Officers

President: Doris Cortese 1st VP: Kerri Tonkin 2nd VP: Amira Fox Treasurer: Mindy Moran Asst. Treas: Roz Lesser Recording Sec: Marj Tyrer

Corresponding Sec: Marilyn Kostik

Committee Chairs

Americanism: Erin Casev Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris Bylaws/Parliamentarian: Kerri Tonkin Caring for America: Ashley Winstel

Fundraising: Kerri Tonkin Legislative: Lori Fayhee

Membership: Peg Love/Brooke Iwanski

Newsletter: Mary Snyder 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 **NOVEMBER 2018**

Strong Women for a Strong America

TOGETHER AGAIN



KARNA SMALL BODMAN

Karna served 6 years in the White House - first as Deputy Press Secretary, later as Senior Director of the National Security Council. Now she is the author of 5 international thrillers. Her new novel, TRUST BUT VERIFY, out Sept. 25, 2018, features the Director of the White House Office of Homeland Security teamed with an FBI Special Agent who race to unravel a plot that targets financiers and would tank stock markets worldwide. Author Lee Child comments, "Bodman's hard-won insider information and sheer storytelling talent make this a book to remember." Her publisher also re-released updated versions of her previous four thrillers, CHECKMATE, GAMBIT, FINAL FINESSE, and CASTLE BRA-VO. She and her husband maintain homes in Washington, DC, Naples, FL and Rancho Santa Fe, CA along with their two Labradoodles, "Gambit" and "Cammy". There are photos of the pups -- along with pictures of Karna and President Reagan, her event schedule and contact info on her website: www.karnabodman.com



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The America Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money." Alexis de Tocqueville

JOIN US!

The next meeting of LRWF is December 10th at Pincher's Restaurant. at the Marina, in Fort Myers at 2360 West First Street. Social time starts at 5:15 PM with dinner following. Our speaker will be Karna Small Bodman, former Deputy Press Secretary for the Whitehouse and former Director of the National Security Council and now...an author.

The menu choices are:

- 1. Tilapia Almondine with lemon chive butter
- 2. Chicken Cordon Blue
- 3. Plain Caesar Salad Chocolate Mousse for dessert.

Reservation Deadline is Thursday, December 6th at noon

For reservations call Wren Morefield 270-210-1284 or email wrenspet@hotmail.com

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

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER:

Steve Russell...reflecting on forty two years as a prosecutor and his perspective on the criminal justice system.





Author

Merry Christmas

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I will be going out of office in just a matter of days. I have had the pleasure of serving all of you in Lee Republican Women Federated from 2014 to 2018. This is a bitter sweet time for me. I am sad to be stepping down and yet anxious to move on to what God has in store for me next. I want to thank all of you who have made our club great. Without all of your hard work and dedication, we would have accomplished nothing. Yet you all stepped up to the challenge. Every time I called on you, many came forward.

You have accomplished so much. Without you, we would not have a red state. The blue wave on the east coast was overcome by your dedication and Florida remains red.

Please continue to support Kerri and the new board as they take charge. Give them the love and dedication that you gave to me and this club will continue to be the best in the state!

Blessings to all!

Doris Cortese, President LRWF Vice Chair, LCREC



WHAT WE CAN HOPE FOR IN THE 116TH CONGRESS! By Francis Rooney

As we approach a new year and a new Democrat-led House of Representatives, there will be many areas of disagreement, but we do not have to face two years of stagnation. There are several issues that can, and should, lead to bipartisan legislation to benefit our country and Southwest Florida.

Over the last two years I have worked continuously to develop a bipartisan commitment on Everglades restoration and water quality. When I got here I began immediately to work on getting the funds appropriated to complete repairs of the Herbert Hoover Dike and to expedite completion of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) projects, especially the EAA Reservoir. This was my top priority in running for this position and remains so now.



