



1

## Agenda

- 7:00 Call to Order – Tom Topping
  - Pledge of Allegiance
- Club Announcements & Welcome
- Membership – Patrick Clare
- Volunteers – Beth Davis
- Guest Speakers →
- Upcoming Events – Karen Miracle
- 8:00 – 8:15 Closing

**Tonight's Guest Speakers:**

- Bryan Beckman, District 66 Democratic Party Chair
- Representative Ben Diamond, Florida House District 68
- Senator Laura Book, Minority Leader of Florida State Senate (via video)

2



3

## Thank You to our Meeting Sponsors

**Garry W. Miracle**  
*Attorney at Law*

Social Security Disability, SSI, Long Term Disability, Personal Injury

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**Kate Baker**

2470 Sunset Point Road  
Clearwater, Florida 33765  
www.AssureTitle.com

(727) 793-0070  
Fax: (727) 255-5710  
Kate@AssureTitle.com

4

## NPCDC Officers and Board Members

Tom Topping, President

Elizabeth Davis, Vice-President

Patrick Clare, Secretary

Susan Francois, Treasurer

### Board of Directors

- Mark Brandt
- Dawn Burke
- Paul Ford
- Diane Lebedeff
- Karen Miracle
- Bill Norsworthy

5



Welcome  
Guests

6

# Membership Update

7

## Welcome New Members!

- Katie Green
- Shari Hallett
- Carol Levinsky
- Lora Mills
- Gail Morrow
- Raymond Murtaugh
- Lea Ogozelec
- Michael Ogozelec
- Ann Pelishek
- Daniele Sheeler
- Micki Shelley
- Mary Skinner Maurie
- Phil Stone
- Patricia Taylor
- Madalyne Warren
- Eldon Weaver

8

## Call For Volunteers

9

## Save Our Democracy - May 2022 Update

- We cannot remain quiet on this subject!
- We stand for diversity, gay pride, women's rights, saving our climate, justice, equal rights, truth.
- We are, too often, the nice people.
- We must be inclusive of nonpartisan voters.
- Everyone can do something

10

## Save Our Democracy - Actions You Can Take

- Call 3 people every day... “Be sure to VOTE in every election.”
- Call or text everyone in your contact list. “VOTE! Our rights, no open guns, our climate needs saving. “
- Come write postcards at the North County office.
- Get a yard sign - it’s time to be proud of our party.

11

## August 23 Primary

- Donate & work for campaigns now
- Mail ballots go out in late July
- 4 out 7 School Board members up for election August 23<sup>rd</sup> ; 50% plus 1 wins a seat
- Judges will be approved; remember, they rule our culture and criminal results
- Choose our Dem candidate vs DeSantis

