



From the President's Desk

By Rich Piper

Since our last newsletter, we've continued our high level of activity in voter registration drives, OFA phone banks and canvasses and phone calls and lit drops for Patricia Plantamura. Let's keep up the good work, get Patricia re-elected in March and lay the groundwork for fall victories for President Obama and the rest of the Democratic ticket by thwarting Republican efforts to suppress the vote and mobilizing our Democratic base. If you haven't gotten certified to register voters yet, please take one of our classes and join our efforts.

Ken Welch, the only Democrat currently serving on the Pinellas County Commission, held a successful fundraiser for his re-election campaign in 2012 at the Hangar in St. Petersburg on Jan. 26, which many of our club members attended.

Scott Swope, candidate for Sheriff, came to our last meeting and promoted his campaign. Rumors are flying about other Democratic candidates for Pinellas County Commission and other county offices.

Redistricting is well under way in Tallahassee. Though the final outcome is still several months away, and subject to judicial review, even the Republican-drawn lines offer some opportunities for Democrats to gain legislative seats. President Obama and Alex Sink both carried four of the six Pinellas County House districts that have been proposed by the Republicans. Currently only two House seats in our county are held by Democrats. Let's encourage strong Democratic candidates to run for the State House, State Senate and Pinellas County offices!

At the congressional level in Pinellas County, Kathy Castor appears so solidly entrenched in her district, in terms of fundraising and voter support that Republican Hillsborough County Commissioner Mark Sharpe (the strongest of her potential opponents) is dropping out of the race. Jonathan Snow, the only declared Democratic candidate against Republican Gus Bilirakis in the north Pinellas-Hillsborough district, spoke impressively at our last club meeting and deserves our support. Hopefully, we'll soon have a strong Democratic challenger to the octogenarian Republican Bill Young, who richly deserves to be replaced in the November elections.

One of the biggest upcoming events in Pinellas County for Democrats will be the Kennedy-King Dinner on Saturday, March 11, at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. Our club has sold tickets and made a contribution to buy two full tables and sponsor the dinner, and

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REMINDER

NEXT MEETING of the Largo-Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club.

Bring your donation of canned goods for the local food pantries.

DATE: Feb 20, 2011

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE:

Balla's Steakhouse
776 Missouri Ave., Largo,
(727) 586-3474 or email
Rich at
President@largodemocrats.com



Visit our website at:
www.largodemocrats.com

we're well on our way to filling a third table. Tickets are \$75 each and may be purchased by sending or giving a check made out to Pinellas County DEC for \$75 to Rich Piper, 301 Crestwood Lane, Largo, FL 33770. That way, you'll have a space reserved for you with your fellow club members at a table.

Be sure to come to the next club meeting at 7 p.m. **Monday, Feb. 20 at Balla's Steak House, 776 Missouri Ave. N., Largo 33771.** We'll learn about **FAST (Faith and Action for Strength Together)**, a faith-based organization of 38 Christian, Jewish and Islamic congregations in Pinellas County that are committed to promoting social justice. The **Rev. Rod Snedeker**, active in FAST and also a club member, will discuss the outstanding work that this organization does to articulate and defend the interests of the least well off in our community.

We'll also get updates from several of our local Democratic candidates, including

Largo **Mayor Pat Gerard** who will lead off with an appeal for help in her bid for re-election in November. Seminole City Council Member **Patricia Plantamura** will also speak about her campaign.

If you haven't paid your 2012 dues yet, please give Treasurer Elizabeth Snedeker cash or a check for \$10. She will be at a table in the entry way at the meeting.

OUTSPOKEN FORMER CONGRESSMAN TO HEADLINE PINELLAS DEMOCRATS KENNEDY/KING FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 10, 2012

6:30PM Cocktail Reception

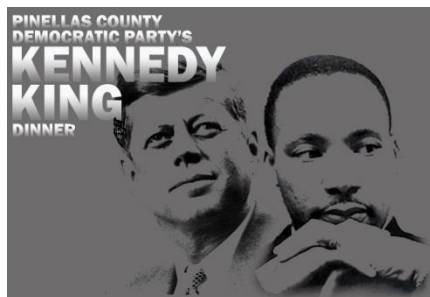
7:00PM Dinner and Program

The theme of this year's Kennedy/King Dinner is **"Democrats – serving our communities at the local level."**

Former Florida Rep. Alan Grayson will be the main attraction at the **March 10** fundraiser for the **Pinellas County Democratic Victory 2012 Campaign.**

The progressive firebrand, who earned a reputation for colorful and controversial speeches during his freshman term in Washington, is running for a congressional comeback. Due to redistricting, it is still not known if he will be running for the same seat or a newly-created seat in the Orlando area.

