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 1st VP: Kerri Tonkin  
 2nd VP: Pat Baldwin  
 Treasurer: Mindy Moran  
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 Recording Sec: Marj Tyrer  
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Achievement Award: Norman Jean Taylor  
 Americanism: Angela Pruitt  
 Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris  
 Bylaws/Parliamentarian: Kerri Tonkin  
 Caring for America: Renie Frank, Anita Diamond  
 Fundraising: Keri Tonkin  
 Hospitality: 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: John Fernandez

# THE MAHOUT

## The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

August 2017

*Strong Women for a  
Strong America*

### CECIL PENDERGRASS

Commissioner Cecil L Pendergrass is a lifelong resident of Fort Myers. He and his wife, Jodi, have been married for 26 years and are happily raising their children, Brandan and Andrea, in Lee County.

Cecil has been an advocate for our community throughout his career in public service. He is a dedicated public servant who utilizes a common sense approach to decision-making. He believes that core services and conservative spending must be considered a priority. Experience, leadership abilities, commitment and integrity provide him with the strength to be an effective community leader.

Cecil has proudly devoted his life to public service. He was elected to the Lee County Board of County Commissioners' District 2 seat in November 2012. In a vote of confidence from his colleagues, he was unanimously sworn in as chairman of the Board at his first meeting. He also served as chair of the Board of Port Commissioners during his first year on the Commission. In his capacity as Lee County commissioner, Cecil serves as liaison to the Horizon Council, Public Safety Coordinating Council, Black Affairs Advisory Council, Hispanic Affairs Advisory Council, Value Adjustment Board, and Local Coordinating Board for the Transportation Disadvantaged. In addition, he serves as director on the Transportation and Expressway Authority Membership of Florida Board, and he is a member of the Lee Memorial Health System Trauma Advisory Committee.

Cecil's career serving our community began when he was sworn in as a City of Fort Myers police officer in

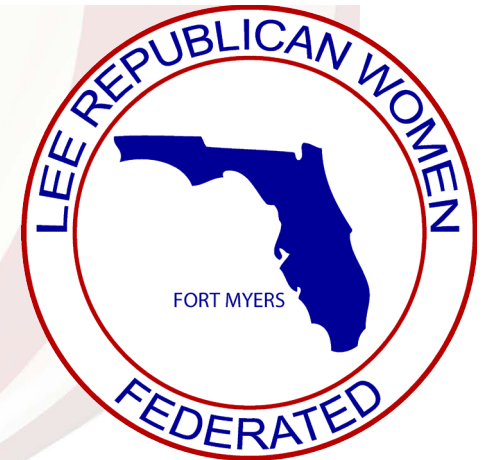
1984, where he faithfully served for 25 years. He retired from the Fort Myers Police Department on Dec. 31, 2008 and subsequently became vice president for Private Asset Management Group, LLC, an independent financial asset firm that helps clients establish, pursue and maintain their short- and long-term financial objectives.

Cecil has been recognized for his unique abilities by state and local officials as well as numerous community groups. Some of the honors include: Senator Burt Saunders Award, Mayors Gold Key Award, Employee of the Year, Employee of the Month, Courtesy Officer of the Month, City of Fort Myers Proclamation, East Fort Myers Rotary Officer of the Month, and Life Saving Award. He was highly decorated upon retiring from the Fort Myers Police Department with the following Medals of Honor: Croix De Negotiator Laurel, Distinguished Volunteer Service Cross, Exceptional Service (2), Good Conduct, Honorable Service (2), Officials Medal, The Triumphant and Unit Citation.

Cecil L Pendergrass is an experienced leader who offers a new perspective to the County Commission and provides dedicated leadership for Lee County residents.

