



**September 2016 SOUTH BREVARD DEMOCRATIC
WOMEN'S CLUB**

Important events:

Our Next meeting—September 3—is going to be at Red Ginger in the Melbourne Square Mall. Please arrive by 11:15 so you can order and we can start the meeting on time. We received positive feedback from our last meeting at this location. The food was excellent, service was wonderful and the venue was beautiful.

We need to have at least 25 individuals who will be in attendance and who will buy lunch in order to hold the room.

Please attend and support our organization. We are trying to comply with the wishes of those who wanted something different.

At our last meeting we took volunteers who wanted to be delegates for the state convention: Madeline Farley, Kelly Crutcher, GiGi Bender, Terry Sanders and Eileen Manning are attending along with President Bonnie Ollinger, Legislative Chair Milly Krause, and VP Patty Farley. Jean Snodgrass Neal is going as a new member guest.

The Florida Coordinated Campaign Office for Hillary is now open at the corner of US 1 and Babcock. They are in need of office supplies, and basics. Please go by and volunteer. They would like to have help making calls. Food is always appreciated, too.

***Primary Night Watch Party:
Democrats are gathering at "Off the Traxx" around 6:30.
918 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, FL 32901***



Top



Photos from Hillary Office grade opening. Left: Bonnie Ollinger, Milly Ulrich, Vickie Impocco and Laura Fausone with two other friends. Top right: Madeline Farley and David Farley. Left: Bryan Eller, Corry Westbrook, Patricia Farley, Gwen Coon, Hillary for America Brevard County/Melbourne area director.



We are proud to say the DWCF is supporting our Democratic Candidates in many ways including with \$\$\$\$\$, which is always needed. Candidates Larry Finch, Maria DeChirstofano, Daniel Wall De Sousa and Randy Foster were endorsed and each presented with \$200 checks from DWCF at a special meeting in Palm Bay with officers from the Palm Bay DWC and our South Brevard DWC. There was good turnout for the Hillary Acceptance Watch Party at Madeline Farley's Home at 173 Coral

Way East, Indialantic, Florida. We hope you had a good time.

NEXT SBDWC meeting September 3rd.... new venue—"Red Ginger", Melbourne Square Mall, 11:30a.m.

Brevard NOW Social Mixer

Tuesday, August 23 at 5:30 PM New Venue! PC Keats, 829 E New Haven Ave, Melbourne, Florida 32901 Mix and mingle, join us for cocktails! <https://www.facebook.com/events/1576054946029563/>

Candidate Forum

Space Coast Pride festival and Parade

Saturday, September 24 at 12 PM - 7 PM Eau Gallie Square, Melbourne, Florida 32935

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1774466252772034/>

We are forming DWCF tables for the *Brevard DEC Luncheon*, Saturday October 15 2016, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Brevard Convention Center (Holiday Inn Express), I-95 at 520, Tickets \$50.00 each Table of 8 \$400.0

Your membership is important to us. If for some reason you did not pay your dues before the deadline, you can still pay your dues and be reinstated on our next quarterly report.

SBDWC September 2016 Legislative News

Milly with a Y Krause – SBDWC Legislative Liaison

Make sure you learn about your candidates before you vote. Ask if you aren't sure who SBDWC supports. Three places I check before I vote when I don't know the candidates are – The Brevard County Superintendents of Elections - <http://www.votebrevard.com/> , The Candidate's Website, and I just Google their name and learn as much as I can about them to vote more wisely. Both HB 633 (2015) & HB 1411 (2016) were signed into law by Governor Scott despite overwhelming requests to veto them. Both landed up in the courts. Read on to see the current status of this legislation followed by information on GMO's and consumer labeling.

HB 633 – 2015 – This law Imposes a mandatory 24-hour waiting period to consent to an abortion procedure. It requires a physician to physically be present in the same room with a patient to receive consent and for the consent to be at least 24-hours before the procedure. On, Nov. 1, the Florida Supreme Court will hear arguments in this case in which abortion-rights supporters contend this law violates a women's privacy and reproductive rights. A Leon County circuit judge last year approved an injunction that blocked the state from carrying out the law, but the 1st District Court of Appeal in February overturned that ruling. The Supreme Court agreed in May to take up the case after earlier issuing a stay that at least temporarily halted the waiting-period requirement.

HB 1411 – Termination of Pregnancies Law – On August 18th, Federal Judge Hinkle issued a final injunction to key parts of the law. Attorneys for Planned Parenthood and the Rick Scott administration quietly agreed to settle a legal dispute in federal court over abortion legislation that aimed to defund Planned Parenthood clinics. This comprehensive abortion law signed by Scott earlier this year would have prevented any state or local funds from going to an organization if that organization also provides abortions. Hours after federal judge Robert Hinkle held a teleconference with attorneys, he issued an order to close the case

of Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida v. Celeste Philip. Hinkle also made final his June 30 temporary injunction banning efforts to defund the clinics and require increased inspection of abortion clinic records. This is a victory and shows that our activism works so don't give up –Fight for Our Rights.

Federal vs. State Legislation – I've been reminded several times that my job, as your Legislative Liaison and DWCF Legislative Chair, is to report on Florida Legislation only. However, it's not always possible since there's overlap and interest. Such is the case with GMO Legislation relating to genetically modified foods, etc.

