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President: Kerri Tonkin  
1st VP: Lori Fayhee  
2nd VP: Amira Fox  
Treasurer: Chris Wappes  
Asst. Treas: Roz Lesser  
Recording Sec: Ruth Rodrigues  
Corresponding Sec: Marilyn Kostik

### Committee Chairs

Americanism: Germaine Hyatt  
Book Chat/MELP: Cheryl Harris  
Caring for America: Ashley Winstel  
Fundraising: Lori Fayhee  
Legislative: Lori Fayhee  
Membership/Hospitality: Peg Love/Joan Clark  
Museum: Kerri Tonkin/Mary Snyder  
Newsletter: Mary Snyder  
Outreach: Mary Snyder  
Publicity: Gail Langner  
Reservations: Ashley Winstel/Mary Ann Hansen  
Social Media: Mary Snyder

### Non-Committee Positions

Past President: Doris Cortese  
Chaplain: Terri Lee  
Photographer: John Fernandez

# THE MAHOUT The Keeper and Driver of the Elephant

APRIL 2019

*Strong Women for a Strong America*



## SPRING FASHION SHOW

(COME TO OUR LARGEST  
FUND RAISER OF THE YEAR)

*Glorious Babes,  
Bags and  
Baskets on Parade*

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction."*

*Ronald Reagan*

### JOIN US!

This year's fashion show is scheduled for April 8, at the Forrest Country Club. It is our largest fund raiser for the year, so we are encouraging all to come to help us raise the funds to help get Trump elected again in 2020. We need you there! It promises to be a fun filled spring fashion show with Razzle Dazzle hosting.

We will be auctioning designer hand bags. We are also going to be doing theme baskets again, so buy a ticket...see our lovely models and put your bids on all of the fine merchandise. Tickets are just \$10 more than the price of our monthly dinners.

The Forrest is located at 6100 Club Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33908

Come and enjoy a lovely luncheon while you see modeling from some of our loveliest women along with our Sherrif Carmine!

*Doors open at 10:30 AM*

*Social hour begins at 11:15 AM  
with lunch following*

Reservation Deadline is Thursday,  
April 4th at noon.

For reservations call or text  
Ashley Winstel at 602-708-8663 or email  
[acwinstel@gmail.com](mailto:acwinstel@gmail.com)

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

***NEXT MONTH... Spencer Roach will be telling us what is happening in Tallahassee.***



NEWSLETTER OF LEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN FEDERATED

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

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Kerri Tonkin, LRWF President

Hello Beautiful Ladies and Gents,

Well...what a month March turned out to be. The weather was colder than normal and we had a one off with our meeting space that has now been addressed and rectified. Mary Snyder and I had the best informative trip to Tallahassee. We heard talks from many interesting people but I will focus on what the President of the Senate, Bill Galvano shared. He gave a brief overview on what the Senate was working on in addition to the bills being proposed. One thing that stood out was the fact that hurricane Michael cost more than Irma and they are struggling to help the panhandle folks and keep the budget balanced. One priority is of course the infrastructure in the interior of the state, it does lack the same water and sewer and airways that are on both the coastlines and they are trying to find ways to start those projects. The environment and Lake O discharges are on everyones mind as they have dedicated monies from the state but are still waiting for money from the federal government which was promised.

I am happy to report that our new Governor is working very well with both houses of the Legislator and they are amazed at the things he has accomplished in his first few months. The Senate President stressed how important it is going to be to keep the grass roots active in 2020. We have on average 850 people a day moving into Florida which equates to a new Orlando every year and we need to make sure they are registered and keep Florida red. Interesting statistic, more people visited Orlando in 2015 than live in the state of California. Thanks to Republican leadership of low taxes and business friendly regulations Florida has the Fourteenth largest economy on the planet. When the liberal Supreme Court ordered redistricting it cost us seats and a lot of money. The take away from that was run early and run local. He mentioned a campaign he had worked on that had a grass roots team of 500 folks who in turn knocked on 75,000 doors and lost the election by 200 votes.

