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 2nd VP: Pat Baldwin
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 Americanism: Angela Pruitt
 Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris
 Bylaws/Parliamentarian: Kerri Tonkin
 Caring for America: Renie Frank, Anita Diamond
 Fundraising: Keri Tonkin
 Hospitality: Darlene Izzo/Barb Koeplinger
 Legislative: Lori Fayhee
 Membership: Peg Love
 Newsletter: Mary Snyder
 Programs: Pat Baldwin
 Publicity: Gail Langner
 Reservations: Wren Morefield/Mary Ann Hansen
 Social Media: Mary Snyder
 Non-Committee Positions
 Chaplain, Terri Lee
 Photographer, Jessica Armstrong

THE MAHOUT

The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

May 2017

*Strong Women for a
Strong America*



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Collecting more taxes than is absolutely necessary is legalized robbery."

Calvin Coolidge

LRWF MONTHLY MEETING

Meet with us on Monday, May 8th at the beautiful Pincher's Restaurant, The Marina at Edison Ford, 2360 W. 1st St., Fort Myers. At this meeting Commissioner Brian Hamman will be speaking.

There are three menu choices:

1. Turkey Club Wrap with Chips
2. Southwestern Salad with Grilled Chicken and Rolls
3. Plain Caesar Salad with Toppings on the Side

We will have chocolate cake for dessert.

- \$22 Inclusive
- 11:15 PM Social Time /Lunch and Program following
- Reservations will be taken after the deadline of 5/4/17, but no guarantee of your choice of meal will be given after the deadline date.

For reservations: Call Mary Ann Hansen at 239-432-9389 or e-mail rmh738@aol.com.

To make a reservation online go to <https://squareup.com/store/lee-republican-women-federated-2>

Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid!

Everyone MUST check in at the Reservation Desk.



Brian Hamman, Lee Co. Commissioner

BRIAN HAMMAN SPEAKS IN MAY

Our speaker for May's LRWF meeting, Brian Hamman, is a proud Lee county native. A graduate of Cape Coral High School, he earned an associate's degree from Edison State College and a bachelor's degree from Florida Gulf Coast University. In the private sector, Brian spent 10 years in television working his way up from the "camera guy" to a news anchor on the nightly news. In addition, Brian has worked as a financial advisor for Edward Jones and as the Market Development Manager for CenturyLink. As a County Commissioner, Brian's priorities are to bring jobs to our community, keep taxes low and protect the beautiful environment that draws so many to Lee County. Brian and his wife, Rebecca, reside in Cape Coral with their two children, Kaitlyn and Jacob. Brian remains active in the community, serving on various boards and volunteering at his church, Crosspoint Christian.

AMIRA FOX SPEAKS IN JUNE

Amira Fox, the Chief Assistant State Attorney for the 20th Judicial Circuit of Florida will be speaking at our meeting in June.

Amira graduated from American University in Washington D.C. in 1987 with degrees in International Studies and Economics and received her law degree from The George Washington University in 1990. Ms. Fox began her career as an Assistant State Attorney with the 20th Judicial Circuit. She worked in the misdemeanor, juvenile and felony divisions of the State Attorney's Office before becoming head of the LaBelle office in 1998. In 1999 she became the first female head of the Collier County office. She joined the Wilbur Smith Law Firm in 2002 where she specialized in criminal defense. She formed her own practice with a partner in 2004, Fox & Ramunni, P.A., where she specialized in criminal defense and family law and was a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent-rated lawyer. She rejoined the State Attorney's Office of the 20th Judicial Circuit in 2012 as the Deputy Chief Assistant State Attorney in charge of special prosecutions (homicide, economic crime, public corruption and police shootings) for the circuit. In January, 2015, she was appointed by State Attorney Steve Russell as his Chief Assistant State Attorney and assists the State Attorney with the day

to day legal and administrative functions of the office, including the operation of grand juries throughout the circuit. Ms. Fox has served as chair of the 20th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee and is currently a member of the Florida Bar's Special Committee to Study Unethical and Illegal Solicitation of Legal Business. Ms. Fox was appointed to the 20th Judicial Circuit Nominating Commission by Governor Rick Scott in 2014 and is currently serving a four year term with the Commission.

Amira is planning to file as a candidate for the State Attorney's office in the upcoming elections.



