





A Newsletter for Conservative Republicans

FLYING HIGH...AND DIGGING AND BORING TO KEEP BREVARD COUNTY RED AND GET CONSERVATIVES ELECTED

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TRUMP EASILY DEFEATS HALEY IN SOUTH CAROLINA PRIMARY

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: MY TWO CENTS **By Stuart Gorin**



--On February 2, Punxsutawney Joe Biden emerged from the White House basement, saw his own shadow, and predicted six more months of chaos on the Southern border and continued inflation. -0-

--California Democrat Congressman Robert Garcia thought he was mocking Donald Trump when he said the former President's plans to close the border included "installing alligator patrolled moats, electronic fencing, and shooting migrants in the leg." Garcia wanted to paint the picture that Trump was some kind of evil tyrant, but it all backfired on him when social media users actually cheered on these ideas. -0-

--Bask in the day, when I USED to care about NFL football, my beloved old Baltimore Colts were led by quarterback Johnny Unitas. His passing (not the football) was one of my saddest days. I learned that the annual Super Bowl Live Auction event this year featured a number of memorabilia items from the Hall of Famer's personal collection – and they brought in big bucks to support the charities involved. His 1970 Colts Super Bowl V championship ring sold for \$258,500, his 1958 Colts NFL championship ring fetched \$152,750, his 1979 Football Hall of Fame Induction ring sold for \$38,175, and his 1967 NFL Most Valuable Player award - the Jim Thorpe Memorial Trophy went for \$64,625. -0-

--A friend wrote that he had just received his 2024 Social Security Stimulus Package, and it included..."an increase of two cents a month, a Biden 'Build Back Better' bumper sticker,

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By Space Coast Tusk Editor Stuart Gorin

There were actually seven names on the ballot for the South Carolina Republican Primary Election on February 24, but only two of them really mattered - with former President Donald Trump easily defeating the home state favorite, former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, by a three-totwo margin.



That was the figure with 99 percent of the ballots counted, but new media outlets covering the contest declared Trump the winner just 10 minutes after the polls closed, and less than one percent of the votes had been counted.

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a prayer rug, a Kamala Speech Decoder Ring, a solar powered fan to blow smoke up his 'you-know-what,' a coupon for a free oil change on the Tesla, and a 'Blame It On Trump' sign for the front yard. The only downside is the instructions are in Spanish and Arabic." My response was my increase was actually two dollars a month, but I did not receive any of the additional items.

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--I also received a great quote from the late actor Robin Williams. He said, "Politicians should wear sponsor jackets like NASCAR drivers. Then we know who owns them." -0-

--More Two Cents Next Month

The combined number of ballots cast for the other five names totaled less than one percent.

A joyous Trump said he has "never seen the Republican Party so unified as it is right now." He was joined by three supportive South Carolina officials who spoke briefly on his behalf – Senators Tim Scott and Lindsey Graham, and Governor Henry McMaster.

Despite her decisive loss, Haley told her supporters she will continue to run for president.

The next event on the election agenda is the February 27 Michigan Primary. That will be followed by Super Tuesday on March 5, with voting taking place in 15 states and American Samoa. Results of these contests will be reported in the March Space Coast Tusk.

Several hours before the South Carolina polls closed, Trump delivered a 90-minute speech at the Conservative Political Action Conference in National Harbor, Maryland, where he declared himself a "proud political dissident" and cast November's presidential election as "judgment day for the liars and cheaters and fraudsters and censors and imposters who have commandeered our government." However, Trump added, "When we win, the curtain closes on their corrupt reign and the sun rises on a bright new future for America."

He cast himself as a savior standing between his supporters and near-anarchy as he spoke of "hordes of illegal aliens stampeding across our borders," warned the country's social safety net and education system would "buckle and collapse," and claimed that "the gangs will be invading your territory."

Noting that "These are the stakes of this election: Our country is being destroyed and the only thing standing between you and its obliteration is me," Trump defined Biden's leadership as "an express train barreling toward servitude and to ruin."

"A vote for Trump is your ticket back to freedom, it's your passport out of tyranny and it's your only escape from Joe

Biden and his gang's fast track to hell. And in many ways, we're living in hell right now," he said, adding that "the unprecedented success of the United States of America will be my ultimate and absolute revenge."

This year's CPAC conference also featured a parade of Republican lawmakers and MAGA personalities who have echoed Trump's attacks on Biden's border policies, his handling of the economy and his assertion that the 91 felony charges he faces across four separate jurisdictions are nothing more than a baseless attempt by the Biden administration to damage his candidacy.

The only "crime" Trump said he had committed, was "defending America from those who want to destroy it."

Some of the other speakers at the four-day CPAC event were former Housing Secretary Dr. Ben Carson, daughter-in-law Lara Trump, New York Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, Florida Congressman Matt Gaetz, Ohio Congressman Jim Jordan, Ohio Senator J.D. Vance, South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem, former Hawaii Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, biotech entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy, My Pillow CEO Mike Lindell, Arizona Senate candidate Kari Lake, and former White House Chief Strategist Steve Bannon.

CPAC attendees were invited to participate in a straw poll to select their choice to be Trump's vice presidential running mate – from a lengthy list of potential candidates. Tied for first place in the straw poll – but only with 15 percent of the vote each – were Noem and Ramaswamy.



POLITICAL JOTTINGS AND DOTTINGS

--Still in the month of January, after former President Donald Thump easily won the Iowa Caucuses and the New Hampshire Primary, there was a move by

some for the Republican National Committee to end the primaries and declare him "the presumptive nominee." But that did not sit too well with Trump, who said that since 1,215 delegates are needed for the nomination, "I feel for the sake of PARTY UNITY, that they should NOT go forward with this plan, but that I should do it the 'Old Fashioned' way and finish the process off AT THE BALLOT BOX."

--Democrat Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on February 13 became the first Cabinet official to be impeached in nearly 150 years – two weeks after an earlier House effort failed. The 214-213 re-vote is only symbolic, since the Democrat Senate majority will not vote to convict Mayorkas, who was charged by the Republican House with refusing to comply with immigration laws and to control the border to the detriment of national security, as well as making false statements to Congress. It was still important that a message about him be made on the record. Three Republicans voted with the Democrats both times – Mike Gallagher of Wisconsin, Ken Buck of Colorado, and Tom McClintock of California. But the deciding yes vote the second time was cast by Majority Leader Steve Scalise, who missed the first vote for medical reasons.

--When Republicans in the House of Representatives introduced legislation on January 31 to ban Hamas terrorists from entering the United States, even the Democrats agreed. But not all Democrats. The final vote on the measure – which was then sent to the Senate – was 422-2-1, with so-called "Squad" members Cori Bush of Missouri and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan voting no, and Delia Ramirez of Illinois saying "present."

--Jeff DeWitt, the chairman of the Arizona Republican Party, resigned from his seat last month following the release of an audio recording of him allegedly offering Republican Senate candidate Kari Lake a bribe to exit the race. Lake, who was an unsuccessful candidate for Arizona governor in 2022, is one of numerous hopefuls running for the Senate seat held by former Democrat and now Independent, Kyrsten Sinema.

--Florida Republican Congresswoman Anna Paulina Luna reportedly has Democrat Senate Leader Chuck Schumer "fuming" over a bill she filed in the House designed to lower the number of politicians who support fighting endless wars overseas. Any member of Congress in favor of sending American troops to Ukraine to fight against Russia, she said, "would have to serve a minimum of six months on active duty in support of a contingency operation." Luna cleverly named her bill the "Senators Can Help Underpin Military Engagement and Readiness Act, aka the SCHUMER Act." on March 5, with voting taking place in 15 states and American Samoa. Results of these contests will be reported in the March Space Coast Tusk.

YAF STUDENT FREEDOM CONFERENCE



More than 400 college students from across the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Canada and U.S. high school students gathered in Orlando, Florida, February 9 and 10 to attend the Young America's

Foundation Student Freedom Conference.

It was part of YAF's commitment to ensure that increasing numbers of young Americans understand and are inspired by the ideas of individual freedom, a strong national defense, free enterprise, and traditional values.Welcoming the students at the opening banquet, **YAF President Scott Walker**, the former governor of Wisconsin, told the students that if they are attacked – either physically or emotionally – "we've got your back." There are two major issues on which the Left has made major inroads with young people, by convincing them that two radical ideologies are mainstream and popular, he said, and they are that students are told that America and Israel are "corrupt", and that gender is fluid and transgenderism is "a biological fact."



"If we don't have young people willing

to fight and defend America, Walker said, "we will lose our freedoms and our country, which is why we cannot afford to lose another generation to anti-Americanism." Young people, he said, need to "bail on liberalism, radical socialism and woke-ism."

Noting that he didn't become governor of Wisconsin or president of Young America's Foundation to just be reactive or reactionary, Walker said he wants the Conservative movement to do a better job of responding to the Left – to proactively take action to fight back.