*(Next month's meeting will be the  
3rd Monday of the month in the  
evening, Sept. 18th at 5:15 PM)*

**NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER...RICHARD COCORHAN**



### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"My great concern is not whether you have failed, but whether you are content with your failure." Abraham Lincoln*

### LRWF MONTHLY MEETING

Join us on Monday, August 14th at Pincher's Restaurant, The Marina at Edison Ford, 2360 W. 1st St., Fort Myers. Cecil Pendergrass, Lee County Commissioner will be speaking.

There are three menu choices:

1. Chicken Cordon Bleu (with wild rice, peas and carrots, house salad & rolls)
  2. Cashew Crusted Tilapia with a fruit salsa (with wild rice, peas and carrots, house salad & rolls)
  3. Plain Caesar salad with toppings on the side
- Dessert: Key Lime Tart

- \$25 Inclusive
- 5:15 PM Social Time /Dinner and Program following
- Reservation deadline: noon, Thursday, 8/10

For reservations call Wren Morefield at 270-210-1284 or email at [wrenspet@hotmail.com](mailto:wrenspet@hotmail.com).

To make a reservation online go to <http://www.leerepublicanwomen.com/store>

**Remember, a reservation made  
is a reservation paid!  
Everyone MUST check in at the  
Reservation Desk.**



Richard Cocorhan  
Florida Speaker of the House

**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

Our speaker for September is Florida Speaker of the House Richard Corcoran. Speaker Corcoran is a potential candidate for Governor or US Senator???

The date will be Monday, September 18 and will be a dinner meeting. This will be a joint meeting with our sister club...Cape Coral Republican Women Federated.

Please encourage your friends and spouses to attend. Our own State Representative Dane Eagle will introduce the speaker.

This is one meeting you will not want to miss.

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

## *Congressman Francis Rooney Fights for Right to Home Health-Care*

Congressman Francis Rooney, along with ten Florida Congressional colleagues, has sent a letter to Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta, that fights for elderly and disabled persons to have the right to receive health-care services in their own homes."

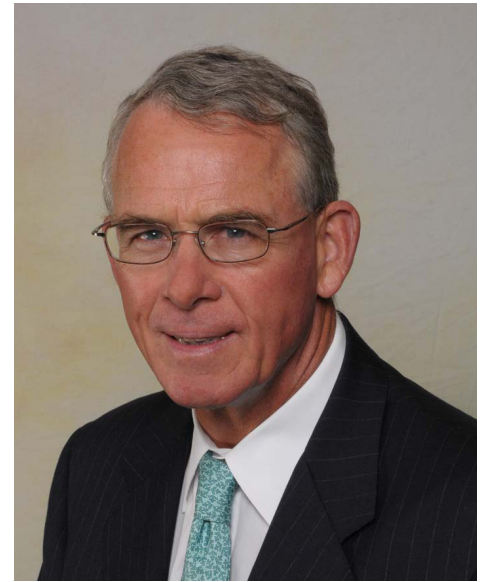
Congressman Rooney stated, "This letter is about fighting for individuals to receive care in the comfort of their own home, instead of in an impersonal and unfamiliar setting. An individual that is elderly or disabled, and chooses to self-manage their home care, shouldn't be treated as if they were running a for-profit business. Requiring these individuals to follow federal record keeping rules is absurd. The government should be making it easier, not more difficult, for elderly and disabled persons to stay in their own homes."

Background:

- Enacted in 2013, New Home Care Regulations, which overturned 40 years of precedent, accomplished a de facto repeal of the companionship-services exemption, which have protected the elderly and disabled who receive home-care services from the overtime, minimum-wage and record-keeping requirements that the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 imposed on employers with respect to their employees. As a practical matter, this action has created havoc for the elderly and disabled who rely on home-care services in order to live independently, and for their caregivers.

- The Florida Legislature enacted a thorough regulatory system to address the home-care needs of Florida citizens, and to ensure that home-care providers have the opportunity to offer their services either (i) as an employee of an agency, or (ii) independently, as a self-employed caregiver. It accomplished this through the creation of two different types of Florida-licensed entities, namely, a licensed nurse registry, which refers background-screened self-employed home-care providers to families who elect to self-manage their own home care, and a licensed home health agency, which provides home-care services with its own employee caregivers to families that elect not to self-manage their own care.