*Amira Fox
Chief Assistant State Attorney*

NEWSLETTER OF LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

Associated with the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Doris Cortese
LRWF President

The Florida State Senate and Legislative sessions are almost over. Our elected officials have worked very hard to pass important bills and work out the budget differences for next year.

We appreciate our state legislators, Caldwell, Eagle, Fitzenhagan and Rodrigues sending representation to our meetings. This gives our members a chance to interact and get information on what is happening at the state level.

We had a successful and fun day on our boat cruise which was attended by 35 people. More social events are being planned in the future. I'm all for working hard for our party and our candidates, but I am also all for playing hard and enjoying life. As Republican women, we can do both. If you have any suggestions for a social outing, please contact Kerri Tonkin at 907-321-0419 or you may call me at 239-205-0646.

**REMEMBER REPUBLICAN WOMEN
ARE THE LIFE AND HEART OF THE PARTY**

Sincerely,
Doris Cortese, President, LRWF
Vice President, LCREC

A Word from Our Congressman

The following was sent out by Chris Berardi, Communications Director for Congressman Francis Rooney on April 17, 2017.

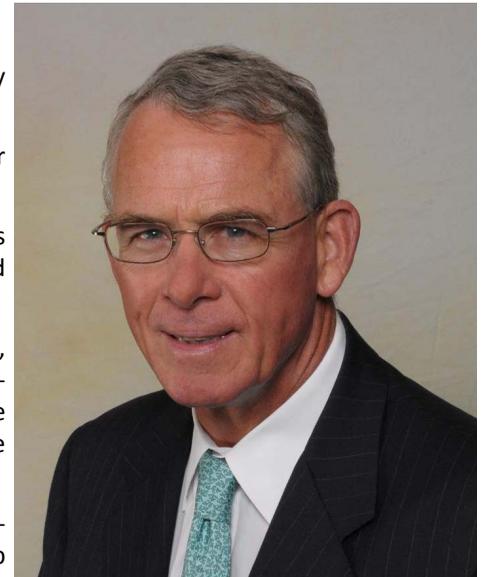
Washington, DC – Congressman Francis Rooney issued the following statement in response to Governor Rick Scott's efforts to restore the Everglades:

"The single biggest issue impacting our Southwest Florida community is water quality. Our economy is forever tied to our ecology, and having clean water flowing through our rivers, streams, estuaries and Everglades.

I fully support solutions that will solve our water issues in the quickest and most efficient way possible, and I agree with Governor Rick Scott and his priorities for restoring the Everglades. Any plan must support the Central Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), place priority on protecting land rights with no use of eminent domain, must avoid any long-term bonding debt and ensure completion of repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike are not delayed.

At the federal level, I will continue to be vigorously focused on securing the federal funding already approved through the Water Resource Development Acts (WRDA) of 2007, 2014, 2016, and for moving up planning currently scheduled for 2018."

Background: Congressman Rooney has testified four times on water quality issues. In addition to this testimony, the Florida Congressional delegation has signed a letter, led by Congressman Rooney, that was sent to President Trump. This letter called on the President to support Everglades Restoration projects in his fiscal year 2018 Budget and included the signatures of all Florida Congressmen. Congressman Rooney is also a member of the Everglades Caucus.



Francis Rooney
US House of Representatives

REPUBLICANS NEED TO UNITE NOW

Planned Parenthood Funding & Sanctuary City Funding are both still in the new proposed federal budget. We are about to be betrayed if you don't speak up now! Francis Rooney voted against the budget this week, but you need to write your Senators immediately.

While you are at it, send Francis a thank you note for his vote against the budget

BILL NELSON

716 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5274
or email at

<https://www.billnelson.senate.gov/contact-bill>

MARCO RUBIO

284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3041
or email at

<https://marcorubio.com/contact/>

FRANCIS ROONEY

120 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2536
or email at

<https://francisrooney.house.gov/contact/>

MEMBERSHIP

As of May we have 123 members. Please invite your friends and neighbors to the May 8th luncheon meeting.

Membership applications available by calling 941-740-0228 or emailing peglove810@gmail.com. Thanks, Peg Love, Membership Chair

NEW MEMBER

Beth Crafts
4528 Varsity Lakes Court, Lehigh Acres, 33971
239-410-4404 bethcrafts@4seasonsfl.com

REPRESENTATIVE MATT CALDWELL FILES TO RUN FOR COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

(The following article is for your information only. It is not an endorsement.)