For years, he said, YAF has been telling its donors to stop giving to their alma maters if their schools use tax-payer dollars to teach students to hate America and our values.

Walker also said that last year, YAF leaders and activists made more than 250 media appearances to share conservative ideas on television and radio and achieved more than 35,000 mentions in news reports. In addition to the Orlando conference, he said, upcoming programs this year will take place at the Reagan Ranch in California and his boyhood home in Illinois, as well as a national conference in Washington, D.C.



Entertaining the group of students and supporters at YAF's opening banquet, **Seth Dillon**, the CEO of the satirical website "The Babylon Bee," explained how the Bee is "the definitive source of fake news you can trust." He said censorship and deplatforming has placed him on the front lines of the battle for free speech in the public square.

Subsequent seminars at the conference were scheduled to be held by pro-life advocate and author **Anna Strasburg**, "Jihad Watch" director **Robert Spencer**, YAF director and author **Peter Schweizer**, YAF director and author **Wynton Hall**, "Classically Abby" creator **Abby Roth**, and Breitbart editor and author **Jerome Hudson**.

Located in Reston, Virginia, YAF also runs the Reagan Ranch in California, the National Journalism Center, and Young Americans for Freedom. It has more than 60 years of history, and contacts on more than 2,000 campuses. For more information, visit the website: <u>www.yaf.org</u>.



EIGHT MORE "WORST OF 2023" CATEGORIES

In addition to announcing the Worst Quote of the Year

Award that was reported here in December, the Media Research Center came up with eight additional categories for the Worst of 2023. They are:

- The Craziest Analyst Award won by CNN Co-host Don Lemon for: "Former U.N. ambassador Nikki Haley isn't in her prime – sorry. A woman is considered being in her prime in her 20s and 30s and maybe 40s. Prime, if you look it up. If you Google, when is a woman in her prime? It'll say 20s, 30s, 40s."
- 2) The Damn Those Conservatives Award won by MSNBC host Rachel Maddow for "Donald Trump is basically portraying a future for America if he is put back in the White House, in which we don't have another election after that....Because the elections are all rigged, that the democratic process can't be trusted, that Congress should just work for him, the Justice Department should just work for him. That's a strongman form of government.... He wants to put MSNBC on trial for treason so that he can execute us.... If they're going to elevate somebody like that to represent their party in a general election.... the Republican Party will have to reckon with that till the end of time in terms of what they did to this country."
- 3) The Joy of Hate Award for Joy Reid Rants, won by MSNBC host Reid for: ""You can't even say slavery was bad now in the Republican Party. That's how far it's gone."
- 4) The Jihadist Journalism Award for Helping Hamas, won by CBS Correspondent Imtiaz Tyab, for "Over the years I've made frequent trips to Gaza and have spoken with several Hamas leaders and, you know, they know their military capabilities are no match for Israel's enormous fire power. But what they lack in fire power, they make up for in ideology and sheer determination."
- 5) "The Damning Florida's Dictator Award, won by PBS contributor Jonathan Capehart for "We can't talk about Jacksonville [shooting] without talking about the political environment around Black people and particularly around Black history in Florida. There is a reason Governor DeSantis was booed when he did the right thing by going to the community, but the community booed him for a reason, his so-called antiwoke legislation, what's happening with the teaching of Black history in Florida public schools. That sends a message not only to the Black community that the governor does not think much of you or your history or your contributions to this country, but it also sends a signal to those people, deranged or not, who believe

that Black people are inferior and therefore are worthy of extermination."

- 6) "The Praising and Protecting Old Joe Award," won by presidential historian Michael Beschloss on MSNBC for "I'm feeling great! That was a wonderful speech. Didn't you think he was sort of Mr. Smooth?...He was elegant, he was civilized, he was conciliatory, he was reasonable, and maybe most of all, he sounded like a centrist, which is exactly where he wants to be....Biden's speech....was quite mild and almost lovable with a lot of proposals that a lot of people are going to like."
- 7) "The Cursing the Conservative Court Award," won by "*The Nation*" **justice correspondent Elie Mystal for** "Make no mistake: John Roberts has been an enemy of black people voting for his entire legal career. Indeed his first job after he finished clerking was to work for the Reagan White House arguing against an expansion to the Voting Rights Act that was eventually pushed through.... John Roberts has been our enemy on voting rights for his entire life and he's going to continue to be our enemy this month."
- 8) "The Celebrity Freak-Outs Award" won by ABC's "The View for this dialogue:

Actress Jane Fonda: "We're not going back. I don't

care what the laws are. We're not going back.... It's true. It's the truth. We're not going to do it. We're going to fight."