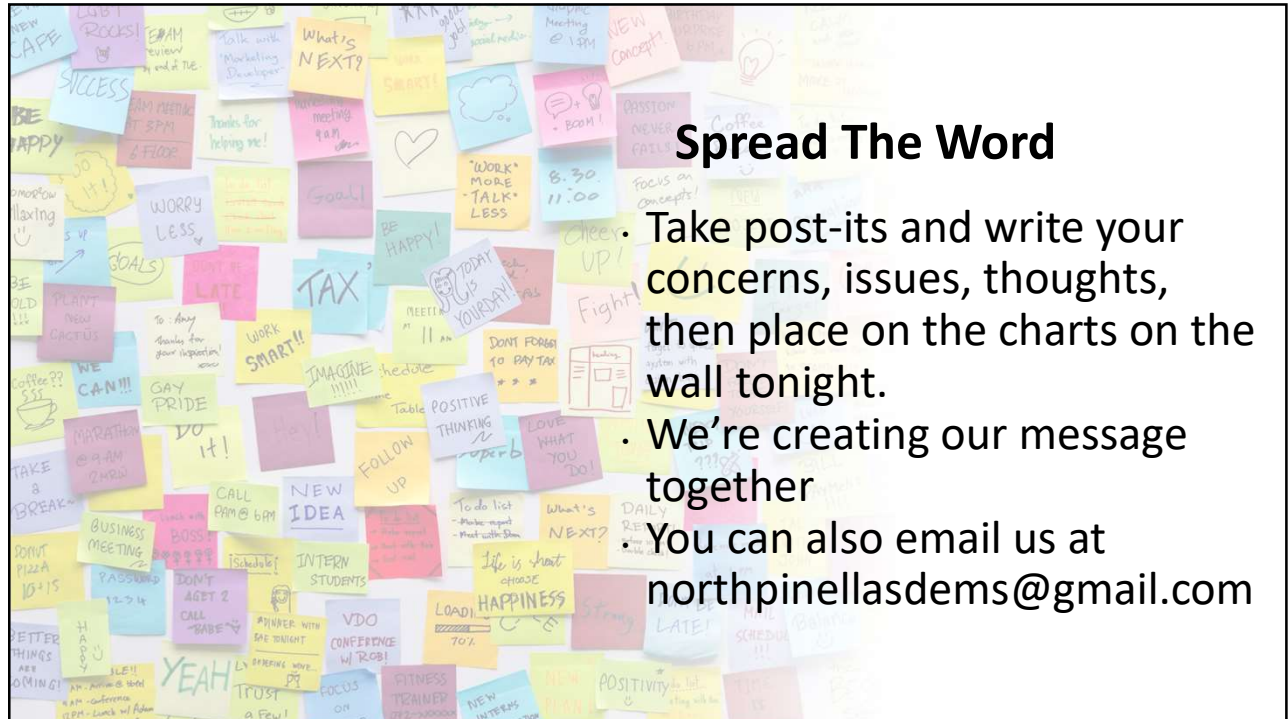
12

# November 8 General Election

- Get ready to work August 24<sup>th</sup> on the general election
- We need to turnout Dems over 85% to beat Republican turnout
- Mail ballots will be out in early October
- Calls, text, signs in your yards, postcards and more
- Help raise money to fund our text campaigns
- Buy a yard sign, tee shirt or magnet tonight
- Let's turn Pinellas bright BLUE

13

## Spread The Word



- Take post-its and write your concerns, issues, thoughts, then place on the charts on the wall tonight.
- We're creating our message together
- You can also email us at [northpinellasdems@gmail.com](mailto:northpinellasdems@gmail.com)

14



## Spread The Word

Defeat DeSantis- why?

- Banning Books
- Anti LGBTQ; war on Disney
- Stripping our voting rights
- Abortions restricted to 15 weeks: women's rights
- Something every day- tell us!

15

## Spread The Word

Defeat Rubio - why?

- 6 years in office, he has not done much of anything for
  - Women
  - Voting equity
  - The climate
  - The truth of Jan. 6

16



## Spread The Word

Elect Val Demings to the US Senate- Why?

- For equal rights, women's rights, gun control, justice, climate control
- Protect the Democratic Senate majority for Joe's last two years.

17

## Spread The Word – Joe's Accomplishments

- The infrastructure bill
- Jobs, community and more
- The Jan 6 House Committee investigation
- More jobs in first year than 16 years of Republicans
- Leader of the free world to help Ukraine
- COVID vaccination rollout to save all lives

18

## Spread The Word – Republicans did not vote for:

- Jan. 6 investigation
- Climate control/Paris agreement
- Voting rights, John Lewis Act
- Childcare
- Abortion rights
- Fair tax laws for corporations and the top 1%
- Sensible gun control
- Child Tax Credit extension

19

## Volunteer Now to Defeat DeSantis & Rubio

- Get Ready to Vote! How? Sign up to vote by mail; check your status, tell your friends.
- [VotePinellas.com](http://VotePinellas.com) OR 727-464-8683
- Sign wave once a week
- Check Facebook group: Defeat DeSantis & Rubio - One Protest at a Time
- Check [Mobilize.us](http://Mobilize.us) for opportunities in Pinellas County