Francis Rooney
US House of Representatives

In my first 30 days in office I wrote a letter to President Trump asking him to fulfill his campaign commitment to fund Everglades Restoration and CERP projects. This letter was co-signed by all 27 members, democrat and republican, of our Florida delegation. This was the first time that our delegation had come together to unanimously support the Everglades and Okeechobee Watershed. Subsequently we have been successful in getting \$1.1 billion (more than the previous 8 years combined) to complete repairs to the Dike many years ahead of schedule and commence construction of the EAA Reservoir, which will permit more water to be sent south of Lake Okeechobee instead of being released into the Caloosahatchee River.

Another area where we can work on a bipartisan basis is to enact a permanent ban on offshore drilling in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. The existing moratorium, adopted in 2006, expires in 2022 and needs to be made permanent. It is critical for the future of Florida and our tourism-based economy that offshore drilling in the Eastern Gulf be stopped for good.

I am also reaching across the aisle on prescription drug pricing and was deeply concerned to learn that pharma had been shielded from competition in the pricing of Medicare part B and part D drugs. Together with Peter Welch (D-Vt), I introduced the Drug Price Transparency Act to have the Department of Health and Human Services study linking Medicare Part B and D drug prices to the average price of these drugs in the countries which comprise the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) where the same drugs are often cheaper than in the United States. This would establish a global price ceiling and protect American citizens from overpaying for the same drugs. I have also introduced the bipartisan FAIR Drug Pricing Act, which would require drug companies to give notice and justification for raising the price of a drug more than 10% at one time.

Finally, I introduced the Thomas Jefferson Public Service Act, which would create term limits without a constitutional amendment. Under this proposal, after 6 terms in the House or 2 in the Senate, Members of Congress will receive only \$1 per year in compensation, effectively implementing term limits - no constitutional amendment necessary. Critics say this will create a Congress dominated by rich people, but this is a specious argument. 87% of all Americans want term limits. If enacted, a culture of capitated service would become pervasive and anyone who would deviate from it would be readily cast aside.

The American people want and deserve a government that works. Each of the above-mentioned areas, along with others such as transportation and infrastructure, have wide ranging support across all segments of our society, and it is up to us to find a way to get results.

LRWF SUPPORTS AND THANKS DORIS CORTESE



Doris Cortese has been the president of LRWF since 2014. There has never been anyone who has worked harder than Doris or who has shown more love to all of us than Doris. Doris has been our friend and our mentor. She is leaving office with LRWF now because she has termed out, however she is running again to renew her position as the Vice Chair of the Lee County Republican Executive Committee. LRWF gives Doris their full support in this endeavor.

If you haven't seen it, go to our Facebook and look at the video where all of the Republican candidates that Doris has worked so hard for have thanked her...calling her the Godmother of the Republican Party in Lee County among many other lovely titles that they bestowed upon her. There are compliments from our County Commissioners on up through our state and national officials, including our current Governor. Our Governor Elect, Ron DeSantis was unable to do the video so he personally called Doris and showed his great appreciation to her via a phone call. US Representative Francis Rooney showed great love and appreciation to her as well. These elected officials recognize the great worth that Doris has brought to getting them all elected. She is a tremendous leader.

Because of Doris, Florida remains a "red" state! The work that she has done here on the west coast has offset the blue politics on the east coast. She has painted the state red!

We Appreciate you Doris! And we love you dearly!

"I could not be more excited to endorse Doris Cortese for Vice-Chair of the Lee County Republican Executive Committee. Doris is one of the most selfless individuals I have ever met in my life. Her devotion to the Republican Party and dedication to the SWFL community is unmatched. She has spent countless hours volunteering to help Republicans get elected to office from the local, state and federal level and never once sought attention or the spotlight. Simply put, Doris is the best at what she does. There is no one else I'd rather go to battle with heading into 2020 other than Doris. During my time as the SWFL Regional Director with the RPOF in 2016, I worked with Doris hand-in-hand six days a week and I enjoyed every single minute of it. I can say without hesitation that the voters in SWFL would not have turned out in record high numbers for President Trump in 2016 had it not been for Doris Cortese's organization, hard work and recruitment skills. We can not afford to go into 2020 without Doris' leadership. All that being said, I am thrilled to endorse my friend Doris Cortese for Vice-Chair of the Lee County Republican Executive Committee and I encourage others to do the same. For Florida, Jeremy Sheftel"



Ladies,

We will meet on December 5, at Mel's Diner on US 41, from 1:00-3:00. We will discuss the movie, The Death of a Nation, by Dinesh D'souza. If you have not seen the movie, you may choose to read the book.