- Without a DOL exemption, Florida nurse registries could be gradually eliminated from the marketplace. Such an outcome would eliminate one of the two licensed home-care delivery models that the Florida Legislature created. Without nurse registries, elderly and disabled individuals in Florida who self-manage their home care will be exposed to a heightened risk of abuse and exploitation, due to the absence of a licensed source for obtaining referrals of independent home-care providers who have been thoroughly background-screened.



Francis Rooney  
US House of Representatives



## REP. ROONEY LAUNCHES RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Francis Rooney had a fund raising picnic at the Elk's Club in Bonita to start raising funds for his next congressional run. Some of the people from LRWF that were present were Pat Baldwin & spouse, Mary Snyder & spouse, Kerri Tonkin, Barb Koeplinger, Donna Doyle and Tommy Doyle, Marge Tyrer, Amira Fox & spouse, Sharon Gibson, Kathy McMichael, Roz Lesser, Joanie McMahon and of course, Kathleen Rooney. There were also associate members present, Missi Lastra and Ray Rodrigues along with Brian Hamman and many others.

In the photo on the left is Francis Rooney with members of our sister club in Cape Coral. Kathleen Rooney is on the right.

It was good food and great fellowship!

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The July 10th LRWF meeting included several guests. We welcomed Emily Maxwell (guest of Terri Lee), Deanna Rogers (guest of Wren Morefield), and Abe Thornburg (guest of Amira Fox). New members attending included Michelle Graham, Susan Selby and Nancy Summers.

The Orientation gathering will be held this Fall for all new 2017 members or for anyone who has missed a prior Orientation session. We are "date shopping" for this event so as not to interfere with the busy schedule. Please join us!

Peg Love  
peglove810@gmail.com  
941-740-0228

## NEW MEMBERS

DEANNA ROGERS (friend of Wren)  
6471 P.G.A. Drive  
North Fort Myers, FL 33917  
239-593-8083  
DeannaKRogers@gmail.com

CHRISTINA SCHWINN (sponsor)  
31 Georgetown  
Fort Myers, FL 33919  
239-336-6292  
CHS@paveselaw.com

CHECK OUT THE NEW WEBSITE FOR THE REPUBLICAN MUSEUM OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA AT  
[www.RepublicanMuseumofSWFL.com](http://www.RepublicanMuseumofSWFL.com)



## SUPPORT THE REPUBLICAN MUSEUM OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA BUY A HURRICANE LAMP

LRWF is selling hurricane lamps with candles for \$5. The lamps have been provided to us by the REC to fund the Republican Museum of Southwest Florida that is being set up at the Republican Headquarters to teach conservative values. If you get a chance stop by the Headquarters and check out the museum and while you are there, purchase a lamp or many lamps!

The lamps are brand new and boxed. They are ideal for entertaining or for the upcoming hurricane season. There are 60 available. Great for a wedding! Add a romantic glow to your patio area or throughout your home.

Available at headquarters. Checks only made out to LCREC. Or purchase them online by [CLICKING HERE!](#)



## Republicans Vote Overwhelmingly to Repeal and Replace Obamacare!!!

That's right! You heard me!!! The Republicans voted overwhelmingly to repeal and replace Obamacare! There were only three Republicans out of 52 who did not vote to repeal and replace. So, 49 Republicans did vote for repeal and replace. The breakdown of the Senate is below.

115th Congress (2017-2019)  
Majority Party: Republican (52 seats)  
Minority Party: Democrat (46 seats)  
Other Parties: 2 Independents (both caucus with the Democrats)  
Total Seats: 100



Frankly, I am a little tired...no, a lot tired of people saying that the Republicans couldn't get their act together and vote to repeal and replace. Let's put the blame where the blame should be! 100% of the Democrats voted no and 3 Republicans!