20

## Volunteer Now to Defeat DeSantis & Rubio

Sign Wave: This Sat. May 21 from 10-12,  
corner of Gulf to Bay and Belcher

21

## Postcards at North County Dem Outreach Office

- 1402 North MLK Jr. Ave., Clearwater
- Mondays, Tuesdays 1-3; Saturday 10-12
- Bring a pen, a friend, your water, come join us
- Masks are welcome; separate tables and desks
- Donate for stamps tonight or when you come
- 100 stamps is \$40, every dollar counts

22

## Postcards at North County Dem Outreach Office


- The Club has budgeted to send out postcards every quarter to existing Dems who have still not signed up to vote by mail.
- The County Dem plan is to write postcards this summer and hold for October. Address to people who have not turned in their mail ballot.
- The demographic of this group is existing Dems who have not signed up to Vote by Mail in Safety Harbor, Dunedin, Palm Harbor, Oldsmar and Clearwater.

23

Thank you for  
coming!

- Be proud - let's get to work
- Read the newsletter again, share the newsletter with a Dem friend
- Learn about the candidates for August
- Be prepared to teach others who to vote for and why
- Come help at 3rd Friday in Safety Harbor
- Join the Safety Harbor parade July 4

24



Email the club with questions:  
NorthPinellasDems @gmail.com

***Do what you love,  
and do a lot of it!***

25

Tonight's Speakers

26

# Bryan Beckman

District 66  
Democratic Party Chair



27

## Clearwater 2022 Election Assessment

- ❑ Clearwater Dynamics
- ❑ March 2022 election - results, wins, need to improve
- ❑ Approaches for future success

28

## Clearwater 2022 Election Assessment

Ethnicity	Party			Total Voters
	Democrats	Independent	Republicans	
African American	4,653	1,444	247	6,344
Hispanic	2,341	2,354	1,102	5,797
Other	1,670	2,556	1,337	5,563
White	14,525	16,065	22,887	53,477
<b>Total People</b>	<b>23,189</b>	<b>22,419</b>	<b>25,573</b>	<b>71,181</b>

