

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2021**



**President's
Message**

**Welcome to the first ever North
Pinellas County Democratic Club
Newsletter.**

It's an exciting time to be a Democrat! That's right, I said it. I know it doesn't take much to find an expert, pundit, or friend who predicts disaster coming for Democrats. If the 2022 elections were held today those fears might be realized; thankfully, they're not.

My current outlook comes from my experiences as an athlete and as a coach. Those experiences taught me to always prepare, focus, and play to the final buzzer. You can't win the game in the first or third quarters; to win, you must play the entire game. I've learned to persevere, develop resilience, and maintain confidence when things looked bleak. I also learned to live in the moment and remember the importance of celebrating hard-fought victories.

Here is what I see....

- A GOP doubling down on the same energy sources and individuals that lost them the House, Senate, and Presidency.
- The same but different flags and bumper stickers on cars and trucks.
- Clever sayings and chants at rallies that add up to exactly nothing.
- The GOP attempting to legislate an agenda that doesn't really help anyone.
- A medley of their "greatest hits", with outlandish and offensive statements that do little more than garner media attention, while simultaneously motivating Dems to show up at the polls.

Rather than focus on the negativity of a strange gubernatorial election in Virginia, I instead encourage you to focus on the most recent St. Petersburg elections. Let's acknowledge a clean sweep of local elections where hard-working Dems shared winning messages that dominated their opponents, culminating with Ken Welch as the first-ever African American mayor of St Petersburg. That's a victory to be proud of!

Yes, there is cause for concern over women's rights, voter rights, LGBTQ+ rights, first amendment rights, and more. We will continue to stand up to those who attempt to take

away those rights. At the same time though, I believe we can take a moment to smile about the historic legislation taking place in Washington, D.C. right now. Consider how President Biden's bi-partisan Infrastructure Bill and Build Back Better plan benefit nearly everyone. They powerfully support Democratic values and create momentum going into 2022 elections. Now multiply that energy by the fact that these measures help the majority of Americans, yet most Republicans will have voted against them. These are great talking points for us.

Do we have work to do? Yes. Must we continue to organize, to defeat efforts to suppress votes? Yes. Do we need to improve our messaging? Also yes. And we will. But for the moment, I encourage you to enjoy these historic victories. Walk a little taller this holiday season. Smile more. Relax a bit. Breathe. Democrats have a great story to tell. Let's tell it! Finally, take a moment to consider all that you are thankful for and why. Encourage each other. Stay positive, energized, and engaged.

Thank you for your support of the NPCDC and Let's Go Blue!
Tom Topping
President, NPCDC



The Biden Scoreboard: positive change continues

- Child poverty cut by 40%
- Over 5.6 million jobs added and growing
- Unemployment claims at their lowest point in over 50 years
- More than 71% of adult Americans fully vaccinated against COVID
- \$1.2 trillion invested in our infrastructure, the largest such investment in history
- An end to the "forever war" in Afghanistan
- Largest ever investment in fighting climate change
- Stock market records shattered



Stop by the **North Pinellas Democratic Outreach Center**, 1402 North MLK Ave. in Clearwater any Monday through Friday between 12:00-4:00pm. Engage with fellow Dems as we spread our message across our county. Right now we need volunteers to write postcards encouraging votes to **Vote By Mail**.



Join us in person at one of these **Holiday Events in December**. Do use your best judgment regarding the CDC's current guidelines for masking and outdoor activities. We hope to see you!

Saturday, Dec. 4: 40th Annual Safety Harbor Holiday Parade

We'll line up on Bayshore Boulevard starting at 9:00am; look for our Club banner. Parade kicks off at 10:00am proceeds up Main Street. Contact Karen Miracle at karen-miraclelaw@hotmail.com for details.

Saturday, Dec. 11: NPCDC Holiday Picnic, Hammock Park, Dunedin

- You must reserve your spot by emailing Mark Brandt at brandtmark17@gmail.com. For everyone's safety seating is limited to 60 participants.
- Use the North entrance from San Mateo and park in the lot near St. Andrew's Chapel. You'll find us in shelters 1 & 2.
- We'll provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and a vegetarian option along with dessert, iced tea, water and soda. Bring a side dish to share if you like.
- We'll be raffling several prizes and gift baskets (cash donations only); you must be present to win. Entertainment will be provided by Rick Nymeyer, aka Pickin' Rick.

Saturday, Dec. 11: Dunedin's Old-Fashioned Christmas & Holiday Parade

Look for our club banner starting at 3:00pm in the staging area on Douglas Avenue, between Beltrees and Union Streets (near the baseball stadium). Parade kicks off at 4:00pm, traveling up Douglas Avenue north to Skinner Boulevard. Contact Mark Brandt at brandtmark17@gmail.com or Karen Miracle at karen-miraclelaw@hotmail.com to let us know you're coming.

Household Membership

We're excited about the opportunities for Democrats in 2022 and have three (3) membership types to help us meet our goals.

Individual Member: A single person who joins our club for one (1) year for \$25.00

Lifetime Membe: A single person who joins our club with membership rights for the rest of their life. The one-time dues is \$250.00.

NEW! Household Member: Any person, such as the spouse or child of an Individual Member, can join as a Household Member. This membership has all the rights of the Individual Member with reduced dues of \$15.00 for one (1) year. The Household Member must join at the same time as the Individual Member. There is no limit to the number of Household Members for a common address.

Please remember that you must reside in Pinellas County and be registered to vote as a Democrat to join our club.

[Become a Member](#)

Messaging: Save the Date

Our Club will host training sessions in January at the Countryside Library, on Saturday Jan. 8 and Saturday Jan. 29 from 12 noon to 2pm. We will focus on (1) the meaning of "kitchen table messaging" including how to talk with non-Dems in a way which goes beyond saying negative things about Trump, and (2) a discussion of the different ways club members can volunteer with an explanation of what might be involved. More details to follow in our December newsletter, as well as our January and February club meetings.

Vote By Mail

It's more important than ever that you and everyone you know register to vote. For maximum impact we highly recommend you register to **Vote By Mail**.

- Never miss an election; you will receive your ballot 2-3 weeks ahead of any election day
- You can mail in, or drop off your ballot at designated locations
- Especially important when there is otherwise no early voting, such as the March 2022 municipal elections in Clearwater, Oldsmar and Tarpon Springs
- You can still decide to vote in person if you change you mind

The website for the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections, votepinellas.com, is full of helpful information. Easy to follow links from the home page enable you to: Register to vote or Update our registration; Check registration status; Request a mail ballot. Do it today!

[Request to Vote By Mail](#)

Florida Redistricting

Want to know the latest plans for congressional districts in Florida? Check out the official Florida state site listing the latest proposals. Interactive maps enable you to zoom in to street level. Current proposals would dramatically change the Pinellas County political landscape. Don't like what you see? Contact your Florida State Representatives and Senators, and demand they abide by the Fair Districts Pledge.

Visit our website for more info:
northpinellasdemocrats.com/calls-for-action



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Our mailing address: PO Box 415; Dunedin, FL 34697

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