The Kennedy/King Dinner, honoring President John F. Kennedy and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., is sponsored by the Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee and hosted by state Representatives Rick Kriseman and Darryl Rouson and County Commissioner Ken Welch. The event also will salute the county's Democratic elected officials for their service to their local communities.



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FLORIDA'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

- **Sen. Bill Nelson** - 813 225-7040 or (202) 224-5274 Email: <http://billnelson.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm>
- **Sen. Marco Rubio** - 813 977-6450 or (202) 224-3041 email: http://rubio.senate.gov/contact_form.cfm
- **Rep. Bill Young** - 727 893-3191 or (202)225-5961

The dinner will be held at Banquet Masters, 8100 Park Boulevard N., Pinellas Park, beginning with a cocktail reception at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale now for \$75 at pinellasdems.org or by mailing a check to Pinellas Democratic headquarters, 2250 1st Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713.

Calendar of Events

February Meeting Reminder - Candidates Pat Gerard and Patricia Plantamura

Largo **Mayor Pat Gerard** who will lead off with an appeal for help in her bid for re-election in November. Seminole City Council Member **Patricia Plantamura** will also speak about her campaign.

If you haven't paid your 2012 dues yet, please give Treasurer Elizabeth Snedeker cash or a check for \$10. She will be at a table in the entry way at the meeting.

Don't forget that we have a new meeting location: **Balla's Steakhouse**, 776 Missouri Ave., just north of Largo High School. The program is open to the community.

The club is still collecting non-perishables for local food banks.

Date	Time	Event	Location
MONDAY, FEB 20	7:00 PM – TBD	Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club	Balla's Steak House , 776 Missouri Ave. N , Largo 33771 Come early to eat, drink and socialize before the meeting. Contact Rich Piper, rpiper3404@aol.com or 813-210-7457 for further information
TUESDAY, FEB 21	All Day	Lobby in Tally with Planned Parenthood	Event Location: State Capitol Event Description: Join Planned Parenthood in Tallahassee to combat the egregious laws our state legislators are trying to pass. More anti-choice bills are already being introduced. Get on the bus or drive yourself. Pick up in Tampa at 6 AM for the drive to Tally. \$25 per person/\$5 per student! Day's events include: press conference with leading pro-choice legislators and planned parenthood advocates. Meetings in teams with individual legislators watch legislators in action as they debate. Back on the bus around 4:30 PM to ride home. Contact Wendy Grassi, Director of Public Affairs, 941-365-3913 x 1108; wendy.grassi@myplannedparenthood.org
THURSDAY, FEB 23	2:00 PM - TBD	On Top Of The World Democratic Club Meeting	Event Location: Main Clubhouse World Parkway Event Description: Join fellow active Democrats as we get organized and energized. When: Thursday , 8/25/2011 , at 2:00 PM Where: Main Clubhouse World Parkway On Top Of The World Sunset Point Rd. Between Belcher And US. 19. Clearwater, FL. For more info. Contact Rosemarie At (727) 797-7927.
THURSDAY, FEB 23	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Clubs Presidents Meeting	Event Location: St. Pete Marriott Hotel, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd. N., St. Pete Event Description:

