

# EDITORIAL OPINION

## Naples Daily News

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### KUDOS AND KICKS

# Awareness of domestic violence's toll must improve

Editorial Board  
Naples Daily News

### Kick

We continued to be plagued by domestic violence.

Even before the pandemic and associated quarantine, which experts fear may have produced a spike in incidents that is not yet fully documented, Collier County had seen an increase in abuse.

According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Collier County had 39 more domestic violence offenses in 2019 than 2018, including one murder, 41 forcible rapes and 228 aggravated assaults.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Linda Oberhaus, CEO of Collier County's Shelter for Abused Women & Children, reminds us that domestic violence crosses all age, ethnic, economic and geographic boundaries.

On Tuesday, Collier County commissioners issued a proclamation recognizing the October designation. "The crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to systemic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse," the proclamation reads, in part.

If you know someone affected by domestic violence, call The Shelter's 24-hour crisis hotline at 239-775-1101. For more information on how to recognize and act on the signs of domestic violence, go online to [naplesshelter.org/help](http://naplesshelter.org/help)

### Kudos

Kudos to the Village of Estero.

The town is making personal protective equipment available to residents for free on Oct. 24.

Using federal CARES grant money, city officials will give out reusable shopping bags filled with an N95 mask made in the USA, a reusable mask with the Village of Estero logo and a hand sanitizer bottle.

The distribution will take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Goodwill Industries, 10351 Corkscrew Commons Drive and Estero United Methodist Church, 8088 Lord's Way at the corner of U.S. 41 and Broadway.

The items are meant to encourage mask and hand sanitizer use during the continuing COVID pandemic, according to a news release from the village.

### Kudos

Kudos to the Lee County library system.

It was recognized as one of six exceptional employers in the state by the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), Blind Services, and Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Exceptional Employer Awards are presented to companies that have a strong commitment to employing and retaining people with unique abilities.

"I look forward to seeing how these businesses and individuals continue to accomplish their goals while helping make our state an even better place to live, learn and work for people with unique abilities and all Floridians," Gov. Ron DeSantis said in a statement.

### Kudos

State Sen. Janet Cruz, D-Tampa, has a unique way of recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month.

She has singled out devil crab, a recipe made popular, as a statement from Cruz's office describes: "Devil Crab has a storied history in the City of Tampa. Its origins date back to a cigar factory strike during 1920. It became a lifeline to those on strike because of its handheld nature (it could be eaten while picketing) and the affordability and availability of its two main ingredients – Blue Crab and Cuban bread. The strike ended after ten months, but the Devil Crab remained.

"This is not exclusively a delicate mix of crab meat that is breaded and fried, there's symbolism mixed in as well. It serves as a reminder of the determined, impoverished, immigrant factory worker from so long ago," the statement reads.

Cruz is also considering legislation naming the blue crab as the official state crustacean. You're probably wondering how the state has gotten by without an official state crustacean for all these years, but that's a topic for another day.

(Brent Batten wrote this for the Naples Daily News editorial board.)

## 400th Anniversary of Mayflower voyage...



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Rubio a hypocrite on court nominee?

Sen. Marco Rubio said in 2016, "I don't think we should be moving forward with a (Supreme Court) nominee in the last year of this president's term. I would say that even if it was a Republican president."\*

Your silence to speak the truth against Donald Trump's illegal, unethical, dangerous and inhumane behavior is shameful. You have put your comforts and selfish ambition before morals, decency and the health and welfare of Americans. You looked the other way, but you are tarnished by Trump's actions and grave inactions concerning, to name a few: an inadequate and ineffective health care system; a rapidly deteriorating environment; out-of-control fiscal and monetary policies; crumbling infrastructure; the rise of a police state; corruption in the White House and Washington; and most importantly, the deaths of more than 200,000 Americans.

You and other Republican senators and representatives have enabled Trump. He is unfit to be president, and you have failed in your job as senator.

You have a chance to finally do the right, patriotic thing for your country. Honor the wishes of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a real patriot, and honor your statement of 2016. Vote to delay the decision for a Supreme Court justice until 2021.

Gerri Noyes, North Naples

\*Editor's note: Newspapers in Florida included the Rubio quote in articles and opinion columns still available online.

#### A vote for Danieli for Bonita Council

We are writing to endorse Michael Danieli for city councilman in District 6 of Bonita Springs.

Mike is a newcomer to politics but not a newcomer to hard work. During and after Hurricane Irma, he went around tirelessly making sure residents at Worthington were safe and had whatever was needed. He did not stop there. He made an effort to meet with our civic leaders and the Southwest Florida Water Management (District) to work on how to mitigate some of the effects of the last hurricane. This was to benefit all of Bonita Springs, not just Worthington.

He also has been working hard from the moment he decided to run for the council to learn about problems that need addressing in Bonita Springs. If elected, he could start right away on these issues.

Mike is honest and forthright, which are qualities we need in elected officials, especially today.

Maria and Denzil Sequeira, Bonita Springs

#### 'Irresponsible' to welcome Trump

I find it irresponsible that our elected officials welcomed Donald Trump to visit our community (Friday).

COVID-19 cases have been decreasing in Lee County, but when Donald Trump holds rallies or invitation-

only gatherings, there is an increase in cases. Coupled with snowbirds arriving and the influenza season, this was a bad decision.

Lois Piskorz, Cape Coral

#### 'Why anyone would vote for Biden'

Since Joe Biden is obviously not all there, maybe he doesn't realize how often he takes opposite positions on important questions. It must drive his running mate crazy to try to keep up with such issues as packing the Supreme Court. This alone is reason to not vote for Biden.

Other major problems for him are his anti-fracking and anti-fossil fuel ideas, which are totally impractical if we are to preserve our present economy. This is all part of his not being able to distance himself from AOC and the Green New Deal, and it also would destroy our economy.

To sum up, it escapes me why anyone would vote for Biden, no matter what one thinks of President Trump.

Neil Miller, North Fort Myers

#### Trump, Biden roads will lead where?

Where are you going, United States of America? We are coming to a historic fork in our road. The decision is ours.

We can decide to continue on the Trump road we have been traveling the last 3½ years. We know that road; it has given us lower taxes, significantly reduced regulations, energy independence, and the lowest unemployment for our black community, Hispanic community and for women.

The Trump road has ended the senseless wars, and our soldiers are coming home from around the world. No more American blood in the sands.

We will overcome the coronavirus and return again to the road of greatness.

Or we can take the Biden road, which will lead us to a socialist system; a stacked Supreme Court, massive tax increases, the elimination of energy independence, with the loss of thousands of good-paying jobs, more gun control and socialist health care.

Socialism always leads to some form of totalitarianism, and it hasn't worked where it has been tried, such as Venezuela. Don't say it can't happen here. Just look at how we have been gaslighted the past six months with the virus epidemic. It has been frightening.

Those of you who vote for Biden because you don't like Trump for whatever reason will come to regret it within two years if Biden wins. I have faith that the American people will prevent such a catastrophe from happening.

Henry Pfendt, North Naples