With the newly placed Supreme Court the legislature hopes to be able to continue to improve education situations for families. They want to de-regulate schools and allow for tax credits for scholarships. There is a bill to readdress the constitutional amendment process. The legislature is now trying to come up with regulations to accommodate some of the initiatives that passed like felons voting, and medical marijuana. I could go on and on. I want to thank both Majority Leader Dane Eagle and Representative Ray Rodrigues for taking the time out of their busy schedules to stop by and say hello.

We also heard from a Sr. advisor to the legislature Bret Doster, who stressed the importance of 2020 for both the state and federal races. He reiterated the huge value of having a constitution based Supreme Court because since 1998 most major legislative reforms were shut down. Another person touting the benefit of our new Governor Ron DeSantis.

April is here and we are having a beautiful spring. Our regular meeting is April 8th and this year it is our spring fashion show at the beautiful newly renovated Forrest Country Club. Please join us, it is also our largest fund raiser with gently used designer bags with surprises inside, baskets full of wonderful things and door prizes. Fashions this year are sponsored by Razzle Dazzle a local shop who makes all the outfits fun. Doors open at 10:30 and the show begins at 11:45. I hope you will all be able to join us and help keep Florida in 2020 RED.

Blessings,

Kerri

*Did we mention that we want you to buy a ticket for the style show?*



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## VOTES ON NATIONAL EMERGENCY

*By Congressman Francis Rooney*

In the last couple of weeks I have cast two votes opposing the proposed Declaration of Emergency. I took this position after careful study of the governing National Emergency Declaration law and research on Article 2 of the Constitution. Although there have been over 60 National Emergency Declarations since 1976, there has never a declaration which directly opposed a vote of Congress or which altered Congressionally approved appropriation and allocation of money. Appropriating funds for the government is the sole responsibility of the Congress. The Executive Branch is constitutionally charged with executing upon the appropriations decisions of the Congress.

Many of the most conservative leaders in the House and Senate, such as Senators Mike Lee and Rand Paul, House Freedom Caucus member Rep. Thomas Massie, and House Liberty Caucus chair, Rep. Justin Amash, took the same position that I did.

I spoke with President Trump about the votes on Friday when we were at the lake and he understands the position. In fact, it was a one second comment and then he thanked me again for my strong support on a great many issues, including the border security and immigration efforts we all made in the 115th Congress, both in writing, votes and in the media.

We all remain focused together on securing all of our borders and fixing our visa immigration problems. We face other challenges as well, like assuring free speech on college campuses, and prescription drug pricing and lack of competition, two areas where I have introduced specific legislation which mirrors and backs up what the administration is proposing to do by regulation. The White House is very thankful and is coordinating with us to get these done.

The Constitutional solution to all this is for Congress to do its job and pass legislation and appropriations to secure our borders, stop illegal border crossings and end abuses of our asylum and visa systems. I discussed this with the President and share his frustration that in the last three years numerous compromise "deals" have been made only to be withdrawn by one faction or another at the last minute.

If Congress continues to fail to do its duty then we, as the voters, need to get rid of those legislators who refuse to solve this crisis and the other important issues we Americans face right now. The sad fact is that Democrats as well as Republicans have voted several times since 2007 for nearly all of the border security related measures we are pushing now and which are necessary to stem the tide of illegal entries, stop visa overstays and end the abusive expansion of asylum.

Nonetheless, we cannot only uphold the Constitution and rule of law when it works in our favor, like free speech or second amendment freedoms. As John Adams wrote, "we are a nation of laws, not men." Additionally this declaration sets a dangerous precedent that some future President might use against us. For example, what if a liberal President leverages the expansion of executive authority created by this national emergency declaration to take away our 2nd Amendment rights or to impose a government run health care system upon us.

I will continue to work in Congress and with President Trump to secure our borders and fix the weaknesses in our immigration system.



*Francis Rooney*  
*US House of Representatives*



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THE FLORIDA FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN IS  
ENDORING CERTAIN SENATE AND HOUSE BILLS.  
TO SEE WHAT THOSE BILLS ARE, CLICK BELOW.

**STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**  
**CLICK HERE**

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### 2019 LRWF Meeting Dates and Times

April 8: Fashion Show, Forrest Country Club 11:15 AM	September 9: Luncheon 11:15 AM
May 13: Luncheon 11:15 AM	October 14: Dinner 5:15 PM
June 10: Dinner 5:15 PM	November 11: Luncheon 11:15 AM
July 8: Luncheon 11:15 AM	December 9: Dinner 5:15 PM
August 12: Dinner 5:15 PM	

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## Welcome New Members!!

Gail Rumble

16531 Cypress Villa Lane  
Ft. Myers, FL 32908  
239-454-3268  
gdrumr9622@aol.com

Danielle Watts

15275 Collier Blvd.  
#201-142  
Naples, FL 34119

Crystal Hamblen

22854 Fountain Lakes Blvd.  
Estero, FL 33928  
Crystal91482@yahoo.com



### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION AND MOVIE NIGHT

On March 25th, the LRFW Board, committee members along with members, prospective members and guests met with several of our new members, Carl Baxter, Joan Clark, Judy Johnson, Claudia Jones, Beth Netsch, Tyra Read, Tory Renza. Susan Selby and Chris Wappes.

We did not have an Orientation in 2018 as we were all working to get Republican candidates elected and couldn't find an open date!!

Wonderful food, conversations and getting to know you PLUS the movie by Dinesh D'Souza, Death of a Nation. Spellbinding movie! If you haven't seen it, by all means rent it!

Orientation and Movie Night – thanks to everyone for making this a successful evening. Watch for more Movie Nights!

Thanks to all of you.

Peg Love,  
Membership Chair

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**Renew your membership at:**

<https://www.leerepublicanwomen.com/store>

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Ladies,

Our next Book Chat will be on Wednesday, April 3, at Mel's Diner from 1:00-3:00, on US 41. We will meet to discuss the movie Unplanned. The movie will be in theaters on March 29. This is a movie everyone should see.

The story is about Abby Johnson, a young woman who was following her dream to help other women. As one of the youngest Planned Parenthood clinic directors in the nation, she was involved in more than 22,000 abortions and counseled countless women about their reproductive choices. Her passion surrounding a woman's right to choose, led her to become a spokesperson for Planned Parenthood. She fought to enact legislation for the cause in which she so deeply believed. Then, she saw something that changed everything. This led Abby to join her former enemies at 40 Days for Life. She became one of the most ardent speakers in America.

Filmmakers made Unplanned in secret under an assumed name due to its controversial nature and it plans to feature portions of several mainstream pop songs that were scaled back after major labels refused to license music to them. The movie was rated "R" even though there is no violence, sex or inappropriate language.

This movie is based on a true story. We as Republicans need to fight as hard to stop abortion as Democrats do to retain it. See this movie and come share your thoughts. All are welcome. Even if you are unable to see the movie, come join us for a nice lunch and like minded thinkers.

Hope to see you on April 3. Please just call or email me so we may plan accordingly. For anyone planning ahead, we will be reading, Vengeance, by Newt Gingrich, for May. It is a sequel to the novel, Treason, that we read for March.

Cheryl Harris  
239-225-7390

[timcherylharris@aol.com](mailto:timcherylharris@aol.com)

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## **URGENT GRASSFIRE CITIZEN ALERT: Anti-Faith "Equality Act" Threatens Christian Citizens**

TOMORROW, the Pelosi-led House Judiciary Committee will begin expediting through Congress a very dangerous bill -- wrongly named the "Equality Act" -- that pushes a radical LGBT agenda and effectively criminalizes Christianity. This bill is not about "equality." It is about stripping away religious liberties and putting people of faith on the wrong side of the law! The bill does not exempt churches, religious organizations, or Christian schools. In fact, this hostile new bill specifically forbids citizens or organizations from raising a religious free exercise claim as a defense against it!