Date	Time	Event	Location
			All Club Presidents are asked to attend this meeting to discuss the Kennedy-King Dinner and other items.
THURSDAY, FEB 23	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM	DEC Monthly Meeting	<p>Event Location: St. Pete Marriott Hotel, 12600 Roosevelt Blvd. N., St. Pete</p> <p>Event Description: Please join us for the monthly DEC meeting. Alex Sink, Florida's former Chief Financial Officer and founder of the Florida Next Foundation, will speak at our meeting. Also on the agenda is St. Petersburg physician Dr. Mona Mangat, the southeast regional director of Doctors for America. Florida Next Foundation was created to build a stronger economic foundation for the state while protecting quality of life. Doctors for America is a national movement of physicians and medical students working together to insure that everyone has access to affordable, high quality health care.</p>
MONDAY, FEB 27	11:30 AM – 2:00 PM	Democratic Women's Club of Upper Pinellas	<p>Event Location: Golden Corral--10050 Ulmerton Rd, Largo</p> <p>Event Description: Guest speaker will be Mary Stanley. Mary is a self-made business woman, National Women's Political Caucus Activist, Republican turned Democrat and new Board member of VFA (Veteran Feminists of America)</p> <p>Senior Lunch is \$7.79 and Non-Senior Lunch \$8.29</p>
WEDNESDAY, MAR 7	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	St. Petersburg Democratic Club	<p>Event Location: Picadilly Cafeteria 1900 34th St. N (Plaza at sw corner of 34th St. N & 22nd Ave. N.) St Petersburg, FL 337137</p> <p>Event Description: Monthly meeting of the St. Pete Dems, which takes place the first Wednesday of every month. Share food together from 6:30-7. Meeting with guest speakers</p> <p>For more information, please contact Mike Fox at 727-320-4502 or tampabaydemocracy@yahoo.com</p>
THURSDAY, MAR 8	6:30 PM – 8:30 PM	Greater Pinellas Democratic Club Meeting	<p>Event Location: Banquet Masters--8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park</p> <p>Event Description: Social hour begins at 6:00 PM. Looking Ahead in 2012 addressing the concerns of the community, Pinellas county and the country.</p>
SATURDAY, MAR 10	TBD	Kennedy-King dinner	<p>Event Location: Banquet Masters--8100 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park</p> <p>Event Description: Stayed tuned for details as we organize this very special event. Tickets will be \$75 per person</p>

More Information available at: <http://www.pinellasdemocrats.com/calendar.asp?nMonth=3&nYear=2012>

Pinellas Democratic Party NEWS

Obama launches "Truth Team"

President Barack Obama's re-election campaign has launched a "Truth Team" that will recruit grassroots supporters to promote

his achievements, respond to attacks and "hold the eventual Republican nominee accountable."

In Florida, state Democratic Party Chairman Rod Smith and several Democratic state

legislators held a news conference recently to announce the effort, which includes a web site, BarackObama.com/TruthTeam, with sections on responding to attacks, criticizing Republican presidential contenders and touting the Obama administration's accomplishments, plus tools for social media sharing, volunteering, and sending postcards, emails and letters to newspapers and undecided voters.

Obama partisans say the rise of "super PACS," independent political organizations that can

raise money in unlimited contributions and spend it on political campaign advertising, makes the effort more important this year.

According to Smith, "Mitt Romney and his Republican allies will say anything – no matter how untruthful or over-the-top – to win."

The Truth Team will be "a sustained program that we'll be relying on for the next nine months as our primary resource for providing information to our army of supporters."

Club News

Club participates in MLK Day Parade and Voter Registration drive



Rod Snedeker, Deb Anderson & Elizabeth Snedeker



Rich Piper, Lucy Karl and Willis Williams



Deb Anderson talks to potential registrants



OFA marchers draw cheers from the crowd as they wave their "2012" signs. Nina Hayden from our club was among the leaders of the OFA parade marchers

LETTERS and OPINIONS

Obama v. Romney: A Clear Choice

By Rich Piper

In the wake of his victories in Florida and Nevada, and his losses to Santorum in Minnesota, Missouri and Colorado, Mitt Romney still seems to be the most likely Republican presidential nominee. His extremely negative, vicious campaigning and high-priced advertisements, his obvious ties to the Greedy One Percent funding his campaign in the expectation that he'll grant them still more tax breaks and other special favors, his continuing flip-flops, his foot-in-mouth miscues and his repeated lies have driven up his negatives with the general public and even with much of the Republican voter base. However, the Republican economic and political elite are almost completely united behind him and seem determined to wield their power and wealth to secure his nomination. I say, "Bring him on! Bring them on!"

An Obama v. Romney competition in the general election will provide a clear choice. Just consider the following:

President Obama has turned around the terrible economy that he inherited, spurred job creation (over 3.7 million private-sector jobs created so far during his administration), saved the American automobile industry and sought to lay the groundwork for the US to succeed in the global economy of the future and repair our essential infrastructure. Mitt Romney has called for a return to the failed economic policies of the Bush Administration that caused the worst recession since the 1930s, denies the real gains that have been achieved and vehemently opposed and even mocked President Obama's successful efforts to restore the American automobile industry. Romney has allied himself with the obstructionist Republican leadership in Congress that has blindly opposed all of the President's efforts to rejuvenate the American economy.

