

A "C.U.T." ABOVE

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Cathy's Column



Ever since January 20, 2017, the news has been filled with the activities of President Trump. Whether it is a choice for a cabinet post, a Supreme Court nominee, an executive order or his condemnation of the news media, we have been bombarded by his behaviors and, more often than not, his outrageous comments. It seems as if the protests have been nonstop and our standing in the global world is plummeting day by day. A very sad state of affairs for our country, a country of immigrants that has sent out an executive order that certain immigrants are not welcome. It was a veiled attempt for the president to follow through on his campaign promise to exclude Muslims from coming to the United States. Does the president remember that the Pilgrims came here in order to be able to practice their religion?

Our newly appointed head of the Department of Education is a person who does not believe in the public schools. Our new Attorney General has a past history that would, "in normal times", disqualify him from the post. The Supreme Court runs the risk of being "trumped" by appointees that will possibly undo the gains that our country has made since its inception.

The term, "alternative facts", is used so frequently of late that I'm not sure exactly what is true or false. The media is constantly being attacked unless they agree with the president.

All of the above is coming to fruition because, in his campaign, Donald Trump, "Vote for me. What have you got to lose?" Well, the answer is PLENTY! Public education for all as we have known it. The AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE, also known as OBAMACARE, is definitely in jeopardy. Women's healthcare, our unions, with fair wage and working conditions, will certainly come under scrutiny. Social Security and Medicare are in the mix also.

I didn't think this could happen. Through the Republican "gerrymandering" of voting districts, the popular vote for Hillary turned out to be the electoral college vote for Trump. I have signed several petitions to change this unfair system of presidential voting. My vote in Florida is not "equal" to a vote in a less populated state.

I don't want to be completely negative. We still can and NEED to contact our legislators to let them know how we feel-daily! They need to know how we feel about the recent happenings in Washington. Let them know that their term of office is tenuous if they don't truly "represent" us. This was the intention of our forefathers when they wrote the Constitution. Let's make sure that our voice is heard and our country will CONTINUE to be great.

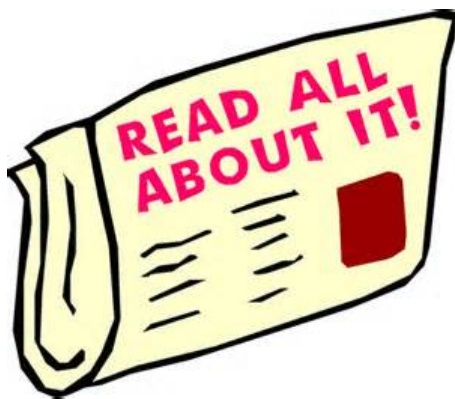
Out and About with the Clearwater Unit



On Thursday, February 9, our CLEARWATER UNIT made its "annual visit" to Tampa Bay Downs for our much anticipated DAY AT THE RACES. All but three of our allotted 44 tickets were sold to our "avid horse racing fans"- if only once a year!

We enjoyed a delicious buffet with carving boards and pastries and cookies for dessert.

In the past, the management has dedicated one of the races to our CLEARWATER UNIT and had some of us down to the "winner's circle" to take photos with the horse and jockey. Unfortunately, this did not happen this year- hence, no photos.



I'm not sure if our members came out "ahead" with winnings-but I think we all enjoyed the excitement of the races and the magnificent horses that were racing that day!

This is a regular February event for our group, so mark your calendars for 2018!

**Save
the
Date**



Our Annual End Of The Year Picnic is scheduled for Thursday, April 13th, at the Sheriff's Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor.

More details will be in the April Newsletter!

In recent years, Joe and Cathy have attended the OPEN HOUSE at the Sheriffs Youth Ranch and thoroughly enjoyed the activities and presentations. For some of you, who may be new members, it will be an opportunity to visit Egan Cottage and the residents. You will get a first hand view to where your donations are going and the many benefits that you have made possible. They hope to see you there on March 4th.



February 3, 2017

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NYSUT TRIF
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Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your continued support of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. I appreciate your generosity and I would like to personally invite you to join us for our annual Open House at the Youth Ranch in Safety Harbor.

Please join us at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch located at 3180 Enterprise Road on Saturday, March 4th from 11:30 AM until 2:00 PM. Campus tours will be available and the cottages will be open to everyone. This is a great opportunity for you to meet the boys and girls in our care and learn about their lives at the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch.

There will be a complimentary barbecue lunch served from 11:30 AM until 1:00 PM. The St. Pete Community Band will be performing and law enforcement will have some exciting items on display for you to enjoy.

I encourage you to bring a friend or neighbor who may be interested in our work with needy and deserving children. Dress is casual and comfortable shoes are encouraged. Please RSVP to Sue at (727)725-4761 by February 24th, so we can prepare appropriately for our guests. I look forward to seeing you at this event.

Sincerely,

Bill Frye

Bill Frye
President



THURSDAY, MARCH 9th Luncheon

11:30 A.M.

POSITANO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT
IN SHOPPES OF CLOVERPLACE
3309 TAMPA ROAD
PALM HARBOR, 34684



OUR SPEAKER WILL BE STACEY ORLOFF FROM EMPATH HEALTH

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY MONDAY, MARCH 6TH TO
MADDI OR MARILYN**

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