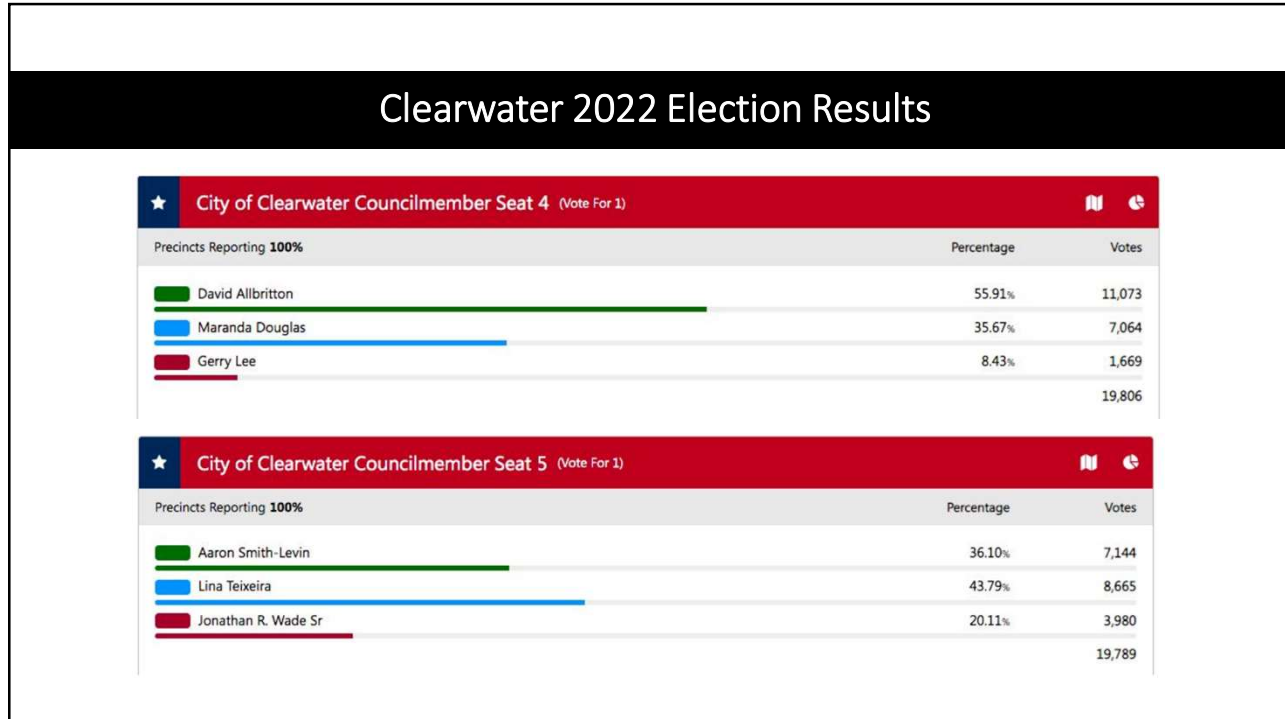
29

## 2022 Clearwater Firsts & Election Dynamics

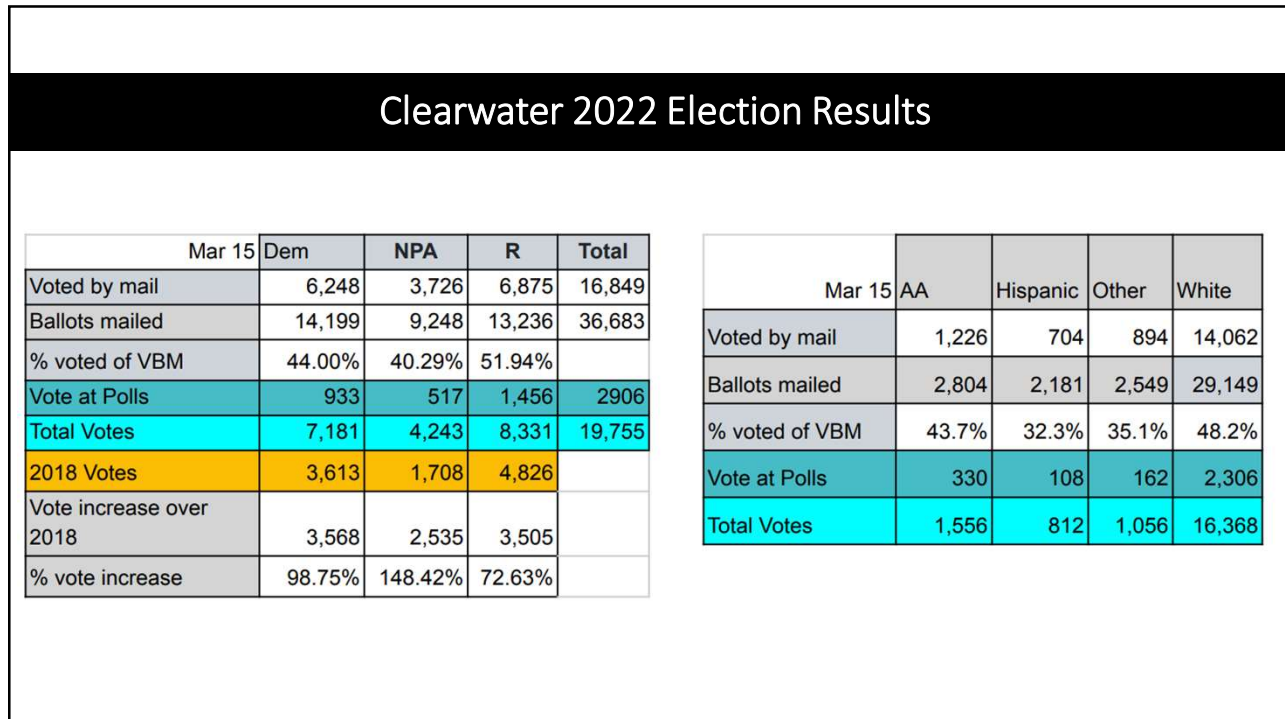
- 2 African Americans in the same election cycle (at one point 3)
- Dem Black Caucus and Hispanic Caucus endorsements
- Increased coverage (candidate profiles) in newspaper and TV
- NAACP and Hispanic and other candidate forums
- Multiple GOTV texts from Pinellas Dems
- Outside PAC door knocking and lit drop for a Dem candidate
- Very contentious Seat 5 race largely based on Scientology