President Obama has demanded Wall Street reforms, fought for consumer financial protections and appointed the highly respected

Richard Cordray to implement needed reforms and protections – to avoid a repeat of the past Republican/Wall Street excesses that have caused so much human suffering. Mitt Romney has embraced the worst elements on Wall Street and is basing his campaign on their huge donations to him. Unsurprisingly, Romney calls for repeal of the Dodd-Frank reforms and consumer protections – both high on the selfish Wall Street barons' list of demands. *Quid pro quo!*

President Obama favors reform of the tax structure to promote fairness and to address the long-term debt problems that we face, while preserving Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Mitt Romney wants to take actions to cut drastically the taxes that are currently paid by most wealthy Americans while privatizing and slashing vital programs that provide essential security and offer opportunity to those hardest hit by the Republican Recession.

President Obama has pushed through the Affordable Care Act, greatly extending health care coverage to Americans who desperately need it and taking important steps to bring escalating costs under control. He tried to compromise with the Republicans and their health insurance industry paymasters by emulating many aspects of Romneycare in Massachusetts. However, he received **NO** cooperation from the Republicans or from Romney. Mitt Romney hypocritically emits loud denunciations of what he calls "Obamacare" without offering any constructive alternatives or acknowledging its links to policies that he formerly embraced.

President Obama has expanded civil rights and defended those that have long been protected against Republican onslaughts on them. Mitt Romney has supported Republican efforts to block the Lily Ledbetter Act for women's civil rights, opposed the President's efforts to end "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" as a discriminatory policy in the military, seeks to destroy women's right to privacy and control over their own bodies and aids and abets Republican

efforts in an array of states, including Florida, to suppress our precious voting rights.

President Obama has withdrawn American troops from Iraq and laid out a plan for the winding down our military commitments in Afghanistan after dramatically curbing the power of Al Qaeda there; has taken gutsy action to eliminate the threat from Osama Bin Laden (whom the Bush Administration had proved unable to pursue effectively) and has eliminated the Qaddafi regime in Libya without the loss of any American troops (a sharp contrast to Bush’s fiasco in Iraq). Mitt Romney has opposed the Iraq withdrawal, belittles the President’s achievements vis-à-vis Osama Bin Laden and favors endlessly extending the Afghanistan war without any clear goals.

The choice is clear. We must do everything that we can to re-elect President Obama. Mitt Romney, the darling of the Greedy One Percent, would be a disaster for our country and the world. President Obama offers security, opportunity and freedom of choice, just what Pinellas Democrats have established as our guiding values. Mitt Romney’s retrogressive agenda would destroy all of these.

LARGO/MID-PINELLAS DEMOCRATIC CLUB MEMBERS ATTEND VOTER SUPPRESSION HEARING

By Joe Barkley

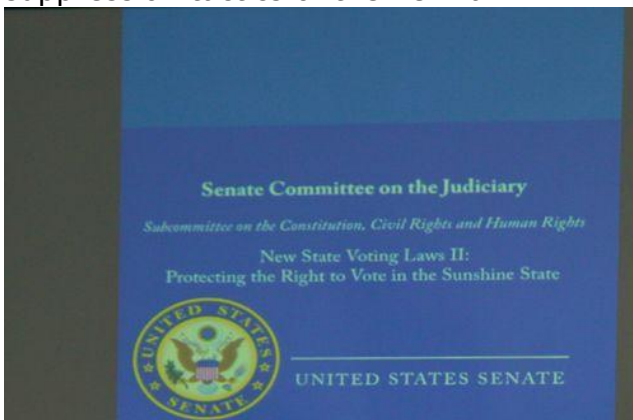
More than 200 concerned Florida citizens attended a field hearing chaired by Illinois Senator Dick Durbin at the request of Florida Senator Bill Nelson on Jan. 27 at the Hillsborough County Courthouse in Tampa. Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club Rich Piper, Heidi Sanchez, Joe Barkley and Mary Freeman arrived in time to obtain seats inside the crowded courtroom and avoid having to watch the proceedings on TV while sitting on benches in the waiting room. The crowd was animated, alert, and attentive. Many political figures and other prominent Democrats were in attendance. Your club representatives all agreed that it was well worth taking the time to attend.