Tallahassee, Fla. - Today, Representative Matt Caldwell filed his paperwork to run for Commissioner of Agriculture.

Representative Caldwell said, "As a 7th generation Florida native and the descendant of Florida farmers and small business owners, this great state has given my family so much. I am seeking this opportunity to give back and to serve the people of the great State of Florida. I have filed to run for Commissioner of Agriculture in order to continue our work together, fighting for and building upon the important issues we've tackled in the Florida House."

The Commissioner of Agriculture serves as a member of the Florida Cabinet and is critical to the foundation of Florida's economy. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services helps the agricultural industry with its daily challenges, promotes Florida's agricultural commodities, manages state forests, safeguards consum-

Caldwell was first elected to the Florida House in 2010. He has chaired committees related to agriculture and natural resources and has served on committees focusing on issues including transportation, tax policy, redistricting, insurance, banking, and local government & federal government affairs. He currently chairs the Government Accountability Committee, which oversees state policy on natural resources and public lands, transportation and infrastructure, local, federal, and military issues, & oversight of government operations, such as pensions & elections.

Caldwell has consistently been a champion of issues that impact our environment and the agricultural community. He sponsored an expansion of the Everglades Forever Act, which will complete Everglades restoration in the area south of Lake Okeechobee, and was the prime co-sponsor of the Legacy Florida Act, which will permanently fund restoration of the greater Everglades.

In 2016, Caldwell followed the heed of current Commissioner Adam Putnam and then-Speaker Steve Crisafulli who both identified water as the central issue facing 21st century Floridians, by sponsoring the "statewide water bill", bringing transformational changes to water supply planning for agricultural, urban and environmental needs.

In the 2017, Caldwell championed a positive overhaul of the vaunted Florida Forever program. If passed, the legislation refocuses the program with a priority for conservation easements and permanent funding totaling roughly \$3 billion dollars over 17 years.

Matt and his wife, Yvonne, live in North Fort Myers, where they raise their daughter, Ava. A hometown announcement will be held in the weeks following the close of Florida's Legislative Session.



State Congressman Matt Caldwell

LRWF VISITS CLEWISTON SUGAR FACILITIES

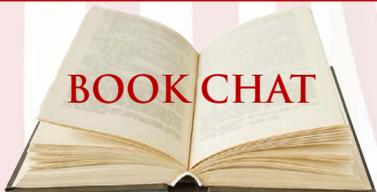
A couple of months ago, Lee Republican Women Federated took a complimentary chartered bus to Clewiston, to tour the sugar facilities in addition to the Florida Orange Juice factory there. With a tour guide and complementary driver, we drove via US 75 to Arcadia into cattle country...a very scenic drive. The guide entertained us with stories about the history of the sugar industry in Florida and various trivia questions. We learned many things.

In Clewiston another guide, a member of the industry for many years, drove us out into the sugar cane fields where we were all treated to freshly cut sugar cane to suck on. From there we all got to see how they hold the water system to ensure water for the crops. On to the sugar factory where we saw mountains of raw sugar which interestingly enough, animals or insects will not touch. We were also shown how there is very little, if any, waste in the commercial harvest of sugar. They utilize all of the sugar cane plant and compress the left over plant material into pellets that are used for energy. In fact the whole processing plant is run on this material.

We were treated to a complementary lunch at Roland Martin's Marina. It was a very good time and some members even managed to get in some shopping. From there we were given the first hand look at the dike on Lake Okeechobee and more history on the lake and dike system.

Back on the tour after lunch came another interesting factory. The sugar industry uses rotating crops to keep the land fertile. One year growing cane and the next year planting another plant. In the 90's Orlando had two major freezes back to back and consequently, they relocated many orange groves to the Clewiston area. Many acres that were previously cane fields have now been turned over to orange groves. We learned one interesting fact, that they are the only producers of true Florida orange juice. Most orange juice is imported from various countries, Brazil being a major one, and if they add a minute portion of Florida orange juice to the imported juice they can label it Florida orange juice. So the guide cautioned us to read the labels carefully. We were given a tour through the making of orange juice from the trucks of oranges to the cartons. The numbers are staggering on just how many oranges they process through that plant.

It was a very full day and so informative that we all agreed to highly recommend this tour to other clubs.