The movie is a compelling case that the Democrats are killing America by turning it into a massive nanny state modeled on the Southern plantation system.

This is a sweeping alternative history of the Democratic party goes back to its foundations in the South. The slave holding elite devised the plantation as a means of organizing labor and political support. It was a mini welfare state, a cradle to grave system that bred dependency and punished any urge to independence. This model impressed northern Democrats, inspiring the political machines that traded government handouts for votes from ethnic immigrant blocs.

Today's Democrats have expanded to a multiracial plantation of ghettos for blacks, barrios for Latinos and reservations for Native Americans. Whites are the only holdouts resisting full dependency, and so they are blamed for the bigotry and racial exploitation that is actually perpetrated by the left.

We look forward to seeing you on December 5, At Mel's Diner. We will discuss the movie/book and enjoy a great lunch. Please call or email me if you plan to attend so we may plan ahead for reservations.

Enjoy,

Cheryl Harris 239-225-7390 timcherylharris@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP AND HOSPITALITY

We welcomed 12 guests/visitors at the November meeting, with great pleasure!

Name tags as of January will be available at a cost of \$10.00. (Cost to the club is \$9.50) You may contact me to order or order online at https://www.leerepublicanwomen.com/store. See photo below.



If you want a name tag, please contact us at the monthly meetings and you can pay at the check in desk, or email/call peglove810@gmail.com or 941-740-0228.

New members:

Karen Keirstead 620 SE 19th Terrace Cape Coral, FL 33990 K.S.Keirstead@gmail.com 865-386-5638

Karen's husband as an Associate Edward J. Lane, Jr. 620 SE 19th Terrace Cape Coral, FL 33990 ejlane@aol.com 865-386-1216

Debbie Ringdahl-Mercer 16465 Rainbow Meadows Ct. Ft. Myers, Fl 33908 Debbie.Ringdahl@me.com 239-691-6029





HTTPS://WWW.LEEREPUBLICAN WOMEN.COM/STORE



Merry Christmas!!!



OUR SPONSORS Click on Pictures to View Websites



Amira Fox Candidate Fl State Attorney



Francis Rooney U.S. Congressman Dist. 19



Cecil Pendergrass Lee County Commissioner



Spencer Roach Candidate Fl House of Representatives



Brian Hammon Lee County Commissioner



Linda Doggett Lee County Clerk of Courts



Larry Hart Lee Co. Tax Collector

DEPARTING MESSAGE FROM BILL NELSON

(Red comments in parenthesis are from the editor)

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for the privilege of serving as your voice in the United States Senate. While things worked out a little differently than we had hoped this past election, we all must continue to fight for what's right.

We must continue to fight for the fundamental right of health care, and against any attempt to roll back protections for pre-existing conditions. (I am really tired of the Democrats saying that the Republicans don't want health care and want to get rid of pre-existing conditions...didn't you hear Trump say that he was keeping coverage for pre-existing conditions?)

We must continue to fight to preserve the natural wonders of our state - from the Everglades, to the pine forests, to the sandy white beaches that line our coasts. (Continue to fight for the wonders of the state? I heard that you had done nothing in forty plus years. Congressman Rooney has done more in two years than you did in over forty.)

Bill Nelson Former US Senator, FL

We need to continue launching rockets and exploring the heavens. And better protect the planet that our children and grandchildren will inherit. (Hellooo!!! I believe it was

Preident Trump who started the Space Force...not you! And what did you do to protect our planet? Trump has given billions of federal funds to make our planet better.)