Co-host Joy Behar: "Besides marching and protesting, what else do you suggest?"

Fonda: "Well, it does involve murder."

Actress Lily Tomlin: "Well, it doesn't happen overnight. It's not a miraculous – What did you say?"

Fonda: "Murder."

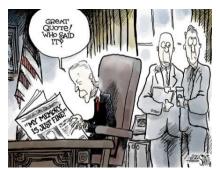
Behar: "She's kidding. Wait a second, she's just kidding."



LET ME BE FRANK By Space Coast Tusk Designer Frank Montelione

How does the administration spin the Special Prosecutor Robert Hur's report on President Biden's documents case? Easy, pull out his version of Saul Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals".

First – have a press conference and use Rule #5: "Ridicule is man's most potent weapon. There is no defense. It is almost impossible to counterattack ridicule. Also, it infuriates the opposition, who then react to your advantage. Ridicule Peter Doocy. When Doocy noted that the special counsel called Biden a "well-meaning, elderly man with a poor memory,"



Biden answered with: "I'm well-meaning and I'm an elderly man and I know what the hell I'm doing. I've been president and I put this country back on its feet."

Doocy pressed: "How bad is your memory and

can you continue as president?"

Biden: "My memory is so bad, I let you speak."

Reporters shouted questions. One voice heard over the others: "Mr. President, for months when you were asked about your age, you would respond with the words 'watch me'. Well, many American people have been watching and they have expressed concerns about your age."

Biden became belligerent and answered: "That is your judgment!" and became angrier as he pointed an accusing finger. "That is your judgment. That is not the judgment of the press" – presumably he meant to say public since the "press" was throwing questions at him.

Rule #5 was firmly in place – ridicule the press and put the monkey on their backs.

Rule #7: "A tactic that drags on too long becomes a drag." Don't become old news. Change the subject.



Rule #8 "Keep the pressure on. Never let up." Keep trying new things to keep the opposition off balance. As the opposition masters one approach, hit them from the flank with something new. "Hey, let's go to East Palestine." But this one backfired

as most of his ploys do. It was a year since the train derailment there and the residents held "Too Little, Too Late" signs. For the liberal news media, it was time to change the focus from the Hur report to something else and this was handed to them by the administration.

Rule #11: "If you push a negative hard and deep enough it will break through into its counterside; this is based on the principle that every positive has its negative."

Biden was found to have illegally taken and stored secret documents he was not entitled to have in his possession. He wasn't prosecuted because, according to Rober Hur, Biden came off "as a sympathetic, well-meaning, elderly man with a poor memory" and that "it would be difficult to convince a jury that they should convict him – by then a former president well into his eighties -- of a serious felony that requires a mental state of willfulness." Push a negative deep enough... "I did not break the law. Period," and that has been the mantra from all points of the administration. Keep repeating it until, they hope, the lie becomes the truth.

Rule #13: "Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it." The target is the citizens of the Country. The Issue is competence and memory. To personalize it, Biden becomes the victim. Freeze it there, go back to Rule #11 and keep it there.

During the press statement he proved the negative and lost his momentum by forgetting who the president of Egypt was and referred to him as "the president of Mexico". This followed his assertions that in recent days he met François Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl of Germany when both were already dead.

How dare they ask about Beau Biden's death. Really? As it turns out it was the President himself who brought up the circumstances of his son's death. Refer to Rule #11.

Just a few days later, on February 12, a confused-looking President Biden paced back and forth behind King Abdullah II of Jordan, not sure where to stand ahead of the royal's remarks. Biden shuffled around behind him and the podium, gazing down at the floor as if looking for a mark indicating the proper place for him to stand.

The gaffes continue and will accumulate, I'm sure, over the remainder of his term. Confidence in the United States by our Allies is waning. Rest assured our enemies watched this presser. North Korea must be contemplating what our response would be if they tried to unify the Korean peninsula. Russia is eying the resurrection of the Soviet Union. China may be preparing to bring their "Provence of Taiwan" back into the People's Republic of China.

I used to think that we survived Jimmy Carter, we survived Barack Obama, we can survive Joe Biden. I'm not sure anymore. I think we will, but it may take more than a few terms of strong, conservative leadership to do that. It will take new leadership on both sides of the aisle to support a strong President. We will have to take back the leadership of blue states and wresting control of Attorneys General from the criminal-siding AGs back to law and order leaders. Border security, mass deportation of illegals – if we can find them – enforcing laws already on the books, meting out commensurate punishment for law breakers, taking the handcuffs off police. It will take many years to undo the damage done in four short years of the Biden administration and the weak elected officials of many states.