BOOK CHAT

We had a delightful gathering at Mel's Diner on April the 5th. We are inviting each of you to join us for May's Book Chat, again at Mel's Diner, on May 5th, from 1:00-3:00 PM. We are reading and discussing Sebastian Gorka's book, *Defeating Jihad*. Dr. Gorka is one of the most experienced and sought-after authorities on counterterrorism.

The book reveals how a toxic political agenda has corrupted our national security practices, precluding the kind of clear-eyed threat analysis and strategic response that led to victory in the Cold War. The book explains that the war is winnable if we remove our ideological blinders and apply basic strategic principles. He emphasizes that it is important to name the enemy, understand his plan and draw up a strategy to defeat him. Americans have defeated totalitarian enemies before, and he clarifies how it can be done again. His analysis is troubling, but the path to victory is ultimately encouraging.

Please join us for a nice lunch and like minded discussion. Looking forward to seeing you on May 5th. Please call me at 239-225-7390 or email me at timcherylharris@aol.com if you are planning to attend so Mel's can set up our tables accordingly.

Cheryl Harris, Book Chat Chair

Legislative UPDATE

By Lori Fayhee

MARIJUANA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

In the final days of the 2017 Legislative Session, the House and Senate began negotiations on two proposals, SB 406 and HB 1397, for the implementation of Amendment 2, the 2016 medical marijuana (MMJ) constitutional amendment, which was approved by 71 percent of Florida voters last November.

The Senate Appropriations Committee recently approved Sen. Rob Bradley's sponsored bill (SB 406) in spite of MMJ advocates' concern over limited patient access.

Bradley's proposal grandfathered in the seven existing dispensing organizations. Currently, only three of these organizations have dispensaries, and those are located in Clearwater, Miami, Pensacola, Tallahassee, and Tampa. It brings five additional medical marijuana treatment centers (MMTC) online by Oct. 3 and requires the Department of Health to license four more MMTCs after each time 75,000 patients register with the state's compassionate use registry. The bill also limits the number of retail facilities where growers can dispense MMJ.

The vote came one day after the House Health and Human Services Committee approved Rep. Ray Rodrigues' implementing bill (HB 1397), which was considered more restrictive and bans pregnant women from using medical marijuana, even if their doctor recommends it.

To qualify to receive MMJ, a patient must be diagnosed with at least one of the following conditions: Cancer, Epilepsy, Glaucoma, HIV, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, PTSD, ALS, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, MS, medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to these, a terminal condition diagnosed by a physician other than the qualified physician issuing the physician certification, or chronic nonmalignant pain. Both bills add definitions for "Chronic nonmalignant pain" to mean pain that is caused by a debilitating medical condition or that originates from a debilitating medical condition and persists beyond the usual course of that debilitating medical condition. There are 23 qualified ordering physicians in Lee County.

HB 1397 increases physician paperwork by requiring physicians to maintain and report a detailed individualized patient treatment plan for each qualified patient and submit each plan quarterly to the newly created Coalition for Medical Marijuana. HB 1397 requires the physician to request an exception to the daily dose amount if they feel their patient requires more medicine than the recommended daily dose. After receiving an in-depth request from the physician, the department has 14 days after receipt of the complete documentation required to approve or disapprove. The physician and patient will know if the request is approved if the department fails to act within this time period. No, that is not a typo.

In addition to the Coalition for Medical Marijuana and the Office of Compassionate Use (OCU), the amendment to HB 1397 increases the size of government by having the Department of Health (DOH) establish an Office of Medical Marijuana Use. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, the Department will create 55 full-time equivalent positions, with associated salary rate of \$2,198,860. For the 2017-18 fiscal year, \$10 million will be appropriated to the DOH to implement the statewide cannabis and marijuana education and illicit use prevention campaign. \$5 million in nonrecurring funds from the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund are appropriated to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to implement the statewide impaired driving education campaign. The sum of \$100,000 in recurring funds from the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund is appropriated to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for the purpose of training additional law enforcement officers as drug recognition experts.

MMJ refers to either low-dose tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) or cannabidiol (CBD), well-known for both its potential medical benefits and because, on its own, it doesn't produce the same psychoactive effects that THC does. So why all the stringent regulations on this plant-based medicine that is cultivated, processed, and dispensed by state certified suppliers and prescribed by state qualified physicians?