We need to fight to strengthen Social Security and Medicare; and we need to end all forms of suppression and make it easier for people to vote. (Make it easier for who? Illegals and dead people?)

We have to move beyond a politics that aims not just to beat our opponents, but to destroy them; where truth is treated as disposable, and the free press is assaulted as the enemy of the people. (Who is destroying who? Didn't you hear of Broward County? The free press is not assaulted...fake news is. Tell the truth and you will be free indeed!)

We need to come together for the good of the country to get things done. (Amen!)

There's been a gathering darkness in our politics in recent years - but my hope for a better future can be found in the words of John F. Kennedy who said civility can guide us through that darkness to a safe and sane future. (Amen again! Does that mean that the Dems are going to start being civil?)

Again, I want to say thank you for the privilege of a lifetime of public service. God bless you and God bless our country.

Sincerely. Bill Notes

THE STUPID LEFT

ALLOWING A FOREIGN COUNTRY LIKE RUSSIA TO MEDDLE IN OUR ELECTIONS IS THE END OF OUR REPUBLIC! WE SHOULD
ALLOW
UNDOCUMENTED
CITIZENS TO
VOTE IN OUR
ELECTIONS!









DESTROY FROM WITHIN

Joseph Stalin had a motto for rebuilding the communist country. "Crashing buildings to build ones. We must destroy in order to create."

Saul Alinsky wrote "Rules for Radicals." He dedicated his book to Lucifer. Like Barack Obama, he was the original community organizer. Hillary Clinton wrote her college thesis on Alinksy's "Rules for Radicals." Hillary studied his works and life and fashioned her career after this man who dedicated his most famous work to Lucifer.

My Opinion fashioned her career after this man who dedicated his most famious work to Edelic.

By Mary Snyder In his book he said, "Action comes from keeping the heat on. No politician can sit on a hot issue if you make it hot enough." He also said, "In the beginning the organizer's first job is to create the issues or problems."

For liberals, just as for Stalin and Saul Alinsky, the end justifies the means. The liberals will stop at nothing and are, in their minds, justifiably destroying our country. Lying is justifiable. If this seems extreme to you, it is. Saul Alinsky was extreme. In preparing to write this opinion, I read many quotes from Saul Alinsky that seemed noble. They could almost convince you that he was right and that we, the conservatives, are all wrong. But that is how Alinsky operates. He apppears as an angel of light while preparing to destroy our country. In his life, he was good and in his death, he is better...that is...in appearing as angel of light.

I am totally sickened by the means by which Matt Caldwell lost his election for the Florida Agriculture Commissioner. To the Democrats, the ends justified the means. His election was stolen from him. The only thing that gives me any hope is that the scriptures tell us that "God will not be mocked." Eventually, "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess…" Every man will have to give an accounting to God and his life's works will be exposed.

In his depravity, Alinsky also said, "Love and faith are not common companions. More commonly power and fear consort with faith....Power is not to be crossed; one must respect and obey. Power means strength, whereas love is a human frailty the people mistrust. It is a sad fact of life that power and fear are the fountainheads of faith." What on earth is this depraved man saying? Power means strength where love is a human frailty? Since when does power take precedence over love? Is this what Hillary believes? Is this what the Progressives are teaching?

In a speech that Nikita Khrushchev made before the U.N. in the early years of the Cold War, he stated, "America will fall without a shot being fired. It will fall from within." Our country has been under seige for years and it has been so subtle that few have been noticing...until now.

Not only have I been sickened by what has happened to Matt Caldwell, I am sickened by what is beginning to happen within our own party in general. I have seen people in the Republican party attack their Republican opposition with lies and slander. These things have taken place in our own local elections...and not just in local elections, but also on a state or federal level. I have seen Democrats register as Republicans and infiltate our party to destroy us. There's a swamp alright, and it is murky and dark with creatures in it that no one wants to come up against. I fear for our state and country. Socialism is creeping into this country and we will drown in it.