I hope that I will still be around to see those changes. -0-

A short note on equal justice: I am not a Trump fan (sorry) however, I will support the Republican Nominee for President, but fair is fair. As a former LEO, I was trained that



the law has to be administered fairly with no prejudice given for color, race or political persuasion. If we were tasked with guarding a political office, we would do our job according to the law.

So how is it that Trump is charged with concealing sensitive documents, which as a former President he was entitled to but Pence, Biden and others who were not entitled to have them in their possession are not prosecuted?

In a recent decision barring the Trump family from doing business in New York for a number of years, the Judge found the Trump family liable for a crime without a victim. I heard one commentator say it was like being charged with murder when no one was dead!

I am not defending Trump. I am arguing that equal justice no longer exists in the United States. It has been replaced with a two-tiered system where too often a person is judge, not on the letter of the law, but on the political leanings of those entrusted to administer justice in a fair and equitable basis.

A short note from the Editor:

While I agree with nearly all of what has been written, on the subject of not being a Trump fan, we agree to disagree.

MAYFIELD MINUTE



By Florida District 17 State Senator Debbie Mayfield

Now is the time to start saving for your child's future by enrolling in the Florida Prepaid College Plan. The open enrollment period began February 1, 2024 and extends through April 30,

2024. Prepaid Plan prices have been reduced up to 25% starting at \$34 a month for newborns.

"Attending a college or university today is both a major milestone and a major expense in the lives of young Americans and their parents. Student debt is crippling to so many graduates just starting out in life, which is why planning for your child's academic success through Florida Prepaid could be the major difference in ensuring they can contribute to our nation and our economy," said Florida's Chief Financial Officer, **Jimmy Patronis.**

The Florida Prepaid program allows families to lock in future college costs for less, eliminating worries of the cyclical stock market and annual tuition increases. Since all Florida Prepaid College Plans are guaranteed by the State of Florida, families can never lose their investment.

A grant in the amount of \$4 million was awarded to Indian River State College through the Job Growth Grant Fund (JGGF) to create advanced technology workforce development programs and build an innovative Center of Ballistics and Emerging Technology. The Center will produce safety and security equipment such as ballistic assault barriers to protect law enforcement and the military.

The grant will help to produce over 300 new advanced manufacturing-trained graduates over the next 10 years. Students will be able to take specific training in advanced manufacturing processes to gain transferable, marketable skills after graduation.

The Florida State Senate has passed several bills with unanimous support, and sent them on to the House for action: Senate Bill 328, sponsored by **Senator Alexis Calatayud**, builds on legislation passed last session in SB 102, which expanded affordable housing opportunities in Florida. SB 102, the 2023 Live Local Act, provided historic funding and removed burdensome regulations to increase the stock of affordable workforce housing and provided critical funding for home-ownership and rental assistance programs.

Senate Bill 1758, sponsored by **Senator Jason Brodeur**, provides critical support for Floridians with disabilities and their caregivers. It expands eligibility for home and community-based services offered through the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. This ensures that caregivers are provided with the necessary resources and support to continue providing quality care and the legislation helps families to stay together, even as the caregiver ages.

Senate Bill 7028, sponsored by **Senator Jim Boyd**, enhances the My Safe Florida Home (MSFH) program, expands eligibility, and prioritizes Floridians on fixed- or low- income. The MSFH program provides Floridians with grants to retrofit their homes with mitigation measures, reducing their vulnerability to hurricane damage, and potentially lowering the cost of insurance premiums. As of November 2023, the My Safe Florida Home Program has disbursed over \$35 million to Floridians and has obligated another \$181 million. -0-

I supported **Senator Blaise Ingolia**'s legislation that calls on Congress to convene a constitutional amendment convention through passage of the House Joint Resolution 703 Balanced Federal Budget and House Joint Resolution 693 Congressional Term Limits.

"Term limits and balanced budget requirements have worked quite well here in Florida, and help our state guard against the rampant corruption, abuses of power, and overspending we see in Washington," said **Senate President Kathleen Passidomo**. "Our founding fathers envisioned elected officials as short-term public servants, not lifelong bureaucrats. With these initiatives, Florida is sending a strong message that the federal government must be accountable to the people." I agree with President Passidomo. I stated on the Senate floor during debate, "Members, I just 'googled' our national debt and it is 34 trillion, 172 billion, 927 million [\$34,172,927,000+]. And, if that doesn't scare people in this room, it should. The national debt will never get paid off unless we take dramatic action to require the federal government to put a plan in place to balance our budget."