In August 2016, the Obama Administration and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) denied a bid by two Democratic governors to reconsider how it treats marijuana under federal drug control laws, keeping the drug in the most restrictive category for U.S. law enforcement purposes. Marijuana is considered a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act, alongside heroin and LSD, while other, highly addictive substances including oxycodone and methamphetamine are less stringently regulated under Schedule II of the law. The classification as a schedule I drug prevents researchers in studying and proving a drug's efficiency. In spite of this, Twenty-six states and the District of Columbia currently have laws broadly legalizing marijuana in some form. The most recent amendment to HB 1397 would allow more research on the efficacy of medical marijuana. Interestingly, a large-scale survey published in 1994 by epidemiologist James Anthony, then at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, surveyed more than 8,000 people between the ages of 15 and 64 about their use of marijuana and other drugs and found that of those who had tried marijuana at least once, about 9 percent eventually fit a diagnosis of cannabis dependence. The corresponding figure for alcohol was 15 percent; for cocaine, 17 percent; for heroin, 23 percent; and for nicotine, 32 percent.

Of the greatest concern in both of these Florida bills is the creation of a monopoly held by big businesses as the only growers and suppliers. According to both bills, 'A licensed MMTC shall cultivate, process, transport, and dispense marijuana for medical use.' According to these bills, the DOH will issue one license to a MMTC for seed-to-sale, rather than issuing three different types of licenses for cultivating, processing and dispensing.

Both bills grandfather in seven existing dispensing organizations as MMTCs; require that in order to be registered as a MMTC, the applicant must be able to demonstrate: that, for the 5 consecutive years before submitting the application, the applicant has been registered to do business in this state; has the technical and technological ability to cultivate and produce low-THC cannabis and marijuana; has the ability to secure the premises, resources, and personnel necessary to operate as an MMTC dispensing organization; possesses the ability to maintain accountability of all raw materials, finished products, byproducts to prevent diversion or unlawful access to or possession of these substances; an infrastructure reasonably located to dispense low-THC cannabis and marijuana to registered qualifying patients statewide or regionally as determined by the department; the financial ability to maintain operations for the duration of the 2-year approval cycle; and upon approval, the applicant must post a \$5 million performance bond. Although stricken in SB 406, HB 1397 also includes the requirement of possession of a valid certificate of registration issued by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services which is issued for the cultivation of more than 400,000 plants; operation by a nurseryman; operation as a registered nursery in this state for at least 5 continuous years; or operation as a commercial citrus grove and possession of a valid certificate of registration. There is concern that Florida is creating a medical marijuana program that gives a select few companies enormous control over the market and limits others from entering. This is unprecedented in the other 28 states that have now legalized medical marijuana. MMJ is not covered by insurance and it is critical to have sufficient competition in the market to ensure the most favorable prices for patients. *(continued)*

The guiding principle of Amendment 2 for the Legislature is to ensure access to medical marijuana by qualified patients. This requires dispensaries to be located within a reasonable distance from patients. If the Legislature adopts the Senate's cap and any on dispensaries, it must issue more MMTC licenses to allow for greater patient access. Many local municipalities have been imposing restrictions on dispensaries, which would limit patient access.

Another bill, if passed, could benefit the same growers. Rep. Ralph E. Massullo's HB 1217, the Industrial Hemp Programs bill, moving through the Florida House and Senate, would allow universities to begin researching the plant for industrial use. Industrial hemp and marijuana plants are both members of the genus *Cannabis sativa*, but they are genetically different. The major difference in the two is that Industrial hemp contains less than 0.3 percent THC. The global market for hemp consists of over 25,000 products, including everyday items from beauty products to rope, drywall, and even some car dashboards. Last year, the total retail value of all hemp products sold in the U.S. was estimated at \$620 million. All the raw hemp materials were imported from other countries and it was reported that the U.S. imports \$570 million of hemp products every year because as a schedule-one drug, it hasn't been grown here since WWII. China is the world's largest hemp fiber and seed producer.

Industrial hemp was once a prominent crop in the United States. The Declaration of Independence was drafted on hemp paper and the first American flag, reported to be made by Betsy Ross, was crafted from hemp fiber.



Well, it is certainly interesting! We were promised a wall, no funding for Planned Parenthood and no funding for sanctuary cities! I know that Francis Rooney and Marco Rubio are pro-life! Bill Nelson is not! What we all need to tell Bill Nelson is that the tide is turning and people are turning away from the mass killing of babies! When I first wrote this editorial, they had just announced a proposed budget with funding for Planned Parenthood! So, I immediately wrote the following article. After yesterday's news that the house defunded Planned Parenthood, I decided to keep the editorial that way it was with this one explanation. We don't need to bother our Congressmen, but WE DO NEED TO CONTACT OUR SENATORS.