Blacks have been lied to. The ends justifies the means. The Republican party, that has always been there for blacks, has been accused of not wanting to help them. We are accused of being racist. If you don't believe that we have always been here helping blacks, you have not studied history...but then again, maybe that's why history is no longer being taught in our schools.

The same has happened with Hispanics. They are taught that we don't care about them. Nothing could be further from the truth, but again, the Democrats' lies, in their minds, justifies the end.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is young, pretty, bubbly and just as cute as can be. She is also a socialist who has fallen to the lies of the progressives. She compared the illegal migration of the people who are storming our borders with rocks to the flight of the Jews during World War II. She doesn't understand the difference between millions of people being slaughtered and thousands of people refusing sanctuary from the first country that they came to, Mexico. Refusing to accept sanctuary from Mexico, they continue to storm the borders of the United States throwing rocks at the people they want to let them in, while proudly carrying the flag of the country that they claim are persecuting them. That is NOT what the Jews did.

I watched a video this week of Chuck Schumer who was giving a speech in 2009, stating that we had to get illegal immigration under control. CLICK HERE to listen to this same video and then continue to listen and you will hear President Obama and President Clinton saying the exact same things. Today, Schumer is stating that Trump is wrong for taking a stand against people who are breaking the law... a law that the Democrats endorsed at one time. The Democrats are call-

ing out President Trump and accusing him of being racist and uncaring because he is using tear gas. Never mind that Obama used tear gas. That's okay. The end justifies the means. It's okay to lie about Trump and it's okay to have a double standards because the end justifies the means. The hypocracy is horrible! And don't forget...it's okay for strong men in a mob to push women and children to the front of a conflict because the end justifies the means.

Can you see what is happening? The policies from the past are resurfacing to bring us to destruction. The policies of Kruschev, Saul Alinski and Stahlin are with us today...right here in the United States of America.

Now that we know what is happening, do you want to know why? The first problem is that we have not taught our children. Picking the right school board is critical. The election of the people who teach our children is the most important election of all. It is more important that picking the right president. Deuteronomy says, "Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them." God is telling us that we must teach our children history. Teach them what we have seen or known. He also tells us to teach Godly principles to our children. "Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land..." If we cherish Godly principles, could we say that lying is justified? Deceit and double standards could not be justified either.

So, what is the solution? Is there a light at the end of the tunnel? Yes! Absolutely! But we must do our job and we must start NOW. We can't wait until 2020 or even 2019. We must as a group and individually, reach out to the blacks, hispanics and to our children and teach them. Teach them history. Teach it now!

Start by studying and teaching yourselves. Learn about Abraham Lincoln, the founder of the Republican party who freed the slaves. Learn about all of the history of the black community in regards to the Republicans vs. the Democrats. the history of the Democratic Party was overwhelmingly pro-slavery and pro-segregation. The Democrats would have you believe that they have always been the party for the blacks. Lincoln's successor, a Democrat by the name of Andrew Johnson, vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1866 and resisted the passage of the 14th Amendment, which ensured equal rights and protections under the law that was championed by Republicans. The Republican administration of Ulysses S. Grant implemented the Enforcement Acts of 1870 and 1871, which helped dismantle the KKK and protect black voting rights. This was followed by the Civil Rights Act of 1875. The Republican's stand for equal rights for blacks has stood with blacks all through the years from Lincoln until now. The Democrats have traditionally worked against the blacks.

Even now, Democrats say they are for the blacks, but do nothing to pull them out of poverty. They make them dependent on the government so that they can't work their way out. Trump is liberating them today. Let people know. Trump's tweets aren't enough. We need an army to spread the word!

What holds true for the blacks, also holds true for the Hispanics. Hispanics are told to come here and we will give them food stamps and free health care. Progressives do nothing to give them jobs. Hispanics are generally hard working people, but they are held back from good jobs once they get here. They are used as tomato pickers and lawn mowers. The good jobs are withheld.