Both of these measures enhance accountability, improve the function of government, and weaken the influence of special interest groups. The Senate passed both, and the next stop for them is the Governor's desk.

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Florida Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nunez announced the goal for 111 rocket launches from the Space Coast in 2024, which will far surpass the 2023 record 72 launches.

"Our track record is undeniable. And it's signaling to the aerospace industry that in Florida, you can meet your aerospace objectives," Nunez said.

According to a WalletHub study, Florida ranks #1 as the best "state in which to retire" and for "quality of life for seniors" among all 50 states. Florida's attributes in attracting seniors include the state's favorable tax structure, affordable health services available for seniors, low crime rate, multitude of social and family attractions available, and record economic growth. **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** said this was because "strong economy and low taxes create opportunities for families, which is why Florida continues to lead the nation in net in-migration. We are proud to be the top destination for retirement."

Florida ranked #4 for affordability for seniors in comparison to other states: New York ranked #44 overall among best states to retire, with an affordability ranking of #50 for seniors; and California ranked #17 overall, with an affordability ranking of #33 for seniors.

The Melbourne Orlando International Airport (MLB) recently released their December 2023 activity report indicating record passenger activity of just under 749,000 total passengers last year.

In the last year, MLB recently completed a \$72 million terminal renovation and expansion project adding 86,000 in square feet of new facilities including a welcome center, new passenger boarding bridges, food, beverage, and retail offerings, an expanded international baggage claim, a four-times larger TSA passenger screening space, and four new sets of bathrooms.

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Deborah Price of Riviera Elementary School in Palm Bay is Brevard Schools Teacher of the Year. An educator for over 25 years, she is a sixth grade English and Language Arts teacher. She was named Brevard's representative for the 2017 Florida Reading Association Elementary Reading Teacher of the Year. In addition, she is a two-time winner of the Florida Department of Education's High Impact Teacher distinction and was awarded the Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant in 2019. -0-

The recently announced 2022-23 Florida high school graduation rates represent a new record of 88% high school graduates completing their education, an increase of .7% over the previous school year.

To combat the national trend of retail theft and porch piracy in the state, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has proposed legislation making it a third degree felony for committing retail theft with five or more individuals; a second degree felony if criminals use social media to solicit others to participate in retail theft: a first degree felony if an individual commits retail theft with a firearm or has already had two or more prior convictions of retail theft; and reducing the stolen property value necessary to charge criminals with a felony for stealing delivered packages.

"If you commit a crime in Florida, you are going to be held accountable," he said. "We will not tolerate retail crime, porch pirates and the lawlessness that they allow in California and New York."

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Governor DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis announced \$20 million in awards to Florida researchers as part of the Cancer Innovation Fund for projects promoting cancer innovation, research, and lifesaving care.

"Funding innovation in cancer research and care has been a priority of this administration," DeSantis said. "Through our historic investments in the treatment of cancer, we are keeping Florida patients and clinicians at the forefront of the mission to fight back against this terrible disease." -0-

Florida Power & Light has announced a scholarship in the amount of \$20,000 for students with one year of high school experience in Science, Engineering, Communications, Mathematics and Enrichment (SECME). The deadline for the scholarship application is April 1, 2024. The award will be \$5,000 per year, renewable for up to three years or until a bachelor's degree is earned, whichever occurs first.



AN UPDATE FROM MY OFFICE By Florida 8th District State Senator Tom Wright

I am thrilled to bring you updates from the heart of Florida's 2024 Legislative Session, which has been bustling with activity, reflecting our collective efforts to address the wide-ranging needs and aspirations of our community and state at large.

Our legislative agenda this year is ambitious, focusing on a variety of critical issues such as economic development, healthcare, education, and the environment. This session, we've undertaken a comprehensive approach to legislation, tackling complex challenges, striving to balance growth with sustainability, enhance public services, and ensure the prosperity of our state remains accessible to all residents.

Among the key areas of focus has been the support for our veterans and military families, public safety enhancements, and initiatives aimed at making healthcare more accessible and affordable. The commitment to education and the future of our state's children has also been evident, with numerous proposals aimed at improving educational outcomes and ensuring our schools are safe and supportive environments for learning.