30





31



32

## Clearwater Takeaways



**WINS**



**NEED TO IMPROVE**



**TACTIC FOR MOVING  
FORWARD**

33

## Summary for Dem Success

- Significant improvement needed for fundraising
- Continued and increased sharing of information - volunteers, contacts, tactics
- Continued recruitment of Dems and minorities to join Advisory Boards
- Continued and increased mentoring of candidates
- Increased visibility and involvement by Black and Hispanic Caucuses
- More training of potential candidates by Pinellas leaders
- Continued organization and engagement of volunteers for successful campaigns
- Engaging NPA and Republicans is critical to success on common interests

34



35

**Representative  
Ben Diamond**

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**Florida House  
District 68**

A portrait of Representative Ben Diamond, a man with short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage.

36

## Senator Lauren Book

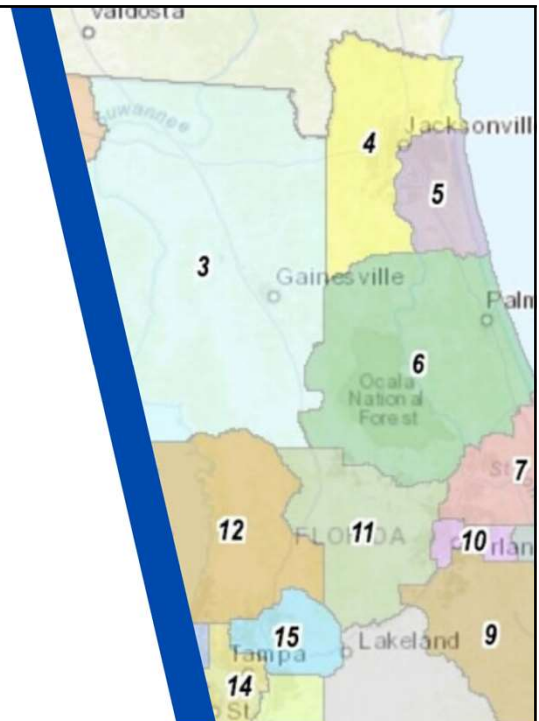


**Minority Leader, Florida State Senate**

37

# FLORIDA REDISTRICTING 2022

# UNFAIR DISTRICTS



38

# FLORIDA REDISTRICTING 101

Every 10 years following the U.S. Census, each state's number of Congress people in the U.S. House of Representatives is recalculated based on the current population.

Florida's population grew by 2.9 million residents, giving the state one additional member of Congress (from 27 to 28).

The Florida Legislature redraws the state's U.S. Congressional districts to reflect its new number of Representatives. It also redraws its State House and State Senate districts to account for population changes throughout the state.



39

# FLORIDIANS WANT FAIR DISTRICTS

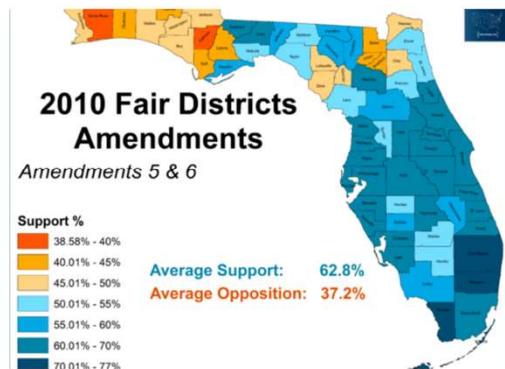
In 2010, 63% of Florida voters approved two amendments written by the League of Woman Voters and the "Fair Districts Coalition" to help ensure fair redistricting.