If education is the solution, then how do we do it? We need to walk out of our comfort zone and walk among them. We must go into their neighborhoods and become their friends. Once we become one with them, we will be trusted and we can gently show them what history says. What the schools are no longer doing, we can do. Rush Limbaugh's sidekick, Bo Snerdley, who is black, spoke at a Federation meeting a couple of years ago. He asked us if we wanted to know how to reach the black community. He told us to go to their neighborhoods. Go to their social events. Become part of them.

And finally, spend time with your children. Teach them. Teach them when you are sitting or walking along the way as the Bible teaches. Don't let them forget history. We can turn this around by becoming involved in our school board elections and by reaching out to those around us. Our schools are teaching a revisionist history, but we can and must get involved to change it before we lose our children who will someday be voting.

Merry Christmas!

Then we need to thank God for President Trump.

Fundraising Fun

DECEMBER

BASKET OF SPIRITS & WINE

The ticket sales are still ongoing for the huge basket of spirits and wine. Tickets are available from either myself or Board members. They are only five dollars for one or five for twenty, quite the bargain. The last chance to buy tickets will be at the dinner meeting on December 10 when the drawing will be held. There will be a few Christmas baskets to bid on also.



APRIL 2019

SPRING FASHION SHOW

We have confirmed that Razzle Dazzle will host the fashion show for us at the Forrest Golf and Country Club. The show is Monday, April 8 our normal meeting day. I do need models so if you are interested in wearing some fun clothes and helping us out just let me know. We will once again be asking for scarves, gently used jewelry and designer handbags for auction. Please just bring your items to one of the meetings.

I hope to see all of you at one or more of these fun events.

Blessings,

Kerri Tonkin
1st Vice President
LRWF Fundraising chair







It Was a Wild Ride this 2018 Election!



More than 8.3 million ballots were cast in Florida's General elections on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Kudos to Lee County Supervisor of Elections, Tommy Doyle, and his team for meeting each deadline ahead of schedule and counting every vote. Lee County reported 446,254 Registered Voters, 292,864 Ballots Cast, and a 65.63% Voter Turnout for this Election..

In this nail-biting election, we anxiously watched numbers on the <mark>Novemb</mark>er 6, elec<mark>tion nig</mark>ht; the November 10, release of the first round of unofficial results; and the November 15, relea<mark>se of ma</mark>chine recount results.

Some Florida counties had significant changes in margins sep<mark>arating</mark> the can<mark>didate</mark>s in vote totals released election night compared with those totals on November 10. Broward County had the biggest change in margins between the two dates. In Broward, Nelson went from being ahead of Scott by 230,860 votes on election night, to leading by 260,215 votes by the November 10 deadline. Nearly a 30,000-vote increase in Broward for Nelson.

According to some, the most visible issue noticed in Broward was determined to be undervoting, which occurs when a voter submits a ballot but doesn't choose a candidate in one of the races on that ballot. In almost every Florida county, more voters selected a U.S. Senate candidate than a gubernatorial candidate. However, curiously, in Broward, far fewer people voted for U.S. Senator than for governor.

During the hand recount for Florida's U.S. Senate and commissioner of agriculture contests, Broward County Supervisor of Elections, Brenda Snipes, said her office had misplaced more than 2,000 ballots. Snipes was quoted as saying that some members of her team did not have as much training as others and possibly misplaced the ballots in the wrong tray during the machine recount. On November 8, it was reported that a Broward County teacher found a container labeled "Provisional Ballot Box" in a storage area of her elementary school. Broward County Supervisor of Elections, Brenda Snipes, submitted her resignation just hours after submitting final tallies in the state's governor and U.S. Senate races.

On November 20, The Elections Canvassing Commission met at the Florida Capitol to certify the results of the election.