In my role, I have been privileged to contribute to this dynamic legislative process, introducing and supporting bills that aim to directly benefit our district and Florida as a whole. I also have multiple bills that are making good progress through the legislative process. For instance, I have Senate Bill 320: Prospective Bidders, which has successfully passed through all committees and is ready to be heard on the Senate Floor. Senate Bill 320 is a bill that would ensure that the Department of Transportation bidding process is a fair process that gives all businesses an even playing field. This will be achieved by ensuring that certain financial information required by the Florida Department of Transportation purposes from entities that seek to qualify to bid on FDOT construction projects remains confidential and exempt from public disclosure requirements.

On the budget front, I am committed to securing funding for projects that will benefit our community, including improvements to our infrastructure, educational institutions, and environmental conservation efforts. These budget items are critical for ensuring the long-term prosperity and wellbeing of our district. The Senate has successfully crafted and approved an initial budget which we are now waiting to bring to Budget Conference, where we will go back and forth with the Florida House to come to an agreement on one unified budget that will be sent to the Governor's desk. In the Budget Conference we will leave no stone unturned and will be working hard to bring back maximum funding for the most critical projects in District 8.

As we progress through this session, I remain committed to keeping you informed and involved. Your feedback and participation are crucial as we navigate these complex issues and make decisions that shape our community's future. My team and I are dedicated to addressing the issues that matter most to you. We welcome your input and encourage you to reach out to our office, at 386-304-7630 or by email at wright.tom@flsenate.gov, with any concerns or suggestions. Together, we can continue to make District 8 a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.



THE BREC CORNER By Chairman Rick Lacey

Lincoln's Birthday was a lucky day for Brevard Republicans, as we set a new record of 190,000 registered Republicans in Brevard

County -- where there are now76.000 more Republicans than Democrats.

Special thanks to **Treasurer Sharon Rose** and her volunteers, who are working across the county to increase the registration numbers. Every day we are getting closer to the Chairman's Challenge of 200,000 Republicans. Also, thanks to all of you who contributed to the Chairman's Challenge. Remember, everyone who contributes \$25 or more will receive a limited edition pin of our new BREC logo.

This month, **State Committeewoman Kim Adkinson, State Committeeman Mike Thomas** and I attended the annual RPOF meeting in Tampa, where State **Senator Joe Gruters** narrowly beat James Campo to replace retired Peter Feaman as National Committeeman. **Kathleen King** was re-elected National Committeewoman by a huge margin. Finally, **Jesse Phillips** won as our new Vice Chairman, filling the vacancy created by **Evan Power's** election as Chairman.

At our February meeting, BREC members were urged to contact NPA voters to encourage them to re-register Republican for both the March 19 Presidential Primary and the August 20 General Primary election.

The BREC Family BBQ and Straw Poll will be Saturday June 22 from Noon till 4pm at the Melbourne Auditorium. Volunteers are needed. Please contact me to help out.

Committeeman Ed Brankey and I are working on scheduling a speaker for this year's Lincoln Reagan Dinner. Details will be announced.

Nine new members were sworn in as BREC committee members.



REMEMBER WHEN By Heritage Isle Republican Club President Michael Hoagland

Remember when President Trump was impeached over the fake Russian Dossier? That event started because Obama and the

Deep State bureaucrats knew that Trump's agenda was creating an America First program. If successful, it would undermine the Marxists, Democrats and globalists' ability to maintain their power and influence around the world.

Let's not rehash everything that was done to damage Trump starting from 2015 and continues to this day. We have learned that the CIA under the leadership of John Brennon started the Trump attacks at the direction of Obama. His attacks continue to this day, with Joe Biden giving the orders.

I don't think Americans truly understand the level of corruption that exists within our government. Our federal bureaucracy (Deep State) is corrupt. They believe that their agenda will persist as politicians come and go. Democrats are beholding to the Deep State in order to maintain their political power. Remember, Chuck Schumer advised Trump not to attack the intelligence agencies because "they can get you ten ways to Sunday". We now know how true that statement was. So, the CIA, FBI, DOJ and the White House have proven that their level of corruption has no boundaries. Lawfare is the new activity Marxists use to attack conservatives.

The Marxists litigate against America First conservatives using Soros funded District Attorneys, who then select jurisdictions with liberal judges and liberal population centers. The FBI and White House will then send attorneys to assist the locals in their prosecution of conservatives. These local prosecutors also go to the White House to collude on conservative prosecutions. -0-

And remember when Joe Biden was running for president? He said he was going to bring unity to America. How has that worked out? Let's see. He weaponized the DOJ, FBI, radical blue state DAs and radical judges. They in turn went after anyone or organization that did not support the Marxist agenda. They have persecuted parents when attending School Board meetings objecting to the indoctrination of their children or complaining about the sexualization of their children. The FBI said these parents were potential domestic terrorists.