When I voted for President Trump, I had two things that were on the top of my list of priorities...above all else, I wanted to end the mass murder of innocent babies and I wanted to protect Israel. I am going to write about my thoughts on Israel in another newsletter, but in this one...suffice it to say, that I am pro-life and pro-Israel.

I don't care if we shut down the government! I don't care if people blame the Republicans for what the Democrats are doing when the government goes down! I care about LIFE! I care about not murdering babies who, it is now proven, feel pain when their necks are snapped by doctors with no conscience. I care about babies being left to die on the abortion table when they accidentally are born alive. I care about the fact, that if Hillary had her way, babies would have been aborted right up to birth, at a full nine month gestation. I care about the guilt and trauma that is felt by many mothers who are convinced that abortions are okay, and then...after the deadly deed is done, they can't live with what they have done to their own flesh and blood.

In one of the articles that I read this week, I discovered that they have found out that babies learn language in the womb. And when a baby is born and is given to parents who speak another language, they don't do as well as babies who are in a family that speaks the language that they heard and learned in the womb. <http://www.washington.edu/news/2013/01/02/while-in-womb-babies-begin-learning-language-from-their-mothers/>

Have any of the congressmen who are for abortion ever heard about Abby Johnson, a Planned Parenthood administrator that turned pro-life after watching on a sonogram, a baby fight for its life during an abortion? If you haven't heard of her, click here. <http://www.lifenews.com/2013/07/29/seeing-a-baby-on-ultrasound-made-abortionist-quit-become-pro-life/>

A pro-choice activist, Bernard Nathanson, who was also a Jewish atheist, gained national attention as one of the founding members of the National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws (later renamed the National Abortion Rights Action League, and now known as NARAL Pro-Choice America). He worked with Betty Friedan and others for the legalization of abortion in the United States. Nathanson's work in the area of pro-choice legislation, ended with the infamous victory of the Roe vs. Wade decision.

After the development of the ultrasound in the 1970s, Nathanson, for the first time, was able to observe a real-time abortion. This turned his world upside down as he realized that he was fatally wrong. Many times since, he has said that abortion is "the most atrocious holocaust in the history of the United States." He wrote *Aborting America* where he first explained "the dishonest beginnings of the abortion movement." In 1984, he directed and narrated a film titled *The Silent Scream*, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qs9CRO5K4Uk>) in cooperation with the National Right to Life Committee, which contained the ultrasound video of a mid term (12 weeks) abortion. His second documentary, *Eclipse of Reason* (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nff8I2FVnl) dealt with late-term abortions. He stated that the numbers he once cited for NARAL concerning the number of deaths linked to illegal abortions were "false figures." Referring to his previous work as an abortion provider and abortion rights activist, he wrote in his 1996 autobiography *Hand of God*, "I am one of those who helped usher in this barbaric age." Nathanson developed what he called the "vector theory of life", which states that from the moment of conception, there exists "a self-directed force of life that, if not interrupted, will lead to the birth of a human baby."

After Nathanson left the abortion industry he became a Catholic and turned from his athiestic ways. He did all that he could, to right his wrongs.

This takes us to the last video that our congressmen should watch. That is a video concerning partial birth abortions, where all but the head of the baby is delivered when the abortionist takes scissors and cuts the back of the neck of the baby, ending its life. This is the type of abortion that Hillary wanted to see happen, when she said a baby has no constitutional rights up to birth. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUrOjCbcPNc>

It's time to wake up people! I am talking to our Democrats in congress and our Republicans in congress who don't have the fortitude to do the right thing. And if the divided Republican party doesn't wake up to the will of the people, they will lose their position, money and power when they lose their seats. Did anyone ever think that persecuting the Christians by feeding them to the lions while people watched and cheered was barbaric? That can't hold a candle to what people are doing to innocent babies. God forgive us all. Forgive the abortionists and those of us who do nothing to stop it.

HOLIDAY 4 HEROES

Through our September 11th meeting, LRWF's Caring for America will be collecting items for Holiday 4 Heroes.

The items collected will be distributed to members in our Armed Forces that are residents of Lee County.

We ask each member to bring something with them to our monthly meeting to be sent to our "heroes" overseas.

