

MESSAGE FROM JACKIE SINATRA, PRESIDENT DCDB

As summer comes to a close, we are quickly getting laser-focused on the job ahead. The Delray Beach Democratic Club is back in high gear with a motivated board of directors, committee chairs and lots of new and former hard-working, committed volunteers. We have exciting, informative and educational programs planned through year's end, and have a new meeting place and day. Thank you to the folks at Pompey Park, at 1101 NW 2nd Street for offering us a beautiful space the second Tuesday of each month. If you haven't been to Pompey Park, it is a large recreation center, for people of all ages and backgrounds. I even heard a senior Pickle Ball team plays there! There is plenty of parking and you don't have to deal with east Atlantic Avenue to attend a meeting!

Our kickoff meeting is on September 26th and will be on Florida's Voter Restoration Amendment. If you are not familiar with this issue, the Florida Constitution **permanently** disenfranchises anyone who has been convicted of a felony, regardless of the severity or nature of the crime. The only way to recover one's right to vote is by individually applying to the state Office of Executive Clemency. Florida is one of only three states with this draconian policy, and it has the highest disenfranchisement rate in the country. If the constitutional amendment passes, felons (with the exception of murderers or sexual offenders) will have their voting rights restored after they have completed their sentences (including probation and parole). We will have a learned panel discussing the issue and the program will be interactive, so bring your questions! The event starts at 7:00, but come at 6:30 to meet your neighbors and enjoy an array of delicious food.

We are also getting started on our campaign to Flip the State! Our goal is to flip red seats to blue, most especially the governor's seat! If you're concerned, angry and feeling helpless, join us! We need volunteers, members, and especially precinct captains. Would you like to be an integral part of making sure folks get out to vote? Ask us about becoming a precinct captain. It is easy, fun, social, and extremely rewarding. Currently Democrats outnumber Republicans in voter registration, but only slightly, so it's critical that we have a high turnout in the 2018 midterms. And that means we need to get started now!

We are also embarking on our 2018 membership drive. If you aren't yet a member, join now before membership rates increase in January from \$15 to \$20 (and from \$25 to \$30 for a family membership). And if you are currently a member, renew before January and get your 2018 membership for the same \$15 (or \$25 for a family)! Spread the word and let's add as many new members as possible to our amazing club!

Upcoming events include a discussion about sober homes and human trafficking on October 10th at 7:00 and a program on ending Citizen's United (American Promise) at 7:00 on November 14th. All meetings and programs will be at Pompey Park. Watch for our holiday party in December! Spread the word and bring everyone you know!

Lastly, I want to thank our board and especially past DCDB volunteers and founders who started our vital and important club and who fought through difficult times to keep it strong! We can only get bigger and better!