation Information and Meal Choices Are On The Next Page

Cost is $25

No shows will be billed

President's Corner

Lori Rogge

THE BLUE WAVE IS HERE!

The excitement has been building, and the midterm general election is finally upon us. Many of us have already voted, and by the time some of you read this newsletter, we will be celebrating some of the results. We have amazing candidates here in Florida,and many of us believe we will be able to make significant changes that strengthen our democracy. We all know how our state, our country and the people have been suffering with the current Maga-themed policies.

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers for your time, energy, and hard work. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our esteemed candidates, who have been doing the important legwork of introducing themselves to the community and helping people understand who they are and what they believe in. Finally, thank you to everyone who has generously donated to the campaigns—your support makes this work.

Lori Rogge, President

Democratic Women's Club of Manatee County

Secure your spot and help us kickstart a powerful new year of action by paying your 2027 Democratic Women's Club dues early! Annual dues remain just $35. Please bring your payment to our upcoming November meeting to ensure your membership remains active and uninterrupted for the year ahead. Together, we can build the Blue Wave necessary to restore hope, protect our values, and stand strong against the Trump administration's agenda.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AND MEAL CHOICE FOR THE NOVEMBER 12, 2026 DWC MEETING

Email, call, or text Marilyn Baiz for reservations

durf1211@gmail.com

or

734.776.6023

Deadline to register is Sunday, November 8, 2026, 3:00 p.m.

1. Harvest Salad
Choice of Grilled Chicken or Shrimp

2. Roasted Turkey w/ gravy
Mashed potatoes and green beans

3. Bowtie Pasta w/ grilled vegetables
And marinara Sauce

All meals come with salad, rolls, butter, a non-alcoholic drink, and dessert.
No-shows will be billed

Cost $25

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP

DEADLINE: Nov. 8 3:00 p.m.

Trump calls Kim Jong Un a 'friend' and plays down N Korea's nuclear arsenal

United States President Donald Trump has described North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as "a friend" and played down concerns about Pyongyang's nuclear arsenal, saying, "as long as I'm around, he's going to be fine."

Trump made the remarks in Washington, D.C., after a reporter asked him why North Korea could have nuclear weapons but Iran could not.

"That's interesting. You know why? Because you had a different president, and they could have stopped him," he said, referring to previous U.S. administrations.

"He happens to be a friend of mine, Kim Jong Un, he's a friend of mine. He likes Trump, doesn't like a lot of other people. I'm about the only person in the entire world that he likes, and I like him," he said.

He said North Korea's nuclear capacity was "pretty large" but "not like us." "You know what, as long as I'm around, he's going to be fine," he added. "You know why? Because he respects me and he likes me."

South Korea's Defence Minister Ahn Gyu-back said last week that its northern neighbor possessed between 80 and 120 nuclear warheads. The figure is significantly higher than Trump's recent assertion that Pyongyang has 57 nuclear weapons.

Trump is seeking to re-engage with Kim and secure a win on the international stage as the U.S. and Israel's war on Iran enters its eighth month.

The U.S. president launched the war along with Israel on February 28, 2026, saying Iran could not have a nuclear weapon. Iran has denied seeking a weapon, noting it had signed an agreement with world powers in 2015 that curbed its nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief. But Trump abandoned the agreement during his first term in 2018.

The U.S.-Israel war on Iran has disrupted global energy supplies, raised fuel costs and hurt Trump's popularity ahead of the November midterm elections.

Trump held summits with North Korea's Kim Jong Un in 2018 and 2019, but diplomacy broke down over U.S. demands that Pyongyang give up its nuclear weapons. Since then, Kim has expanded his arsenal of nuclear-capable missiles and strengthened his diplomatic footprint by aligning with Russia over its war in Ukraine and tightening relations with China.

Trump had earlier said he planned to hold in-person talks with Kim before the end of the year.

But North Korea has not formally committed to such a meeting.

By: Al Jazeera Staff *and Reuters*

ICJ Judge Navi Pillay wins Nobel Peace Prize for promoting international law

Donald Trump complained about not winning the Nobel Peace Prize for 2026, a year in which he started a war with Iran.

At what was supposed to be a rally for other Republican candidates in Syracuse, New York, the U.S. president devoted a long portion of his speech to airing his grievances with the Nobel committee.

“The United States of America, represented by me as your president, should have received the Nobel Peace Prize, but didn’t. And this is an indelible stain on the country of Norway, and those people that made such a disgraceful and embarrassing decision,” Trump said.

“The Nobel Peace Prize has been forever discredited by a handful of radical ideologues who are anti-democracy and really enemies of civilization,” Trump went on. “We will not forget, Norway, that you didn’t give this prize to me.”

Trump also recited a list of wars he claims to have settled, some of which were not wars and some that are still not settled, before adding: “I’m about to settle or win two more: Iran and Russia-Ukraine.”

Trump said he would be ending both wars “quickly.” “I will tell you what,” he added, darkly. “Iran will be very quick one way or the other: that they give us everything or they don’t exist any longer.”

“Additionally, I stopped Iran from having a nuclear weapon and blowing up the entire Middle East and ultimately far beyond the Middle East, including Europe, perhaps the U.S. and I saved more lives than anyone in history,” Trump claimed, despite the fact that U.S. intelligence agencies reported to Congress in 2025 that Iran had actually suspended its pursuit of nuclear weapons in 2003.

“Despite all of this and all of these unbelievable accomplishments, the Nobel prize was given out to a liberal person who works at the United Nations, who nobody has ever heard of,” Trump said of Navi Pillay, the South African former U.N. human rights chief who chaired the U.N. commission that concluded Israel was guilty of genocide in Gaza.

In Pillay’s first public comments after learning of the award, she joked to colleagues at a conference of human rights lawyers in Nuremberg, Germany: “If you clap a little bit more, I may share this prize with Trump.” She then burst out laughing.

By: Robert Macky, *The Guardian*

Everyone had a great time at the October meeting!

Trump's big mouth already comes back to bite him in golf course case

President Donald Trump attacked a federal judge who blocked his lawless construction on a public golf course in Washington, D.C. and it immediately came back to haunt him.

At a hearing, the preservation group mounting the legal challenge against Trump's federal takeover of the East Potomac Golf Links introduced the president's own Truth Social post as evidence that the government plans to proceed with renovations "IMMEDIATELY!"

Ahead of the hearing, Trump raged against District Judge Ana Reyes, who barred the National Parks Service from cutting down any more trees on the East Potomac Golf Links. The tree clearing is part of a plan to transform the public course into an exclusive, high-end one.

"The United States Department of Interior wants to take a terrible and very unsafe golf course, and make it into a great, safe, and prestigious golf course. They have an absolute right to do so. It's as simple as that," the president wrote on Truth Social.

Trump's meltdown comes after Reyes refused the Department of Justice's request that she recuse herself, over the fact that she yelled at a government attorney last week. A furious Reyes slammed the Trump administration for giving last-minute notice that it would resume cutting down trees. When Justice Department attorney Marissa Piropato argued the actions were "not a renovation," Reyes tore into her excuse as "preposterous," "doublespeak," and "completely beyond the pale."

"The judge on the case is a crazed lunatic whose courthouse tapes will reveal, may be insane?" Trump wrote on Truth Social. "The tapes have been blocked from usage by the judge."

The Trump administration's determination to proceed with expensive demolition projects without receiving a whiff of congressional or legal approval would make anyone a little crazy.

By: Edith Olmsted, *The New Republic*

Donald Trump confuses two major prizes while discussing his peace record

President Donald Trump muddled the Nobel Peace Prize with the Pulitzer Prize. This came while he was touting his peace record. It was one of at least four eyebrow-raising moments during his South Carolina rally.

Speaking at Clemson University to back Sen. Darline Graham against Democrat Annie Andrews, the president asked the crowd, “Does anybody know the name of that peace prize?” He claimed the Pulitzer went to “a young lady—I think she’s 80 years old — a young lady who nobody ever heard of.” He has won neither prize.

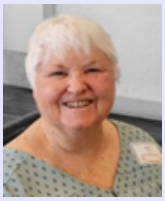
The Nobel Peace Prize mix-up follows his Truth Social attack on laureate Navanethem “Navi" Pillay, an 85-year-old former U.N. human rights chief and International Court of Justice judge. ”I know nothing about this woman, and neither does anyone else!” he wrote, adding she “very obviously, hates Israel.”

Trump also contradicted his own investment claims, saying: “We secured commitments for $22.2 trillion… $22.2 million. Uh, billion. Sorry. Billion with a B, not an M. If it was an M, we’d be in big trouble.” He routinely cites $22 trillion, though the White House says it is half that and economists dispute the figure. He then floated renaming the Pacific Ocean, recalling a conversation with

Google head Sundar Pichai about rebranding the Atlantic as the “American Ocean.” “How do you think Europe would feel?” he asked.Trump additionally mislabeled his loyal rallygoers as “front row Jacks” before correcting himself to “front row Joes,” adding, “We have Mr. Wall. We love Mr. Wall,” a reference to an attendee dressed as the Southern border wall. *MeidasTouch* called the gaffes “well beyond his usual,” while editor Acyn Torabi said Trump appeared “confused (via *The Daily Beast*).”