Dr. James Dobson has warned that the anti-faith Equality Act "is nothing but a thinly veiled attempt to finish off religious liberty in America once and for all, which ought to be plainly obvious based upon a cursory reading of the First Amendment." Dobson also added, "By creating a protected class of citizens out of the LGBT community, this bill places Christians who believe in traditional marriage at grave legal and civil jeopardy."

Here are just a few of the ways this oppressive bill would affect churches and people of faith:

- It REJECTS any religious freedom exemption or claim!
- Churches could lose their tax-exempt status.
- Churches could be forced to host homosexual weddings.
- Churches could not defend as policy the Biblical view of marriage as between a man and a woman.
- Christian colleges could be financially ruined as they will not be able to accept federally-backed student loans.
- Any Christian business that provides a "good, service, or program" would be forced to comply.
- Men who identify as women would have a LEGAL RIGHT to enter a women's restroom and sleep in same quarters as women at shelters or on church mission trips.
- Your sex at birth will become LEGALLY IRRELEVANT!

Again, the so-called "Equality Act" is one of the greatest threats to religious freedom we have ever seen. The bill impacts churches, religious organizations, Christian businesses and Christian schools by IMPOSING a radical same-sex agenda. It actually amends the Civil Rights Act and elevates gender identity to a protected status.

(Taken from Grassfire, a division of Grassroots Action, Inc.)

***(See what Dr. James Dobson has to say about this new legislation... <https://drjamesdobson.org/blogs/faith-and-family/news-media/2019/03/26/dr.-james-dobson-issues-statement-condemning-house-democrats'-equality-act-as-discarding-religious-freedom->)***

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## **OUR SPONSORS**

*Click on Pictures to View Websites*



*Amira Fox  
Florida State Attorney  
20th Judicial Circuit*



*Francis Rooney  
US House of Representatives  
District 19*



*Cecil Pendergrass  
Lee County Commissioner*



*Spencer Roach  
FL House of Representatives*



*Jenna Persons  
Candidate for FL. State House*



*Brian Hammon  
Lee County Commissioner*



*Linda Doggett  
Lee County Clerk of Courts*



*Larry Hart  
Lee Co. Tax Collector*



*Randy Krise  
Krise Commercial Group*



## JUSTICE DEMOCRATS...FRIGHTENING!

Justice Democrats is an American progressive political action committee founded on January 23, 2017, by Kyle Kulinski of Secular Talk, Cenk Uygur of The Young Turks and by the former leadership from the 2016 Bernie Sanders presidential campaign. Uygur and Kulinski are no longer affiliated with the group. Alexandra Rojas became executive director of the organization in May 2018. The organization has a goal of changing the Democratic Party by running “a unified campaign to replace every corporate-backed member of Congress” and rebuilding the Democratic Party from “scratch” starting in the 2018 congressional midterm elections.

Justice Democrats describes its views as being held by most Americans, but deemed “politically impossible” by the current political establishment because of political corruption.

Alexandra Rojas recently stated: “Justice Democrats’ mission is really to build a multi-racial, progressive cohort of lawmakers that are actually going to institute the policies that we are pushing for, like Green New Deal, Medicare for all, free college and making sure no candidates run on corporate PAC money. We’re really dedicated to electing a mission-driven team that is not thinking about their political ambitions but is running on the policies to transform America. When you see folks like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, that’s a literal case study of the work that we do. And so, in 2020, we’re hoping to double down on competitive primary elections and compete in districts across America to help elect a new, diverse generation of leadership to Congress.”

Alexandra Rojas, the head of Justice Democrats is 24 years old. Don’t sell her short.

In the 2018 elections, 26 of the 79 candidates endorsed by Justice Democrats won their primary elections. Seven won in the general election: *Raúl Grijalva, Ro Khanna, Ayanna Pressley, Rashida Tlaib, Pramila Jayapal, Ilhan Omar* and *Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*.