Do you want names? I'll give them to you... 1. John McCain, Arizona, 2. Susan Collins, Maine and 3. Lisa Murkowski, Alaska. John McCain might not live much longer due to his serious brain cancer, so I won't say anything more about John...but Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski need to be voted out of office.

This is exactly what happens when we have a bare majority. We need to get to work and vote them out along with voting out a few more democrats. We can't afford a simple majority anymore! We need an overwhelming majority! What will that take? It will mean that each and everyone of you will need to get out and knock on doors, make phone calls and donate as much as you can afford to donate to our candidates. Then you need to convince your loved ones and friends in the other states to do the same. We need a grass roots movement like no one has ever seen before. We need to get so mad that no one and nothing will stop us from getting our candidates voted in.

I was watching Fox News today and I heard all kinds of politicians and news commentators stating that the politicians need to quit listening to or being afraid of the Tea Party and other such groups! If the politicians don't listen to the people who voted for them, then they need to get voted out! I am not a member of the Tea Party, but I share many of their philosophies...and I definitely think the politicians need to be afraid of them!

Let's get mad! Let's get an overwhelming majority! And in the meanwhile, write whoever you can and get as many people to hear you as possible! Tell the president and all congressmen and senators that Congress needs to live with the same health insurance as the masses! Maybe then we will get some change!

By the way, Nancy Pelosi and some other high ranking democrats now want to come to the meeting! They want to take credit for wonderful changes to the Affordable Healthcare Act, because they are afraid that if they don't, they will have to take credit for the Obama implosion! Don't fall for it! Tell the republicans in power to make the dems sweat! Let it implode!

## ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!

### REPUBLICANS NEED TO UNITE NOW

Tell our congressmen what you are concerned about. Encourage them to get behind our president!

#### 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

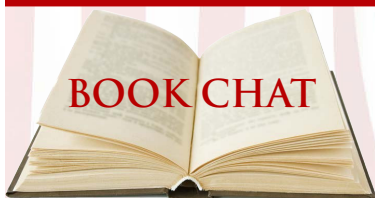
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: 202-224-3041  
or email at

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

#### FRANCIS ROONEY

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

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



Ladies, Book Chat will not meet over the summer months. We will resume on October 4, at Mel's Diner from 1:00-3:00. Our selection for October will be Sheriff David Clarke's book, Cop Under Fire. This book is not a dry recitation of what has gone wrong in America with regard to race. With racial tension and animosity toward law enforcement officials, America is in need of healing and Sheriff Clarke knows where to begin. Helping us rise above our divisions, he encourages us to stop blaming others. We need to face our problems head-on and take ownership of our family, community, nation and turn to God. He feels we can rise above our current troubles to be a truly great people in pursuit of liberty and justice for all.

For November 1, we will also be meeting at Mel's Diner from 1:00-3:00. We will be reading George Orwell's book, Nineteen Eighty-Four. This book was published in 1949. It was chosen by Time magazine as one of the 100 best English-novel language novels from 1923 to 2005. As a literary political fiction and dystopian science-fiction, this is a classic novel in content, plot and style. Many of its terms and concepts, such as Big Brother, doublethink, thoughtcrime and Newspeak have entered into common use since its publication. The popularised adjective, Orwellian, which describes official deception, secret surveillance and manipulation of recorded history by a totalitarian or authoritarian state.

Have a great summer. Read two good books, and we will meet again at Mel's Diner in October.

Please call or email me to let me know if you will attend before October's meeting so we are able to plan accordingly.

Cheryl Harris  
239-225-7390  
[timcherylharris@aol.com](mailto:timcherylharris@aol.com)

## ANTIFA: THE NEWEST TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

(Taken from [www.DCstateman.com](http://www.DCstateman.com))

Everyone has heard of ANTIFA since they moved to the United States after President Trump was elected. ANTIFA stands for “Anti-Fascist”. They claim that their main goal is to stop the growth of Fascism, but the last time this writer checked Trump isn’t a Fascist. These domestic terrorists only exists to cause anarchy and complain when they don’t get their way.