Protesters also disrupted the event — one shouting “traitor,” another demanding the release of Epstein files — and Trump reacted giddily when a supporter appeared to hit a heckler being removed. The White House has not commented on that.

By: Devanshi Basu, *Yahoo News*



Each day we can do small things that collectively make a big difference in our environment. The more we become aware and integrate these into habits, the greater impact we have on the health of our planet. Many of these we know yet have habits that cause us to do otherwise. Here are a few: only run the dishwasher and washing machine with a full capacity; be mindful of water usage that is conserving, such as not running the faucet while brushing teeth, shorter showers, flushing only when necessary (if yellow, let it mellow; if brown, flush it down). Make sure your irrigation system has no leaks and is adjusted on lawn and landscaping only, NOT on pavement. Do not over water. Eat more veggies, fruits, legumes and grains and fewer animals. Paul McCartney says "If slaughtet houses had windows, more of us would be vegetarians." When driving for errands, try to efficiently drive less frequently and group your destinations. Set your thermostat where you are conserving energy usage. Buy only what you need in food, clothing and other items and consumables; avoid cumpulsive buying.

Ruth Lawler, Environmental Chair

Have you checked out the official WhiteHouse website?

If you haven't already, I urge you to take a look right now. It has become a right-wing Republican propaganda site. Take a moment to click the link—you may be surprised by what you find. Take a look at the news section.

VIST IT THE WHITEHOUSE WEB SITE HERE

An estimated 9 million people participated in the October 17, 2026, No Kings protests, according to the *San Francisco Bay Times*. Approximately 3,000 events took place across all 50 states and Washington, D.C., with demonstrations also reported in countries including Italy, the United Kingdom, and France.

The first video, "No Kings Again," is one of many protest songs inspired by the No Kings rallies. Also, enjoy a collection of some of the most memorable and creative protest signs from the October 17 demonstrations!

CLICK HERE TO WATCH NO KINGS AGAIN

CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE BEST NO KINGS SIGNS

ELECTED OFFICERS

President
Lori Rogge lori4dems@gmail.com

1st VP (Programs)
Brian Heavrin brianhwithdwc@gmail.com

2nd VP (Membership)
Carol Plant carolplant@optonline.net

Recording Secretary
Deb Klug debklug@gmail.com

Treasurer
Wini Meier winimo.3@gmail.com

Regional Representative
Pat Benson pattybeenutty@gmail.com

Website Links

DWC of Manatee County Website
Manatee County Democratic Website
Democratic Women's Club of Florida Website

OTHER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Fund-Raising
Pat Benson pattybeenutty@gmail.com

Hospitality
Marilyn Baiz durf1211@gmail.com

Candidate Search
Vicki Waters vwaters@gmail.com

Parliamentarian Open

Web Master
Lori Rogge lori4dems@gmail.com

Newsletter
Brian Heavrin brianhwithdwc@gmail.com

Legislative Liaison Open

Environmental
Ruth Lawler ruthlawler@att.net

Secretary Bylaws Chair Open

CONTACT OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT
Donald Trump (switchboard) (202) 456-1111
www.whitehouse.gov

U.S. SENATORS
Rick Scott (R) (202) 224-5274
rickscott.senate.gov/contact

Ashley Moody (R) (202)224-3041
www.moody.senate.gov/contact

REPRESENTATIVES
Vern Buchanan (R-Distr. 16) (202) 225-5015
buchanan.house.gov/contact

GOVERNOR
Ron DeSantis (R) (850) 717-9337
GovernorRon.DeSantis@gog.myflorida.com

CONTACT FLORIDA ELECTED OFFICIALS

FLORIDA SENATORS
Jim Boyd (R-Distr. 20) (941) 742-6445
boyd.jim.web@flsenate.gov/contact

Joe Gruters (R-Distr. 22) (941)378-6309
gruters.joe.web@flsenate.gov/contact

FLORIDA HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES
Michael Owen (R-Distr.70) (656) 333-9530
michaelowen@myfloridahouse.gov/contact

Will Robinson (R-Distr. 71) (941) 744-5097
will.robinson@myfloirdahouse.gov/contact

William Conerly (R-Distr.72) (941) 327-0150
billconerly.@myfloridahouse.gov/contact

The Manatee County Democratic weekday office hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wednesday 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. To check status, times, dates of events and club meetings, please visit our Manatee County Democratic website at ManateeDemocrats.com.