Below is a list of the items that are needed:

Snacks

Tuna (in the fresh pouch)
Crackers
Nuts, Trail Mix & Protein Bars
Cookies (Store bought/homemade)
Slim Jims, Jerky & Dried Fruit
Peanut Butter and Hot Sauce
Candy, Mints & Gum
Pop Tarts and Breakfast Bars
Full Size Chocolate Bars drinks

Drinks

Single Serve is Best
Instant Coffee & Tea
Powdered Drinks
Energy Drink Drops

Toiletries & Comfort

Shampoo
Sunscreen & Lip Balm
Body Wash, Hand & Body Lotion
Eye Drops, Advil & Nasal Spray
Hand and Foot Warmers
Mouthwash & Dental Floss
Foot & Body Powder, Cough Drops

Miscellaneous

Boot Laces, Magazines & Nerf Toys
Playing Cards, Dice & Puzzle Books
Greeting Cards, Journal Books
Frisbees, Hack Sac, Travel Games
New Wash Cloths and Personal Wipes
Gallon Zip Lock Bags



If you are filling your own box, please leave it open for inspection.

Always enclose a note of appreciation or greeting.

12 to 16 oz items are preferred.

Thank you for your support of Holiday for Heroes!

We couldn't do this without YOU!

A LITTLE WHITEHOUSE PHONE TRIVIA

1. Who answers when I call the White House?

Depends on which number you call. The public comment line (202-456-1111) is manned by volunteers recruited by the current administration. The White House switchboard (202-456-1414) is manned by professional White House operators. Only privileged parties are privy to the "secret number" that reaches the president directly (see below).

2. How often are the lines jammed by protest calls?

It tends to happen when controversial legislation is up for a vote; both the 2008 Wall Street bailout and 2007 immigration overhaul bill provoked more calls than the system could handle. Reaction to certain cataclysmic events, such as John F. Kennedy's assassination, have also overloaded the presidential phone system.

3. When did the White House first get a telephone?

May 10, 1877, when Rutherford B. Hayes had one installed in the White House telegraph room. The first White House phone number was "1," but the phone was directly connected to just one other early adopter, the Treasury Department.

4. You mean the president didn't have his own phone?

No, not until Herbert Hoover had one set up in the Oval Office in 1929. And even then, it wasn't a private line until Clinton revamped the White House phone system in 1993. Clinton complained that anyone in the White House could listen in on his calls by picking up an extension and pressing a button. According to a WIRED.com report: "Clinton got a lot of mileage during the early weeks of his administration by telling cocktail-party stories of little old ladies sweating away at the White House's vintage 1960s 'plug-and-play' switchboard."

5. Who is eligible to call the president's "secret number"?

Very few people; the Oval Office number is tightly guarded and routed through a separate switchboard. In a controversial 2007 incident, a 16-year-old teen in Iceland dialed what he mistakenly believed to be the secret number and — posing as Iceland's president — managed to get far as President George W. Bush's secretary.

6. Does the iconic "red phone" still exist?

A telegraph "Hot Line" between the Kremlin and the White House was set up in 1963 after communication lags exacerbated the Cuban Missile Crisis. A direct phone link was set up in 1971, and a fax line added in 1986. Though the "red telephone" seems to have become obsolete, it frequently pops up in fiction and political propaganda — Hillary Clinton's 3 a.m. phone call ad and Glenn Beck's "emergency line to the White House" stunt being recent examples.

Sources: History Channel, ABC News, Wired, Time, Wikipedia, Mediabistro, BuzzFlash & TheWeek.com



Mamie Geneva Doud Eisenhower
November 14, 1896 - November 1, 1979
Wife of President Dwight D. Eisenhower

AMERICANISM

American First Ladies

By Pat Baldwin

The White House became known as the Pink Palace by the press when Mamie Eisenhower took up residence in 1953 as the First Lady.

Mamie had spent 37 years as an Army wife setting up 33 homes. One of her tricks in simplifying the decorating was to use the same colors: pink, cream and green. She did the same to the private quarters at the White House. She loved pink because it flattered her blue eyes so it was no surprise that her inaugural gown was pink with glittering rhinestones. Interestingly, the country found it loved pink too.

Many who grew up in the 50's can recall all those pink tiled bathrooms, pink refrigerators, mixers, pink kitchen tables and chairs and First Lady Pink paint. All were inspired by Mamie's love of the hue.

Mamie was also known for her bob and bangs a style she adopted in the 1920s and refused to change. She was a meticulous dresser favoring swirling skirts and known for her coordinating accessories. Although she would have preferred to be more active, she was directed by her husband's advisors to focus on being the hostess at the mansion. She decorated the White House for all major holidays as well as St. Valentine's, St. Patrick's, and Halloween. She enjoyed surprising tour groups by making cameo appearances. She liked presenting both dignitaries and staff with cakes for special occasions. She was an astute home manager and, even as FLOTUS,

encouraged the staff to use coupons, buy cake mixes and find ways to use Jell-O. She was partial to gladioli and used them in most arrangements. And she enjoyed having her friends over for bridge or canasta, or to watch her two favorite shows: I Love Lucy, and The Milton Berle Show.

When she came to the White house in January of 1953, she was 56 years old. The petite 5'1" Mamie made sure all of her African-American maids had invitations to attend all the inaugural events. And she secured accommodations for all in the then segregated capitol. She invited Marian Anderson to sing at the swearing in ceremony.

As an Army wife, she had been apolitical. Now, as FLOTUS, she so strongly disagreed with Senator Joe McCarthy's hearings on un-American activities, she refused to entertain him. Following her husband's heart attacks, Mamie became chairman of the American Heart Association spurring a 70% increase in donations and an increase in volunteers to an impressive 750,000 nation wide. She was instrumental in encouraging the building of the 16-acre Knollwood, an Army distaff home, providing retirement housing for Army widows in Washington, DC. The home opened in 1962. Many years earlier, while her husband served in Panama, Mamie helped to establish a free hospital for native women who were denied services at US Army hospitals. After their White House years, the couple toured Europe and retired to their farm in Gettysburg, Pa.

Mamie Geneva Doud Eisenhower was born November 14, 1896 in Boone, Iowa. Her parents were Sheldon and Elvira Carlson "Minnie" Doud. She was the second oldest of four sisters of English and Swedish heritage. She attended a Denver finishing school. In her teens, she met Dwight David Eisenhower at her parents' winter home in San Antonio, TX. She wed her Lieutenant on July 1, 1916. She was 19 and he was 25.

Their first child, Doud Dwight known as Icky, age 3, died of scarlet fever contracted from a house maid over Christmas. He died a week later on January 2, 1921. His death put great stress on the couple's marriage. For the rest of his life, President Eisenhower sent Mamie flowers on September 14, Icky's birthday. A year later, in 1922, Mamie bore a second son, John Sheldon Doud. He would later become a decorated war hero, ambassador to Belgium, military historian, and advisor to his father. His son, David, would marry Julie Nixon, oldest daughter of President Richard M. Nixon.

Eisenhower's position as Supreme Allied Commander of the European front in WWII, kept them separated for three years. While he was in England, Mamie took up residence in a DC hotel where she answered letters from concerned families and waitressed at the Army canteen. Mamie suffered from Meniere's disease, an inner ear problem, that caused an unbalanced gait. Unfortunately, she was suspected of being an alcoholic which was not true. Then rumors arose that her husband was having an affair with his British jeep driver. Understandably, the war years increased her depression and anxiety. After the war, the couple moved to New York City where the General became President of Columbia University. Then he was made the Commander of NATO, and she established a home in Paris.

In 1963, while attending the funeral of President John F. Kennedy, Mamie encouraged her husband to make peace with former President Harry S. Truman. The relationship had soured during Ike's campaign. After the olive branch was accepted, Mamie became a frequent visitor at the Trumans' Missouri home. In the 1960s, a TV show on the Truman's Presidency again brought up Eisenhower's supposed affair. Shortly after, the Eisenhowers published their WWII love letters.

President Eisenhower lovingly praised his wife. She is "my valuable, my indispensable, but publicly inarticulate lifelong partner." She saw him as the stars in the heaven. Like many other wives of future presidents, she once stated that she knew when she married him that he was destined for greatness.

Following Eisenhower's death in 1969, Mamie was the first FLOTUS to receive protection as a presidential widow thanks to her friend, FLOTUS Lady Bird Johnson, who interceded on her behalf with her husband. Mamie, 82, died on November 1, 1979 in Washington, DC. Pat Nixon and Rosalind Carter attended her funeral. She rests with her husband and son, Doud (Icky), at the Eisenhower Center in Abilene, Kansas.

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