ANTIFA is violent and anyone can join. They have recently been gearing up to combat the increasing “violence” in America. If one steps back and looks at who is causing this violence, they will see that it is started by “peaceful” protesters. These so-called peaceful protesters like to throw rocks and other projectiles at the brave law enforcement in this great country. These protesters often attack civilians that aren’t on anyone’s side. They attack Trump supporters most brutally as seen in this video (CAUTION: GRAPHIC CONTENT): <https://youtu.be/9qKCI9NL1Cg>

This awful brutal event was done by none other than...ANTIFA. The man was standing there filming the crazy, violent, protesters when a man comes out of no where and hits him in the head with a bike lock. You can see just how hard he got hit from the blood and how out of it he is.

ANTIFA doesn’t stop here. They just recently opened up a self defense gym to start training people as “soldiers.” ANTIFA believes they are a militant group and are training to become one as well.



“A Rasmussen survey taken last month found that just 23 percent of likely voters think the decision to allow openly transgender people to serve — a decision made by the Obama administration — is good for the military. Just under one-third of likely voters — 31 percent — think it’s bad for the military to allow openly transgender soldiers to serve, while another 38 percent thought it would have no impact.”  
So just under 70% of the American people do not support having transgenders serve in the military. (DC Statesman)

## HOLIDAY 4 HEROES

Through our September 18th 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!**





Anne Frances "Nancy" Robbins Reagan  
1921-2016  
Wife of Ronald Reagan

## AMERICANISM *American First Ladies* By Pat Baldwin

According to Sue Dean and Kathy McMichaels, two LRWF members, Nancy Reagan was the most elegant FLOTUS First Lady of the United States to grace the White House. Both Sue's and Kathy's careers were spent in Washington, DC. Sue served on the Congressional Women's Caucus, and Kathy worked at the White House during the Reagan administration.

Anne Frances "Nancy", a Presbyterian, of English and Spanish heritage, was born July 6, 1921 in New York City. Her father, Kenneth Seymour Robbins, and her mother, Edith P. Lockett, divorced when she was a child. Her mother sent Nancy to live with relatives while she resumed her acting career. Shortly after, her mother met Dr. Loyal Davis, a neurosurgeon. The couple wed, and Dr. Davis adopted six-year old Nancy.

After earning a degree in theatre from Smith College, Nancy took to the stage which eventually led to a Hollywood contract.

In 1949, the starlet met Ronald Reagan, who was recently divorced from actress Jane Wyman with whom he had three children: Maureen, Michael, and Christine. The last died shortly after birth.

Nancy later revealed that for her if it wasn't love at first sight, it was pretty close.

Nancy and Ronald wed in March, 1952 with actor William Holden serving as best man. The couple was quickly joined by two children: Patricia Ann, and Ronald Prescott.

Other than appearing with Ron in *HELLCATS OF THE NAVY*, Nancy stopped making films and focused on making a home for family.

Fifteen years later, in 1967, she became the First Lady of California a position she held for eight years. Then in 1980, Nancy, in her bath, and Ronald, in the shower, were called to the phone. Standing in their towels, President Jimmy Carter announced to Ronald Reagan, "Congratulations. You are now the President of the United States."

Nancy was 59 years old when she became FLOTUS. She immediately sought private funds to renovate and redecorate the White House. The Knapp Foundation made a donation for the purchase of china. She entertained, dressed, and decorated with style. Unfortunately, she did receive bad press on both her public and personal purchases which were seen as extravagant. It was assumed, and not corrected by the press, that she was using taxpayer money for those infamous dishes.