By law, <mark>the co</mark>mmission is made up of the governor and two of the three Cabinet members. Governor Scott declined to participat<mark>e in th</mark>e cer<mark>tifica</mark>tion of the recount, and Republican Sen. Rob Bradley, Attorney General Pam Bondi and Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, served as the commission.

The re<mark>sults:</mark> former U.S. Rep. DeSantis was elected by 32,463 votes out of more than 8 million cast, defeating Democrat Andrew Gillum. Scott defeated incumbent Democrat, U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, by 10,033 votes.

Unfor<mark>tunat</mark>ely, i<mark>n the closest of</mark> any of the statewide races, Democrat Nikki Fried defeated our Republican state Representative M<mark>att C</mark>aldwell by 6,753 votes for the Cabinet position of agriculture commissioner.

In the U.S. Senate, Republicans will hold a 53-47 majority, however, the Democrats gained a net total of 39-40 House seats, depending on the outcome of California 21, and won control of the House of Representatives.

Here at home, Republicans maintained our trifecta in Florida by holding the state House, the state Senate, and the governor's office.

Many thanks to our well-organized army of dedicated and hard-working volunteers who spent hours knocking on doors, calling and texting, and putting signs out to get our candidates elected! Congratulations to Representative Dane Eagle, the new House Majority Leader, and Representative Ray Rodrigues, the new Health and Human Services Committee Chair.

Official Results:

Statewide races

Florida governor: Ron DeSantis

Florida Attorney General: Ashley Moody Chief F<mark>inan</mark>cial <mark>Officer: Jim</mark>my Patronis

State Representative District 76: Ray Rodrigues
State Representative District 77: Dane Eagle

State Representative District 78: Heather Fitzenhagen State Representative District 79: Spencer Roach

U.S. House/District 17: Greg Steube

State Attorney, 20th Judicial Circuit: Amira Fox

Legislative Update continued on next page...

Legislative Update continued from previous page...

Surprisingly, voters approved amending the Florida Constitution in all but one amendment, Amendment 1, which would have maintained increased Homestead Property tax exemption.

Judicial Retention resulted in all yes votes for Justice Alan Lawson of the Supreme Court; Judge Anthony K. Black of the Second District Court of Appeal; Judge Darryl C. Casanueva of the Second District Court of Appeal; Judge Edward C. LaRose of the Second District Court of Appeal; and Judge Susan H. Rothstein-Youakim of the Second District Court of Appeal.

Lee County races:

Board of County Commissioners District 2: Cecil Pendergrass

School Board District 4: Debbie Jordan

School Board District 5: Gwynetta "Gwyn" Gittens

School Board District 6: Betsy Vaughn

Fort Myers City Council Ward 4: Kevin Anderson

Lee Memorial Health System District 2: Nancy M. McGovern, Donna Clarke

Lee Memorial Health System District 4: Diane Champion, Chris Hansen

Lee County Mosquito Control District Area 4: Stephen R. "Steve" Bowen

Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District Seat 2: Julie Camp

Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District Seat 4: Mike Bonacolta

Lee County School Board sales tax referendum: Yes

Cape Coral bond referendum for parks: Yes

Lehigh Acres Municipal Services Improvement District referendum: Yes

Cindy Hyde-Smith
US Senate



Cindy Hyde-Smith graduated from University of Southern Mississippi. She initially served in the Mississippi State Senate as a Democrat in 1999. She represented the 39th district from 2000 to 2012. In 2010, Ms. Hyde-Smith changed her party affiliation explaining that it comported with her conservative beliefs. In 2011, she served as the Mississippi Agriculture Commissioner in 2011 and was the first woman to hold that office. The Governor appointed Ms. Hyde-Smith to the U.S. Senate by the Governor in April 2018 due to the retirement of the current Senator. During the general election, she finished first in the top-two but did not receive more than 50% of vote, which required a special runoff election. After the runoff election on November 27. 2018 she won becoming the first woman elected to Congress from Mississippi.





IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH 41