The two-hour meeting included opening statements by Senators Durbin and Nelson followed by seven speakers. Six of the seven speakers articulated why the law impeded adequate opportunities for voters to cast their votes. One speaker, Michael Ertel from Seminole County, spoke in favor of the law. All speakers made a statement and then answered questions from Senators Durbin and Nelson. Audience involvement was nominally discouraged, but many speaker comments were met with audible agreement and/or clapping. Ertel’s presentation was met with catcalls and occasional boos.



Perhaps the most significant testimony came from Volusia County Supervisor of Elections Ann McFall, a Republican who expressed extreme dislike of the law. Ms. McFall, who will retire at the end of 2012, was particularly distressed that she was forced to turn in a schoolteacher who had submitted voter registration forms late. This case has received statewide and national attention. In addition to Ms. McFall and Mr. Ertel, UF Professor Daniel Smith gave a powerful power point presentation demonstrating extremely detailed research into the ramifications of voter suppression tactics of the new law.



In addition, speakers from an African American church, the National Bar Association, and the League of United Latin American Citizens testified about the impact of the law on various segments of Florida voters. Sarah Pemberton, a student government leader at St Petersburg College, gave a synopsis of how the law adversely affects college students.



Prior to the hearing, numerous speakers made brief but impassioned statements at a rally outside the courthouse. The Rev. Charles

McKenzie and Florida Democratic Party Chair Rod Smith were perhaps the most eloquent and highly regarded speakers at the event. Protestors from various right wing groups were also present at the outside pre-hearing event, as were a wide array of media reporters and cameramen. Numerous

Sheriff's deputies were present to maintain order.

President Obama Needs Seniors

By Hal Alterman, club member and St. Petersburg Democratic Club newsletter editor

Seniors vote. And they vote more dependably than any other age group. More than 70% of eligible Americans 65 or older cast a ballot in the 2008 Election – the highest proportion of voters of any age group.

In contrast, turnout among the extremely well-motivated young voters (18-24) who were the focus of the Obama campaign's highly-energized, highly-organized recruiting efforts was just 48.5%, the lowest of all age groups according to U. S. Census Bureau statistics.

In addition to the notable difference in turnout, there was a dramatic difference in the candidate preferences of these two voting groups.

Young voters, in what was perhaps the most widely-reported story of the 2008 campaign, favored Obama by a massive 68-32 margin. Senior voters, on the other hand, supported John McCain 51%-47%. (National Exit Poll)

What can we expect as we look ahead to the unfolding 2012 campaign? First, unless young voters are re-motivated and re-energized to 2008 levels, the Obama campaign needs to compensate for the probable lessening of support among the group that had been its primary target by expanding its reach to embrace other demographic segments.

Seniors, based on the importance of issues like medical costs and health care (the Obama Administration's commitment to Medicare plus its passage of the Affordable Care Act should resonate very strongly with this group) ... as well as its focus on preserving and protecting the economic and retirement security of all

Americans (making sure Social Security is adequately funded) ... should be a rich source of support for Obama.

Yet Quinnipiac University's recent polling in Florida indicates quite the opposite is happening. In a matchup with Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, Obama is supported by only 39% of voters over 65. Romney is backed by a clear majority of 53% - that's a significant 14-point differential! Newt Gingrich was not included in the poll.

These numbers present Florida Democrats - particularly those in the critical I-4 corridor - with a very clear challenge: the need to accentuate and communicate the Democratic Party's pledge to maintain the safety and security of Medicare and Social Security, the twin cornerstones that provide seniors with such a solid foundation for their retirement years.

* * *

A recent resurrection of the story of Mitt Romney "vulture capitalism" in Gaffney, S.C. got club Secretary Mary Lou Ambrose's dander up. Especially the town residents who seemed willing to cut the corporate raiders some slack.

She wrote to the Tampa Bay Times in "Bain's Gain Is Town's Loss":

"These people in South Carolina, whose town has been destroyed by Bain Capital's looting practices, say, 'well that's Capitalism.' Is it? Rather, should it be?"

"Yes, this country was built on capitalism. With the industrial revolution came people who made huge amounts of money from, for example, the railroads. They built their empires on the backs of those who worked for them, with no regard to those who daily work made their fortunes possible.

"Through the ensuing years, some of those workers, with the help of Unions, and with the realization of ethical business owners that they did not do this all themselves, developed into the middle class.