Nancy had supported the Foster Grandparents Program in California and continued her support in the White House expanding it to 245 projects involving 19,000 adults serving as grandparents to 65,000 children throughout the United States and its territories. In 1982, she began the "Just Say NO" campaign against drugs. To some, this seemed a naive and simplistic approach but, by 1988, the use of cocaine by high school seniors had dropped by one third throughout the US.

The Reagans were noted for their devotion to each other. He would light up when she entered a room, and there are many photographs of Nancy starring lovingly at her husband. She was always protective of him but never more so than after the assassination attempt in 1981. When she was finally able to talk to her injured husband, he, obviously in an attempt to ease her fears, told her, "Honey, I forgot to duck."

After serving two terms, the Reagans retired to their California ranch. In 1991 the couple attended the dedication of the Reagan Library located in Simi Valley, CA, one of 13 federally operated libraries.

Six years after leaving the White House, the former President was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. He succumbed to pneumonia in 2004 and died at the age of 93. Nancy died in her sleep in March of 2016. She is survived by her two children and buried next to her beloved husband, Ronald W. Reagan.

Patti Davis founded "Beyond Alzheimer's" in 2011. She is divorced. Ronald Reagan was widowed in 2014 after 34 years of marriage. He was a Bernie Sanders supporter in 2016, and in 2017 appeared in an ad for The Freedom of Religion Foundation stating he is an "unabashed atheist." Neither he nor his sister had children. Nancy was survived by her step-grandchildren: two by Michael and one by Maureen who died of cancer in 2001.

Early this fall, some Reagan mementoes, donated by Kathy and Sue, will be on display in the Reagan Room of The Republican Museum of Southwest Florida. Information for this article was obtained from The First Ladies Library and other sources.

### CARING FOR AMERICA 2017 PROJECT

Our new Caring for America project in 2017 is Junior Achievement of Southwest Florida.



# Legislative

## UPDATE

By Lori Fayhee

### EDUCATION HOUSE BILL

On May 8, 2017, education House Bill 7069, a 292-page K-12 bill was presented in the eleventh hour and passed 20-18. Gov. Rick Scott signed it into law on June 15, but the conversation and controversy continue.

The Broward County School Board approved suing the state over H.B. 7069 on July 5. On July 11, the St. Lucie School District voted unanimously to join into the lawsuit, challenging the constitutionality of House Bill 7069, a sweeping education bill that has been widely criticized by superintendents, teachers, and parents statewide. Other Florida school districts have reported that they are considering joining the lawsuit. In rebuttal, a new video, advertising "Schools of Hope" was uploaded to the official "Florida House of Representatives" YouTube page.

The Miami Herald reported that "the House's new video is the most recent product of an aggressive digital marketing strategy implemented under Corcoran, who took over as speaker in November. The video was produced in-house by Corcoran spokesman Fred Piccolo and other staff using taxpayer-funded resources. The two-minute video features dramatic instrumental music, photos of a diverse array of students and a voice-over compiled from several key Republican lawmakers who passionately argued for "Schools of Hope" as it was debated in the House." According to the Miami Herald, "the video's message, and an accompanying tweet from Corcoran promoting it, are consistent with how lawmakers have argued in defense of HB 7069: "By casting critics as people opposed to helping tens of thousands of children in perpetually failing schools who might not have other public education options to turn to." "As they prepare to sue ... we help prepare kids to soar," Corcoran wrote on Twitter."

HB 7069 combined several education policy bills and includes \$140 million in incentives for privately-run charter schools, "schools of hope", which allocates funding and puts provisions in place to make it easier for charter schools to open in areas where traditional public schools are failing or struggling, based on high stakes test scores; a \$233 million expansion of the "Best and Brightest" bonus program; and a measure amending the way local and state funding is shared between charter schools and public schools. Although legislation began with the goal of reducing excessive testing, only one state mandated test, Algebra II, was removed as a graduation requirement. Students scheduled for retakes of failed Algebra II tests were turned away. It is uncertain how the students who failed this test over the last two years will be affected.

The Legislature voted to increase spending by \$100 per student over this school year, bringing the total K-12 budget to \$20.6 billion. Florida's total per-pupil spending will rise to \$7,296 in 2017-18 but remains below the national average of \$10,600 per student. Florida's spending level still trails the rate of inflation, which would need to be near \$8,358 per-pupil to equal the 2007-08 level.

General counsel for Broward County's board, Barbara J. Myrick, described several aspects of the law as "ripe for challenge" in an analysis she provided to the board. Among those provisions, according to the Bradenton Herald:

HB 7069, which makes changes to 69 statutes, violates the constitutional requirement for bills to encompass a single subject, Myrick wrote. She said language limiting a board's ability to regulate charter schools would "relegate local school boards to essentially ministerial functions." The "Schools of Hope" program, which allocates millions in state funding to charter schools opening near failing public schools, "establishes a duplicative private system," Myrick wrote.

Based on current accountability laws, can "Schools of Hope" succeed where public schools have failed, without altering the student population and demographics? The Florida Department of Education illustrates the greatest obstacle to the "Schools of Hope" program on their interactive database of accountability website. Florida public schools are graded, and deemed passing or failing, based on student scores on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA). The achievement levels for these tests are determined by the Florida State Board of Education rather than based on a standard bell curve or the percentage of correct answers on each test. As illustrated in the attached charts, sixty-seven percent of Black students, sixty-two percent of Hispanic students, thirty-six percent of White students, and fifty-eight percent of economically disadvantaged students fail (score below a level 3) this test each year, statewide. These scores are throughout the state of Florida, from various public and charter schools, and the percentages have remained consistent over the years.

The new school year begins in Lee County on August 10. Stay tuned as the discussion continues.

### SAVE THE DATE:

November 15, 2017 at the beautiful Forest Golf County Club.  
LRWF largest fund raiser,  
Glamour-us On Parade Fashion Show  
is just around the corner.

The committee continues to meet and this should be a fun event. Items we are lacking and could use for donations are gently used designer hand bags and jewelry. We can also use any gift certificates for pedicures or manicures. New items needed for a donations would be scarves, fine soaps, or anything fun you would like to find in a bag that you bid on.

Call Kerri Tonkin at 907-321-0419 for information  
or donation drop off.

*Thank you in advance for your support.*



LRWF

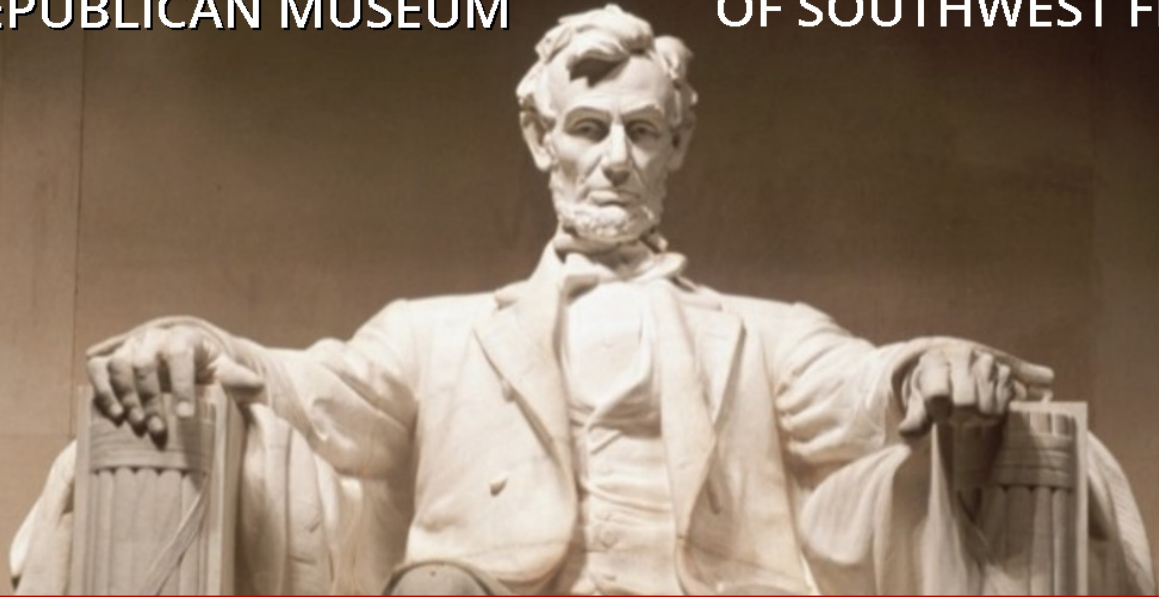
Presents the...