The Fair Districts provisions require that district lines:

- not be drawn to favor one political party over another.
- not be drawn to harm voting power of racial or language minorities.
- are contiguous.

In addition, if possible, the districts should:

- be compact.
- take into account lines of counties and cities.
- take into account geographical boundaries.



40



## 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

During the regular session, a majority of the Legislature publicly indicated interest in adhering to Fair Districts.

The majority passed two maps at the end of the regular session, to avoid Governor's DeSantis' veto and have a back-up plan in case his preferred map was struck down by the Florida Supreme Court.



41

## SPECIAL SESSION: A COMPLETE 180

After Governor DeSantis vetoed the Legislature's plan, lawmakers returned to Tallahassee for a Special Session to pass the Governor's preferred map.

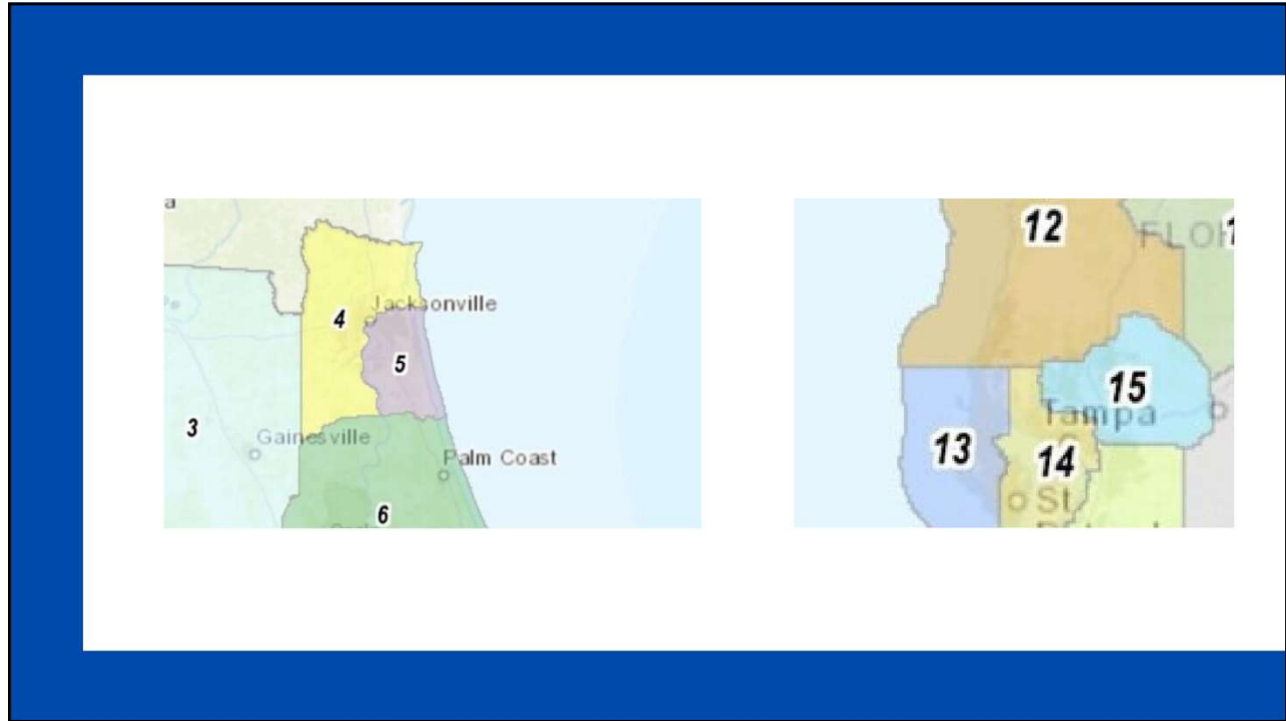
The enacted map shows blatant partisan intent and disregard for minority voting power by:

- Creating a 20-8 Republican congressional seat advantage in a state where Joe Biden received 48% of the vote.
- Splitting CD5, a protected minority access district in North Florida.
- Forcing St. Petersburg and Tampa into the same district, a configuration the Florida Supreme Court has already ruled unconstitutional.