"These were people who didn't own the business, but who took pride in their companies and in their work.

"Now we are moving backwards. Is what Bain did to the businesses they bought, destroyed and took millions from legal? Clearly, yes.

"Is it ethical? Clearly, no.

"This election is not about socialism vs. capitalism. It is about whether we will accept this unethical form of capitalism practiced by Bain and companies like Bain.

"Should someone like Mitt Romney, who inherited a fortune, increased that fortune at the expense of those who worked for the businesses his companies destroyed, oversaw sending jobs overseas, and who now says that those who are not wealthy like him are simply jealous, be elected president of the United States?"

"Most people in this country believe it to be an ethical country. Few people in this country want to destroy capitalism. Most of us want an ethical form of capitalism where those who work are rewarded fairly and are able to take pride in a job well done.

"No one should be allowed to make millions of dollars the way Bain and similar companies had been allowed to do. We must tell Mitt Romney that we are not jealous of him. Rather, we hold his unethical behavior in disdain."

Mary Lou also wrote about shenanigans in the Seminole City Commission election:

"I was disappointed in Anne Lindberg's article - 'Opponent wants Waters to quit council' - in that she did not do the research necessary to properly finish her story on Leslie Waters' retention of some \$31,000 in campaign funds from her failed Florida Senate campaign. By law, she cannot retain those funds and must dispose of them according to very specific Florida guidelines (statute 106.141).

"Her campaign treasurer must file reports detailing all income and expenditures for the failed campaign and explain in detail when, how and to whom the funds were disbursed in closing out the campaign account.

"If her donors want Ms. Waters to use previously donated funds to run for a seat on

the Seminole City Commission, they must deposit the refund from Ms. Waters and write a new check that identifies the campaign she is to use the funds for. Frankly, however, it is hard to imagine why a municipal campaign would require \$31,000!"

District 54 Democrat Frank Lupo of St. Petersburg submitted this response to a piece the Tampa Bay Times ran on Feb. 8 by Bishop Robert Lynch, head of the Diocese of St. Petersburg. Bishop Lynch accused the Obama Administration's Affordable Health Care Act of being "the worst assault on religious freedom...in a long time."

Frank wrote:

"As a Catholic who attended Catholic schools, I respectfully disagree with Bishop Lynch and the Catholic Church on their arbitrary rule against contraceptives.

"Based on recent polls, I am part of a solid majority of Catholics who disagree with and ignore this rule made up by unmarried Bishops and Cardinals who have no understanding of the economic challenges of raising a family and protecting the health of women.

"Also, this rule is not a basic tenet of the Church and can be easily changed just as they changed the rule against the use of cadavers to train medical students.

"If the Catholic Church is wondering why less and less Catholics attend Sunday Mass, they can add this rule to the list which includes priests' sexual abuse of children, the Church cover-up of these crimes, refusal to ordain women priests, and out of touch clergy who are not allowed to marry."

Frank also penned the following in response to a Tampa Bay Times letter writer who asserts that "voting isn't difficult":

"The writer who claims voting isn't difficult obviously has a photo ID which makes it easy for him to vote. But if a citizen of Florida doesn't have a photo ID (about 12% of

citizens), he/she would have to pay for one at a local DMV. Also, this person would have to pay bus fare to get to the DMV since they don't have a driver's license which is an acceptable form of photo ID.

"So we not only have two costs (cost of photo ID & bus fare), but in most cases this person would have to take off work which means a loss of a day's pay, not to mention the possibility of the person losing his/her job for taking off from work to register.

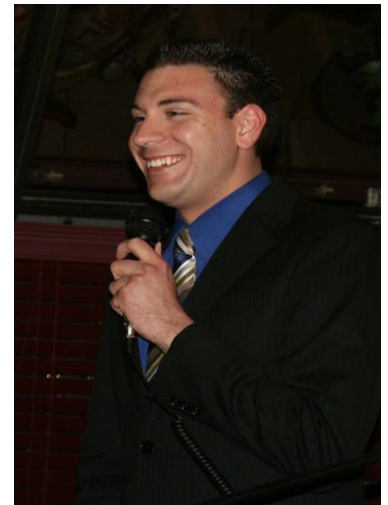
"There are also seniors who, for medical reasons, can no longer drive and don't have a valid driver's license, and students who don't have a car and can barely afford tuition.

"Finally, let's remember that the right to vote is a right guaranteed under our U.S.