Glamour-us  
On  
Parade

Fashion Show

THE REPUBLICAN MUSEUM

OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



The Lee County Republican Executive Committee  
invites you to the grand opening of...

- **The Republican Headquarters Office**  
**and**
- **The Republican Museum of Southwest Florida**



7910 Summerlin Lakes Drive  
Fort Myers, FL.  
August 22, 2017  
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Light refreshments will be served  
and tours of the museum will be offered.

RSVP: 239-936-8779



# Naples Princess

Beautiful Ladies and Gentlemen!  
Please join us for a Mini Fund Raiser

August 31

Beginning at 11:00 a.m. in Beautiful Naples (Tin City)  
for a cruise up the Gordon River.



We will meet at Pinchers at 1200 5th Avenue South, Naples, FL 34102 for an early lunch at 11:00 and continue to the Naples Princess at 550 Port O Call, Naples, FL 34102. We can begin boarding at 12:00 p.m. for a 12:30 departure. The cruise lasts about one and one half hours. Weather depending, this gives us time to still shop in Old Naples (Tin City) for an hour or so before the afternoon showers. The tickets are \$48 each and lunch is on your own. Drinks will be available on board the boat.

Please see Kerri Tonkin for tickets or reservations or call (907) 321.0419 for more information. You will be able to pay on LRWF website using your debit or credit card.

My Uncle Bob was a staunch Conservative, and voted straight Republican until the day he died in Chicago.

Since then he has voted Democrat.

MY DEAR BELOVED UNCLE BOB.....



**Strong Arm**  
Cleaning



Jessica Armstrong  
Owner

Ladies & Gents Cleaning Right  
Phone: 239-910-4634

## OUR SPONSORS



*Jessica Armstrong*  
Photography

Phone: 239-910-4634

## Arbor Investment Management

Robert Tonkin  
Senior Vice President

6900 Daniels Pkwy Ste 29-119  
Fort Myers, FL. 33912  
Website: [www.arborim.com/retire](http://www.arborim.com/retire)  
Email: [rtonkin@arborim.com](mailto:rtonkin@arborim.com)

Toll Free: (800) 926-5097  
Direct: (239) 349-2339  
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Lee County Commissioner  
District 3



Sharon Harrington

## THE PAST MONTH IN PICTURES



*Wren Morefield, Mary Ann Hansen and Peg Love work busily registering guests at our last meeting.*



*From left, our guest speaker State Rep. Ray Rodrigues, Maria Kernan, Doris Cortese, LRWF President and Chris Crowley, State Committeeman.*



*Kerri Tonkin, LRWF 1st Vice President and Pat Baldwin, LRWF 2nd Vice President look like they are getting ready to get in some BIG TROUBLE! Just kidding...they are great gals! We are blessed to have them!*



*Donna Clark and Linda Doggett...looks like we have a couple more ladies looking for trouble!*



*Kathleen Smith, Kathy McMichael, Linda Doggett are all dressed up and pretty! Love the hat, Kathy!*



*Jenna Persons, guest, Doris Cortese, LRWF President and Cheryl Harris, our Book Chat Chair Person.*



*New members Deanna Rodgers and Susan Selby...welcome!*