Let's focus on gaining an understanding of the "DARK Act" and GMO Labeling/QR Codes. Make sure you read the letter in the following link, which explains very clearly the opposition to QR Codes rather than GMO Direct Product Labeling. <http://sustainablepulse.com/2016/06/30/us-fda-slams-new-gmo-labeling-dark-act-over-qr-codes-and-bioengineering/#.V7yK0vL2ZrQ>

First – what is the DARK Act? This is legislation dubbed the (Deny Americans the Right to Know), or DARK Act signed into law this past July. The bill preempts state and local authority to label and regulate genetically engineered (GE) foods or GMO's. "It's outrageous that some lawmakers voted to ignore the wishes of [nine out of ten Americans](#)," said Scott Faber, senior vice president of government affairs for Environmental Working Group (EWG). "To deny Americans the right to know what's in their food and how it's grown was a foregone conclusion. This House (U.S.) was bought and paid for by corporate interests, so it's no surprise that it passed a bill to block states and the FDA from giving consumers basic information about their food."

What are QR Codes (bar codes)? – They are the black and white dotted squares you see on packages and can be digitally scanned using your smartphone. QR means Quick Response. The concern with using QR Codes is that it adds another layer of effort for consumers to learn the Contents and other related information about their food in addition to discriminating against those who don't use smartphone or don't scan. In this case, using QR Codes, rather than or in addition to product labeling, is the target purpose of The DARK Act. Despite overwhelming opposition – in July 2016 President Obama signed the DARK Bill as a compromise. –Read what happened –

President Obama Signed This GMO Labeling Bill – "Soon all food packages sold in the U.S. will have to have proper labeling"

President Obama signed bill S. 764 that puts into place a federal standard for foods that have been made with genetically modified organisms, [ABC News](#) reports. This move comes just about two weeks after Congress passed legislation to necessitate labeling on all food packages that indicates whether or not they contain GMO ingredients. “This measure will provide new opportunities for consumers to have access to information about their food,” Katie Hill, White House spokesperson, told the news outlet.

This didn’t win over all food-labeling advocates, however. One criticism is that the bill allowed companies to use QR codes or 1-800 numbers as a form of GMO labeling, forcing consumers to scan the code or make a call to get more information. That’s why some opponents are calling the bill the DARK Act, short for “Denying Americans the Right to Know,” and argue these alternative labels discriminate against low-income consumers who lack the technology to access off-label info. Others have criticized the bill because it isn’t as stringent as a piece of Vermont legislation that will now be superseded by the federal law. Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders was among the federal bill’s critics, and urged his Twitter followers to contact their senators about the bill earlier this month.

GMOs are estimated to be in the majority of our food, somewhere between 75% and 80%. The Food and Drug Administration has said that they are [safe for consumption](#), but [most consumers argue](#) that, safe or not, they have the right to know exactly what is in their food. American companies say that it’s [too expensive](#) to add GMO labeling to their packaging, but former financial and food industry analyst Robyn O’Brien pointed to [64 countries](#) where they are already required to include those labels. The details of this new bill have yet to be worked out. That responsibility falls on the Department of Agriculture, which will have two years to write up the rules.

In summary- The DARK Act is a non-labeling bill under the guise of labeling. Learn and share what you can with others to protect our food supply. Respectfully Submitted – Milly Krause

Super Mule

"Last night, CNN hosted a town hall with Republican front-runner Donald Trump, and at one point he complained that the rules of the election are stacked against him 'by the establishment.' You gotta give it to Trump. He's the only man who could inherit millions of dollars, have his name on buildings, and still go, 'Life is totally unfair!'" –Jimmy Fallon"

"House Speaker Paul Ryan this afternoon issued a formal statement ruling himself out as a potential replacement candidate if there is a contested Republican convention. And you know things are bad in the Republican Party when people who aren't even running are dropping out of the race." –Seth Meyers

After losing in Wisconsin, there has been a big shake-up in the Trump campaign staff. In fact, the guy in charge of racist comments is now in charge of sexist comments." –Conan O'Brien

"Donald Trump is polling so badly with women that at a rally last night, he had his wife, Melania, introduce him. Because if there's one thing that's guaranteed to get American women on your side, it's a foreign model who's married to a billionaire and never has to work." –Conan O'Brien

"Donald Trump told The Washington Post that he'll be able to get the United States completely out of debt in eight years. When asked how, Trump was like, 'Easy, declare bankruptcy and start fresh! It's fantastic. I've done it already. It's amazing.'" –Jimmy Fallon

The AFL-CIO recommends this vote on the ballot Initiatives.

2016 Proposed Constitutional Amendments		
<u>Primary Election - August 30th, 2016</u>		
<u>Amendment</u>	<u>Ballot Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
4	Solar Devices or Renewable Energy Source Devices; Exemption from Certain Taxation and Assessment	Support
<u>General Election - November 8th, 2016</u>		
<u>Amendment</u>	<u>Ballot Title</u>	<u>Action</u>
1	Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice	Oppose
2	Use of Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Conditions	Support
3	Tax Exemption for Totally and Permanently Disabled First Responders	Support
5	Homestead Tax Exemption for Certain Senior, Low Income, Long-Term Residents; Determination of Just Value	No Position

Molly Tasker has sent us the link for a very important article every members should read about how classified documents are handled in Washington D.C. It is well written and reflects the real world of Washington DC -- including at the cabinet level, middle management and clerical staff.

<https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column/network-take/sloppiness-handling-highly-classified-information-widespread>



"A Bridge to the Future"

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB OF FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 15 - 18, 2016

HILTON ST. PETERSBURG BAYFRONT

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA