



BALLOT BOX

DECEMBER 2024

BWRC to ring in the holidays with festive, fun luncheon



It's time to celebrate Republican election victories and a wonderful year of Belleair Women's Republican Club activism! So, break out your holiday finery, saddle up the sleigh and dash on over to the Belleair Women's Republican Club holiday luncheon on Friday, December 6. The event will provide a fun and festive start to the holiday season and an opportunity to make merry with BWRC friends.

The usual 50/50 and Belleair County Club Brunch raffles will be temporarily replaced at the BWRC December luncheon with other special delights, including holiday music, beautiful décor and table favors. Lifesize, standup cutouts of President-elect Donald Trump and Vice President-elect J.D. Vance will be on hand allowing for photo ops with the club's photographer on hand to take your picture.

In order to not forget the true spirit of the holiday season, gifts to benefit others will be collected. As has been the tradition for

several years, the recipient of BWRC's holiday charitable collection will be Hero to a Child Foundation (formerly called Guardian ad Litem Foundation). Voluntary donations of cash, checks made out to Hero to a Child Foundation or gift cards to retailers such as Amazon, Target and Walmart or to fast food outlets like Taco Bell, McDonalds, Burger King, Chik-fil-A or the like will be used to provide some Christmas joy for foster care "late shelter" children who have been removed from their homes during the stressful holiday season too late for foster parents to plan and purchase Christmas gifts. BWRC's collection will help assure there are presents under the tree for these kids who are spending the holidays with strangers and are no doubt lonely, scared and sad.

Those not attending the BWRC December luncheon who want to participate in BWRC's effort to assist Hero to a Child late shelter children may mail checks made out to Hero to a Child Foundation

and/or gift cards to former club president Norma Stalions at 4466 Worthington Court, Palm Harbor, FL 34685. These donations must be mailed by December 1 in order to reach the charity in time to be used to support the late shelter children effort.

Also in keeping with the true holiday spirit, gifts will be presented to staff members of Belleair Country Club at the December luncheon on behalf of the BWRC membership to thank them for the exceptional service they have provided over the course of the year.

The December 6 BWRC luncheon will take place at Belleair Country Club located at 1 Country Club Lane, Belleair. Check-in begins at 11:30 am, with lunch served starting at noon. The cost to attend is \$37 per person. Lunch reservations and payment are due by Thursday, November 21. Checks made out to BWRC should be mailed to BWRC at P.O. Box 1117, 850 E. Lime St.,

DECEMBER MEETING INFORMATION

Friday, December 6

Belleair Country Club
1 Country Club Lane
Belleair, FL 33756

Luncheon Fee: \$37

Registration & networking
begin at 11:30am.

Event begins
at 12 pm

To RSVP:
A \$37 check made
payable to BWRC is
due by November 21.

Mail check to:
BWRC
P.O. Box 1117
850 E. Lime Street
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

If paying at the luncheon,
please no \$100 bills.

Alternate meal must
be requested
with your RSVP.

No substitutions
may be made
the day of the luncheon.

Reservations required.
Please ,no walk-ins.

DECEMBER MENU INFORMATION

Salad w/ Arugula, Blueberries,
Strawberries, Candied Nuts
& Goat Cheese
w/ Balsamic Vinaigrette

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Chicken Marsala & Stuffed Shrimp
w/ Sliced Red Potatoes
& Green Beans

++++

Rolls & Butter

+++

Cherry Cobbler

+++

ALTERNATE VEGETARIAN PLATE

Avocado Toast w/
Whole grain toast, avocado, hardboiled
eggs, olive oil, lemon & arugula
w/ cherry tomatoes

BWRC is privileged to host meetings and social events at Belleair Country Club. Members and guests must comply with BCC's dress and conduct code. Dresses, skirts, blouses, dress slacks and pantsuits are appropriate for women. Men must wear shirts with sleeves and remove caps in the dining room. Blue jeans are not permitted



FROM THE BWRC PRESIDENT

November 5, Election Day, was such an exciting one for the BWRC membership. A lot of work and prayer went into the prior six months, and the support our club provided to local Republicans was so much appreciated by the candidates. We built friendships, worked hard and were great patriots. I am extremely proud of how so many BWRC volunteers went out of their way to move our country in the right direction.

On the other hand, I was very distressed at times during the election process. There were a couple of situations I found to be disturbing. On one occasion, a 32-year-old man came to an early voting location and verbally and then physically harassed some sign and flag wavers who were supporting conservatives. He hit a 22-year-old campaign manager with his chest and shoulder, and she nearly fell to the ground. He was eventually arrested, and additional legal action might be forthcoming. Another very disturbing situation was recently reported that a FEMA official instructed employees to avoid offering assistance to homeowners of property damaged by the hurricanes if any Trump signs were displayed. On the other side of the contest, I also learned of some conservatives provoking Democrats by calling them baby killers.

I believe we all need to respect people with different political views. I researched how winners can strive to be gracious and humble toward those who don't prevail in political contests. I hope everyone will agree we need to be considerate and empathetic of the opponents' feelings. And, we may even want to recognize the opponents' efforts. I find it hard to do this sometime, but I notice how many of BWRC members handle this issue with grace and dignity. Those who do are an inspiration to me and to the club's Executive Committee.

All this said, BWRC will be celebrating the Republican election victories with a fun Christmas Party in December. I will bring cardboard Trump and Vance figures for photo ops, and there will be festive music, little gifts and other things to enjoy. Please come celebrate a wonderful BWRC year!

Dianne Blum
BWRC President



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First Vice President
Sara Mollo

Second Vice President
Claudia Walker

Treasurers
Jessica Reed
Louise Davis

Hospitality
Candace Gardner

Ways & Means
Corinne Steinhardt

Communications
Claudia Thomas

Corresponding Secretaries
Kassy Brewer
Alyssa Palonis

Recording Secretary
Carol Abernathy

Historian
Deb Walker

Chaplain
Patricia Wagner

Past President
Deb Walker

Parliamentarian
Renatta Cochran

Belleair Women's Republican Club Ye Olde Holiday Shoppe

The unique items below would make a great holiday gift for BWRC or other Republican friends or family members. All items may be purchased at BWRC luncheons while supplies last.

Decorative Items



Mirrored Square with BWRC Logo \$10

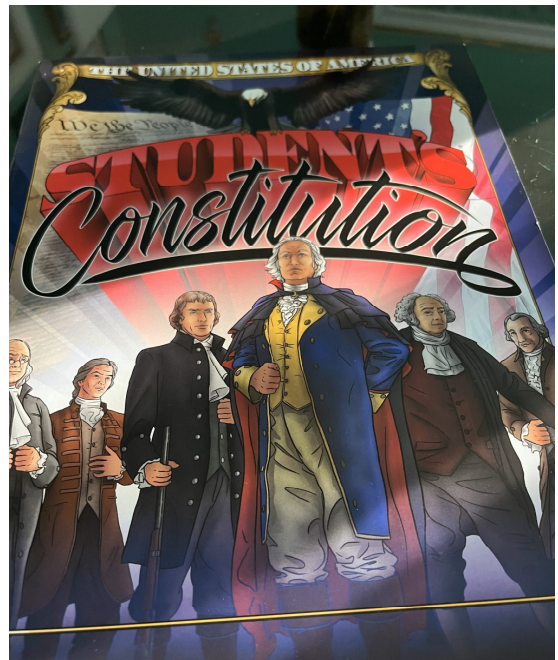
Mini Triangle Lucite Statue \$10

Round BWRC Ornament, Ribbon Hanger and White Gift Box \$8



M A G A S O C K S \$3

US Constitution Handbook



\$5

Pinellas County GOP General Election Winners

President of the United States — Donald J. Trump by 51.89% (Republican)
United States Senator — Rick Scott by 50.90% (Republican)
United States Representative CD13 — Anna Paulina Luna by 54.77% (Republican)
United States Representative CD14 — Kathy Castor by 63.22% (Democrat)

Florida State Senator SD21 — Ed Hooper by 59.86% (Republican)
Florida State Representative HD57 — Adam Anderson by 58.83% (Republican)
Florida State Representative HD58 — Kim Berfield by 57.65% (Republican)
Florida State Representative HD59 — Berny Jacques by 58.68% (Republican)
Florida State Representative HD60 — Lindsay Cross by 53.65% (Democrat)
Florida State Representative HD61 — Linda Chaney by 56.24% (Republican)
Florida State Representative HD62 — Michele K. Raymer by 78.43% (Democrat)
Florida Circuit Court Judge Group 14 — Nick Fiorentino by 51.58%