**Flip-flopping on Fair Districts**

42



43

## PINELLAS COUNTY'S DISTRICTS

Two non-competitive districts, splitting St. Petersburg in two along 34th Street.

St. Pete voters east of 34th Street are now in the heavily Democratic FL-14, a Tampa-based district represented by Congresswoman Kathy Castor.

Voters west of 34th Street are in FL-13 with the rest of Pinellas County. Former President Trump won this configuration of the district by 7 points.

St. Petersburg voters make up just 13% of the 13th District and 25% of the 14th District.

This map dilutes Pinellas Democrats' and St. Petersburg's voice and adds to the growing partisan divide in Congress.



44



## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

Many voting rights organizations are mounting legal challenges to this unconstitutional map.

A circuit court judge recently placed a temporary injunction on the configuration of North Florida's CD 5, a minority performing district.

The appeals process is far from over, and legal battles concerning other parts of the map are imminent.



45

## HOW CAN I HELP?

*Redistricting happens just once every decade, but we can't wait ten years to fight for fair districts.*

### **Get The Word Out About Fair Districts:**

- When knocking doors and phone banking, talk to your neighbors about the Governor and Republican Legislature's power grab in the redistricting process.
- Share news and articles with your networks on social media.

### **Support Groups in the Legal Effort:**

- Black Voters Matter - [BlackVotersMatterFund.org](https://BlackVotersMatterFund.org)
- Common Cause Florida - [CommonCause.org/Florida](https://CommonCause.org/Florida)

### **Stay Updated on the Legal Effort:**

- Democracy Docket - [DemocracyDocket.com](https://DemocracyDocket.com)

46

## QUESTIONS?

Want to learn more or ideas for how to talk with voters about redistricting?

Please feel free to email me at [ben@votebendiamond.com](mailto:ben@votebendiamond.com).

A member of my team would be happy to assist.



47



48

# Upcoming Events



49

The logo of the North Pinellas County Democratic Club is a circular emblem. It features a blue donkey with a red body and four white stars on its back. The text "NORTH PINELLAS COUNTY" is written in white on a blue arc at the top, and "DEMOCRATIC CLUB" is written in white on a blue arc at the bottom. Two white stars are positioned on the left and right sides of the circle.

**Safety Harbor 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday Street Festival  
Friday May 20  
6:00-10:00pm  
Main St. between 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**

