

# The Delray Democrat

## Letters by Our Members<sup>1</sup>

Writing to local papers influences NPAs gives aid, comfort, and information to Democrats. Here are the latest:

**Nancy Chanin**, *Palm Beach Post*, August 5, 2022

The Palm Beach Sheriff's Office refuses to carry life-saving Narcan, claiming they are not paramedics. Go tell that to all the other police departments that already have it on hand, and ask those whose loved ones have struggled with addiction and/or lost their lives about this refusal.

As a resident of Delray Beach, who has formerly served on our city's Police Advisory Board, I am well aware of the use of Narcan in my community — the Delray Beach Police Department was the first in the county to carry the heroin antidote, and a number of lives have been saved.

In contrast to the PBSO, the Delray Police have had body cams for the past six years.

The time is long past due for our county's police force to emulate the many departments that have had one or both of the aforementioned tools in their toolbox. The PBSO needs to stop procrastinating. Not all problems are easily solved, but shouldn't we do whatever we can to save lives and promote justice?

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**Michael K. Cantwell**, *Sun-Sentinel*, July 27, 2022

The ancient Greeks warned, "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad." Gov. Ron DeSantis has passed the first bar.

Like Icarus, he's flying too close to the sun. His COVID policies didn't "free" Floridians, they killed them. He opposed mandates and he ridiculed masking despite scientific studies establishing that the unvaccinated were 14 times more likely to die from COVID than the vaccinated and that masking reduces transmission.

His "Civic Literacy Excellence Initiative" does not "free" students. It seeks to whitewash history as teachers attending a workshop run by the state recently complained. His voter "reform" bill does not "free" the election system from "voter fraud," a chimera Republicans have invoked for decades and failed to prove for just as long. Rather, it shackles voters whose skins are the wrong color.

To quote the federal judge who found that bill (SB 90) unconstitutional, it was enacted "with the intent to discriminate against Black voters." DeSantis revels in the adulation of his base as he sets his sights on the White House, but their numbers are insufficient to fully power his flight. If everyone who is appalled by the arrogance of this incipient autocrat registers and votes in November, we will melt the wax on his wings.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Delray Democrat*, August 2022, page 6.

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**June S. Neal**, *Sun-Sentinel*, July 26, 2022

I applaud the Sun Sentinel's endorsement of Charlie Crist for governor — not because it cited his many contributions to the state of Florida but because it focused on the most important characteristics we need in any leader: the ability to grow, evaluate and change, guided by a strong moral compass.

“Crist, 66, has made a right-to-left political metamorphosis that is unparalleled in the history of Florida politics,” the editorial said.

Why? Crist said it perfectly. “I was a Republican because Mom and Dad were. It's the same reason I'm a Methodist.”

Isn't that true for every one of us, at least for a time in our lives? For some, those early affiliations remain constant. Others find different philosophies, and new ideas that settle well with their consciences and their souls. Charlie Crist has demonstrated he will lead from a core of decency and a commitment to the common good. Nothing else comes close to importance in a governor.

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**Michael K. Cantwell**, *Sun-Sentinel*, July 11, 2022

The U.S. Supreme Court is powerless to interpret whether Florida's newly enacted anti-choice law violates privacy protections of the Florida Constitution.

It's hornbook law that the Supreme Court cannot interpret state law or issues arising under state constitutions. It's even more intrusive for the court to intervene when the highest court of a state has ruled on a matter. That Attorney General Ashley Moody could be ignorant of such basic tenets of law is shocking. But those who claim the right to control a woman's body don't fear the outcome of the lawsuit.

The Florida Supreme Court will hear the case before it would reach the U.S. Supreme Court. The result will be the same because Gov. Ron DeSantis has done to Florida's court what Trump did to the U.S. Supreme Court — by turning a judicial body into a political body.