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners D1 — Chris Scherer by 52.98% (Republican)
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners D3 — Vince Nowicki by 51.31% (Republican)

Pinellas County School Board Member D5 — Katie Blaxberg
Pinellas County School Board Referendum Question — Passed by 52.50%

St. Petersburg City Council D3 — Mike Harting by 50.43%
City of Dunedin Mayor — Maureen "Moe" Freaney by 56.34%
City of Dunedin City Council Seat 1 — Tom Dugard by 54.29%
City of Dunedin City Council Seat 3 — Steven R. Sandbergen by 55.27%
City of Largo Commission Seat 3 — Michael DiBrizzi by 68.58%
City of Largo Commission Seat 4 — John Lauser by 52.50%

REQUIRED 60% OF VOTE TO PASS:

State Constitutional Amendment 1 — Failed (54.92%)
State Constitutional Amendment 2 — Passed (67.37%)
State Constitutional Amendment 3 — Failed (55.88%)
State Constitutional Amendment 4 — Failed (57.14%)
State Constitutional Amendment 5 — Passed (66.03%)
State Constitutional Amendment 6 — Failed (50.40%)

REQUIRED 50% OF VOTE TO PASS:

Proposed County Charter Amendment 1 — Passed (89.61%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 2 — Passed (72.59%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 3 — Passed (52.18%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 4 — Passed (68.89%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 5 — Passed (69.88%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 6 — Passed (68.35%)
Proposed County Charter Amendment 7 — Passed (76.28%)

JUDICIAL RETENTION RACES:

Justice Renatha Francis by 59.79%
Justice Meredith Sasso by 59.58%
Justice Anthony K. Black by 66.39%
Justice Edward C. LaRose by 68.41%
Judge Susan H. Rothstein-Youakim by 65.97%



TIME TO PAY 2025 BWRC MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$25.00
annual dues
for 2025

Please make your check
payable to BWRC

Send your check to:
BWRC
P.O. Box 1117
850 E. Lime Street
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Belleair Country Club has notified BWRC the price for luncheons will be raised to \$38 in January 2025.

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST BWRC MEMBERS

Thomai Batianis

Lynn Dunn

Kitty Davis

Michelle Galasti

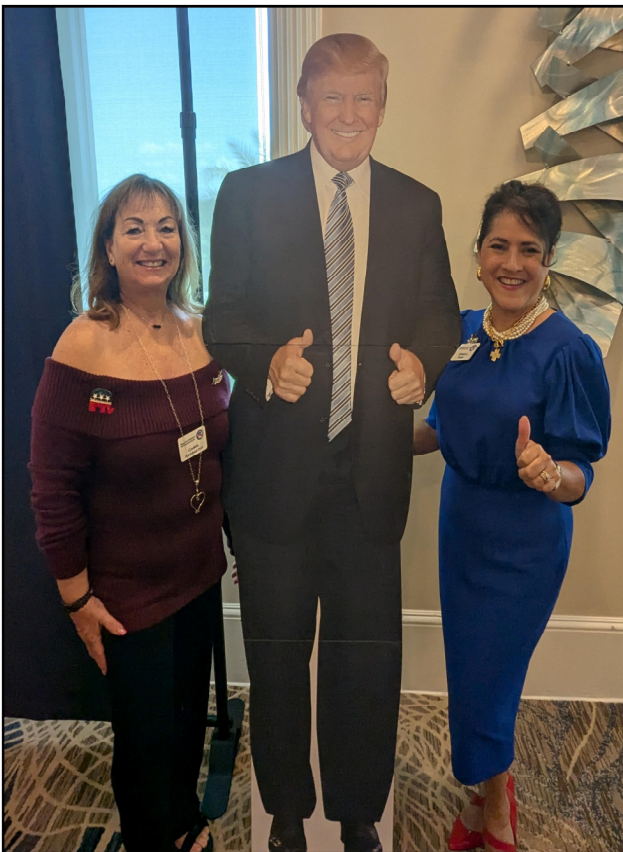
April Kalapp

Sandy Schwartz

Sharon Shackelford

Danya Shankwitz

Anna Torke



(To see more pictures from BWRC events, visit bwrc.us > Photo Gallery)



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