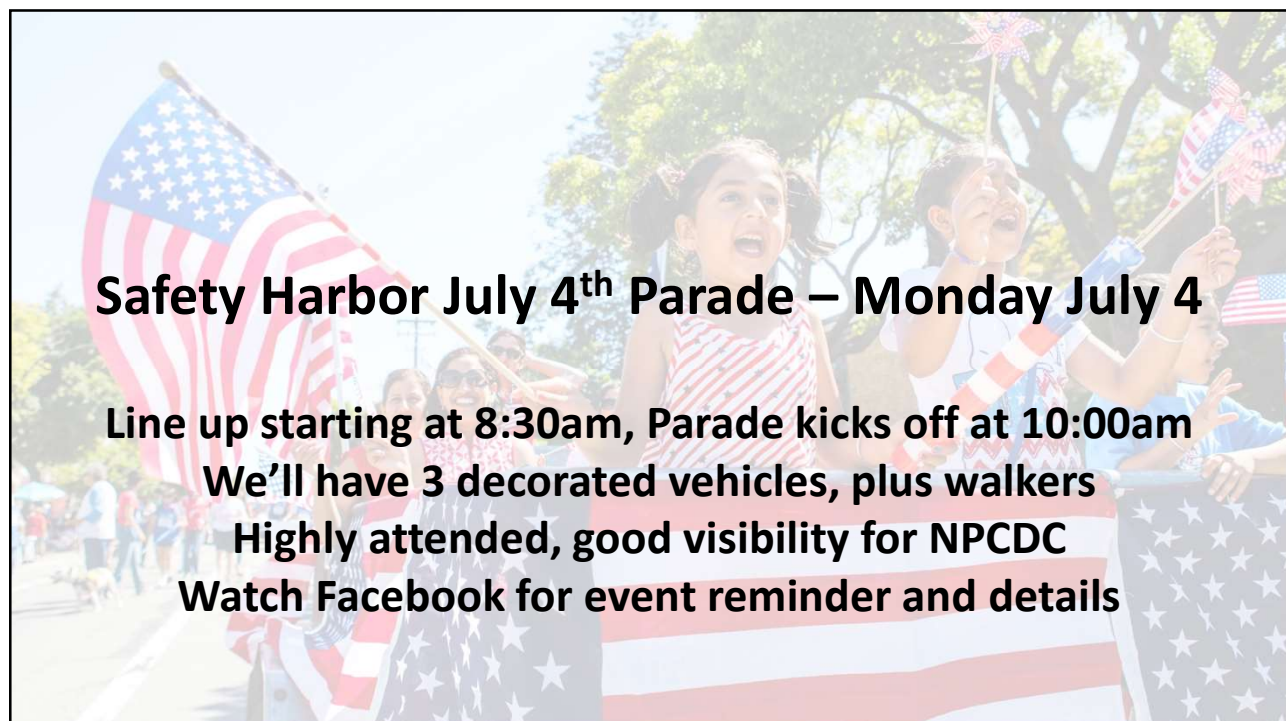
50

A promotional graphic for 'Wear Orange Weekend' from June 3-5, 2022. The background is a solid orange color. On the right side, there is a circular inset photograph of three women smiling and wearing orange clothing. The woman in the center is wearing a yellow t-shirt with 'wear orange' printed on it. The woman on the left is wearing a dark orange t-shirt with 'Wear Orange Action' and 'FOR OUR SCHOOLS IN AMERICA' printed on it. The woman on the right is wearing a bright orange top and a black visor with 'WASH' on it. To the left of the circular image, the text 'join us wear orange weekend june 3-5, 2022' is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below this text, the website 'wearorange.org' is written in a smaller white font. The entire graphic is framed by a dark blue border.

**join us  
wear orange  
weekend  
june 3-5, 2022**

wearorange.org

51

An announcement for the 'Safety Harbor July 4th Parade' on Monday, July 4. The background is a faded photograph of a parade with people holding American flags. Overlaid on the image is the following text in a bold, black, sans-serif font:

**Safety Harbor July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade – Monday July 4**

**Line up starting at 8:30am, Parade kicks off at 10:00am**

**We'll have 3 decorated vehicles, plus walkers**

**Highly attended, good visibility for NPCDC**

**Watch Facebook for event reminder and details**

52



# Connect With Us

- Our Website:  
[www.northpinellasdemocrats.com](http://www.northpinellasdemocrats.com)
- Emails from [NorthPinellasDems@gmail.com](mailto:NorthPinellasDems@gmail.com)
- Monthly Newsletter, via email + website
- [Facebook.com/groups/NorthPinellasDems](https://Facebook.com/groups/NorthPinellasDems)
- [Instagram.com/northpinellasdems](https://Instagram.com/northpinellasdems)
- [Twitter.com/NPinellasDems](https://Twitter.com/NPinellasDems)
- Phone and Text Messages
- Direct Mail, Postcards
- Live events, in person or via Zoom

Subscribe or follow us today!

53

Thank you for joining us!

Next Meeting:  
June 16, 2022



54