In 2016, when the Justice Democrats held auditions for potential congressional candidates and got over 10,000 nominations, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez was working in a bar and went by the name of Sandy. Her brother nominated her to audition to be a congressional candidate. She didn’t know that he was nominating her. Another person nominated was Ilhan Omar. Ilhan Omar is the person that Judge Jeanine Pirro was giving her opening statement on when Fox news decided to fire her. Jeanine held the number one spot on the weekends for a couple of years, but her speaking truth about this Muslim woman got her fired. What is going on? What is so powerful that a cable news channel would fire the host of their number one cable news show? Fortunately, there was such an outrage of her firing, that they brought her back to the network.

AOC is a pawn...and so is Ilhan Omar. They don’t have original thoughts of their own. They do and say what they are told to do and say. The Green New Deal was invented in less than a weekend by AOC’s handlers...puppet masters.

Saikat Chakrabarti is a co-founder of the Justice Democrats and also the brains of the organization. He was AOC’s campaign manager and is now her chief of staff. He went to Harvard and was the organizer of the Bernie Sanders campaign and has been suspected of some serious campaign violations. The person who hired Saikat was Cenk Uygur. Cenk Uygur is a Turkish-American businessman, journalist, activist and political commentator and is the founder and main host of The Young Turks (TYT) which is an American progressive political and social commentary program. He was born and raised a Muslim but since has dropped his Muslim faith and is now an aethiest. As a young man, Uygur supported social conservative views, opposing abortion, affirmative action and feminism in the United States.

Over time Cenk’s views changed, he now identifies himself as a progressive. His goal is to “board the Democratic ship and take it over.” He wants to replace congress with people who have his own socialistic and communistic views...and he has done it with people that he has put up thus far. He has stepped down from the Justice Democrats, because of some things that he said earlier on that were sexist. In other words, because he was “caught” saying things he shouldn’t. But never fear, there are people who have stepped in to replace him.

Saikat Chakrabarti is one who has stepped up to the plate. He is a co-founder of another organization called “Brand New Congress.” He is an expert on the Saul Alinski style of community organizing. If you think Obama was frightening with his community organizing or if Hillary was frightening with her Saul Alinski associations...you ain’t seen nothin’ yet! Keep in mind that Saul Alinski dedicated his book, *Rules for Radicals*, to Satan.

Saikat’s Chakrabarti is influenced by Subhas Chandra Boes, who met with Hitler and was a reformer who believed in change through violence. He is quoted as saying “It is blood alone that can pay the price of freedom. Give me blood and I will give you freedom! Saikat’s organization is “Brand New Congress.” I personally do not want his congress and will fight, with all that I have, to give Trump another four years. Learn more by clicking here... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7C8oM6-PPI&feature=youtu.be>



## MEET THE JUSTICE DEMOCRATS...THE BRAND NEW CONGRESS



*Ayanna Pressley*  
*US House, Massachusetts' 7th district*



*Primila Jayapal*  
*US House, Washington's 7th district*



*Rashida Tlaib*  
*US House, Michigan's 13th district*



*Ro Khanna*  
*US House, California's 17th district*



*Ilhan Omar*  
*US House, Minnesota's 5th district*



*Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez*  
*US House, New York's 14th district*



*Raul Grijalva*  
*US House, Arizona's 3rd district*



*Alexandra Rojas*  
*Executive Director of Justice Democrats*



*Saikat Chakrabarti*  
*Co-founder of Brand New Congress*

**The people above are the beginning of taking over the Democratic Party. They are socialists...or worse. They believe in the Green New Deal, Medicare for all, free college, giving illegal immigrants voting rights, getting rid of cows, eliminating cars, changing the voting age to 16 and many more frightening ideologies. They are taking over and are to be taken seriously. They are beating out long time politicians. If you think the Democrats are bad now...then you need to study the Justice Democrats and start working to expose these people. Note that Saikat is wearing an image of Subhas Chandra Boes on his shirt. Do you now see how we lost the House?**



Rutherford B. Hayes  
3rd Republican President

**Ulysses S. Grant**  
Apr. 27, 1882 - Jul. 23, 1885

The numbers 3 and 19 have something in common. Rutherford Birchard Hayes was the 3rd Republican and the 19th President to be elected to govern the United States. The Republican party was now the leading party among the US citizens. He held office from March 4, 1877 to March 4, 1881.

He had survived the civil war, having been wounded 5 times, and had returned to Ohio to serve in the political arena. His war service in the Union Army 1861 to 1865 saw him rise to the rank of Brigadier and Brevet General. He became a Congressman from Ohio and then Governor. As a Congressman he voted on the major contribution of our 14th Amendment to the US Constitution which grants citizenship to everyone born in the US and subject to its jurisdiction, protects civil and political liberties. It was adopted July 9, 1868. When Governor of Ohio he had a Democratic legislature but he was able to oversee the establishment of a school for the deaf-mutes and campaigned for the equal rights of the Black population.

Not unlike recent elections the question of Electoral votes played a pivotal part in President Hayes election to office. Florida, along with Louisiana and South Carolina were in question as to their votes. As they were still in doubt of Electoral votes a Bi-partisan Electoral Commission was authorized to determine the disputed votes. All 20 votes were eventually cast for R B Hayes and his Presidency obtained. His first year in office he faced a huge labor uprising with the railroad workers striking, the "Great Railroad Striking" of 1877 found

riots in cities and states around the country. He sent federal troops to quell the strikers yet he had sympathy for the workers. His presidency was not without issues relating to foreign policy, silver and gold values, with gold then being the standard our currency was tied to and is today.

President Rutherford B. Hayes signed in 1879, the Act to Relieve Certain Legal Disabilities of Women, which allowed the way for female attorneys to argue cases in any US federal court. In 1880 Belva Lockwood became the first female lawyer to argue a case before the US Supreme Court.

## Outreach Unlimited...

*With Mary Snyder*

We are organizing an Outreach Committee and would love to have you join us if you want to help get President Trump re-elected.

There are many things that we are planning on implementing over the next few months. Below, I have listed a few of the things that are being planned.

1. Create brochures for the following:
  - Republicans for Blacks
  - Republicans for Hispanics
  - Vote Your Values (for Christians who are still Democrats)
  - Republicans for Millenials
  - Republicans for Immigrants (targeting "legal" immigrants)
2. Visit new legal immigrants and give them gift bags explaining the benefits of belonging to the Republican Party.
3. Network with the various groups to make relationships so we might introduce them to the Republican Party.
4. Learn more about the Jonathan Project and take it to the local churches. The Jonathan Project is a non-partisan project where people are taught to vote their values and then are registered to vote.
5. Set up registration tables at various events where conservative people might be found.
6. Connect with incoming residents to get them registered and involved.
7. Will attempt to get some air time with a local Christian television station to teach people to vote their values.

There is so much more that we can do and MUST do, but in order to accomplish all of this, we need YOU! If you can help us, please give me a call at 239-910-4634.

Blessings and thanks...Mary Snyder, Outreach Chair



## THE MONTH IN PICTURES



*Left is Amira Fox, State Attorney and LRWF  
2nd Vice President with Kathy McMichael*



*Drew Steele with Linda Doggett, Lee  
County Clerk of Courts*



*Lori Fayhee, LRWF 1st Vice President with  
Drew Steele of 92.5 Fox News*



*On the left is Carrie Almond, Past President of the National Federation of Re;ublican Women and currently heads up the Jonathon Project which aims to get people to vote their values and on the right is our beloved president of LRWF, Kerri Tonkin. This all took place at Tally Days in Tallahassee, Florida*



*From left to right are Kerri Tonkin, Missi Lastra, Dane Eagle, Rena Erbrick and Mary Snyder. All were in attendance at Tally Days. The group not only met Dane but many other legislators along with authors, important Federation women and were given a chance to talk to them all. It was a great time and very informative. Ray Rodrigues also stopped in to see us. It was quite an honor to be with our legislators.*



**All the gals at Tally Days!  
Y'all come with us next time!!!**