Constitution and cannot be abridged by a financial or otherwise unwarranted burden as the Florida law certainly does."

RUMOR CONTROL

Jonathan Snow, the Democratic congressional candidate running against Gus Bilirakis, spoke at the club's January meeting. He has put out this statement to correct inaccurate rumors and replace them with reliable information.



"It has been brought to my attention that someone has been calling local Democratic leaders and members and stating that I am supporting Representative Ron Paul for President. Nothing could be further from the truth! In fact, I have done my best to convert some of his supporters to back President Obama - I even lost a friend for doing so!

"Certainly, I respect Representative Paul for always voicing his opinion, for some of his foreign policy and drug policy positions, for

his consistency (Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich don't know what the word consistency means), and for voting with Representative Barney Frank and Representative Dennis Kucinich nearly 40% of the time.

"However, I could never support a Presidential candidate who wants to end the departments of Education, Housing and Urban Development, Energy, Commerce, and the Interior. Additionally, Rep. Paul wants to end the estate tax and cut corporate taxes in half. Needless to say, this would be the largest giveaway to the richest 1% of Americans who already aren't paying their fair share in taxes. Rep. Paul would end unions by instituting a national "right-to-work" policy. He would end birthright citizenship so that being born in America doesn't mean that you're an American citizen. He would eliminate our social safety net. He wants individual states to print their own currency. Furthermore, Rep. Paul would repeal Roe vs. Wade and define "life as

beginning at conception". This would outlaw many forms of contraception, including the birth control pill, while pushing women back into the days of back alley abortions. I could continue with more of Rep. Paul's strange ideas but I think you get the point.

"Let me be crystal clear, President Barack Obama is the only candidate that I am supporting for the Presidency!

"I believe we must re-elect President Obama and send him a Congress that will work with him. And, we need your help to accomplish this very important mission.

snowforcongress@gmail.com

www.snowforcongress.com

Contact Jonathan at: 727-505-3440

My number is listed above so that anyone can call me at any time to talk about any issue. There is no need to speculate where I stand on any issue or spread rumors.

For Your Information

Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club Board of Directors

President Rich Piper resident@largodemocrats.com	Vice President Lois Fries
Secretary Mary Lou Ambrose Admin@largodemocrats.com	Treasurer Elizabeth Snedeker
Director/webmaster Wanda Schwerer Admin@largodemocrats.com	Director Mary Ellen Lansburg,
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Director Deb Anderson	Director Ginny Nelson
Outreach Coordinator Charlotte Maas	Director/newsletter editor Kathleen Jamison

Additional contact information is available on www.largodemocrats.com -

What Do We Include in the Newsletter?

It's clear that we Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club members are an interested, involved, informed - and opinionated - bunch. And providing a forum for all that "good stuff" is an important function of our

newsletter. The Board encourages articles and letters to the editor.

This newsletter is created by volunteers who make every attempt to publish factual information, and who encourage the free exchange of information and opinions. It should include input from all of us. However, the opinions and viewpoints expressed by contributors may not necessarily reflect those of the club.

Please send submissions to newsletter editor, Kathleen Jamison, at Editor@largodemocrats.com

If you don't wish to receive this newsletter, let Editor Kathleen Jamison know. She will also be happy to add more folks to our newsletter email list. (Please forward to anyone you know who may be interested in what we do and how to join.) Her address is Editor@largodemocrats.com.

Why Join the Largo-Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club

The club provides a variety of ways to stay informed and involved in local, county, state and national political discussions. But we're not just about talk. We will be part of the action in finding the best candidates and getting them elected, as well as supporting the most important causes. We

will write letters, make phone calls, knock on doors, register voters, and whatever else it takes to bring change to our communities, our county and our state. But, just as important, we also want to make time to enjoy each other's company and celebrate each other's efforts at social events throughout the year. Grassroots politics is effective and fun!

As a member of the Largo/Mid-Pinellas Democratic Club you can:

- Meet other active Democrats
- Meet and get to know your elected officials and potential candidates
- Raise funds and work for candidates
- Participate in community service projects

- Hear speakers and discuss issues of local, state and national importance
- Attend special events and monthly meetings.
- For membership information, email administrator@largodemocrats.com

For membership information, email Admin@largodemocrats.com

ANNUAL DUES ARE JUST \$10

CHANGE, YES WE CAN!