Catholics that practiced traditional Latin mass services were considered potential domestic terrorists. Any American who prayed near and abortion clinic was considered a potential domestic terrorist. All conservative comments on social media were censored if critical of any liberal Marxist agenda and considered potential terrorists. They have persecuted/prosecuted any Trump supporter who they call a criminal or a threat to democracy.

Anyone who was present in Washington on January 6 is considered a target for persecution. Biden refers to MAGA supporters as white supremacist radicals. He directed his DOJ to prosecute/persecute Donald Trump. Does this sound like a uniter? Biden is a miserable human being filled with hate. Just review his career and his policies. Robert Byrd was his mentor. That should say enough about his character. Keep in mind, the corporate media support everything Biden does. They are complicit with all the personal destruction that has occurred in this country under Joe Biden's presidency.

Let's discuss our two- tiered judicial system. The DOJ is prosecuting/persecuting Trump over his possession of classified documents. Trump says he is protected by the Presidential Records Act, which gives the president the ability to declassify ANY document merely on his say so. Yet, Jack Smith, the corrupt federal prosecutor, is attempting to put Trump in prison. We know that the documents were in Mar-A-Lago under lock with secret service in attendance. The property is private and well protected. The FBI advised Trump to place a lock on the door where documents were kept. He complied. Yet, Biden had his DOJ raid Mar-A-Lago early in the morning like storm troopers. They went through everything including Melania's underwear.

While Senator and Vice President, Biden removed numerous classified documents, but was not afforded any protections under the Presidential Records Act which made all he did criminal. The documents were in his garage, University of Penn in an area paid for by China and the University of Delaware. Crimes were committed over decades. We just heard that there will be no prosecution as Biden is too old and has a short memory. So, even though he has said he willingly took these documents, he will suffer no consequences. The Special Counselor said no jury would convict an old man. Wow!



RENDEZVOUS WITH REPUBLICAN WOMEN By Xiaoqi Wang BFRW First Vice President

Brevard Republican Executive Committee Chairman Rick Lacey, the guest speaker at our February 7 meeting, said that Florida's 2024 Presidential Preference Primary Election on March 19 will have no Democrats listed on the ballot.

Lacey, who has been BREC chair since 2016, said the Democrats in the state will not allow their members to have a say in choosing their nominee. Several Republicans will be listed, he said, but a number of them have already dropped out of the race.



Also, a member of the St. John the Evangelist Parish Council, Leader of the Respect Live Ministry, and member of the Knights of Columbus Council 6125, Lacey reminded BFRW members that only those Republican voters registered by the February 20 deadline are eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Primary.

He encouraged the attendees to reach out to No Party Affiliated voters in Brevard County and urge them to register as Republicans to vote in the primary.

The 2024 election is crucial, he said, because the progressive left is pushing for legalized marijuana, government-subsidized abortion, and other woke policies that poison our society and youth. "Now is the time for a grassroots get-out- the vote-effort to assure that we the people are heard," Lacey said, asking that everyone volunteer for all grassroots activities – knocking on doors, making phone calls, working at the polling places, and more.

He also spoke about formation of the Brevard County Republican Party's CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE and asked members to participate. The goal of the Challenge is to build the war chest to enable the Brevard Republican Party to be more effective in supporting local elections in 2024 – a busy year for both BREC and BFRW. "Please join us in fighting the most important political battle in decades," Lacey said.



NORTH TO THE PARTY By Board Member Robin Riker

Congratulations to **Barbara Fine** who has been elected our new and n elected to our Board of directors!

Welcome to a fantastic club!!

Our speaker for the evening on February 20 was **Blaise Trettis**, Brevard and Seminole Counties Public Defender, 18th Judicial Court. He spoke on the lawfare that is being waged against President Trump. The numerous suits filed against him alone shows the absolute political persecution of this past president. Trettis detailed everything from John Brennan's initiation of

Russia Gate, to including 18 of Trump's lawyers in suits against them because they defended him. Trettis detailed the peril the country could be in if Presidents are not given immunity from prosecution for decisions made during their time in office.



Trettis has a love of this country and justice

that visibly shows when speaking on the injustice that is being directed at our former President.

Treasurer **Frank Buckoski** thanked President **Pat Deen** and Associate Board Member **Susan Eppinger** for donating 2 pistols for the drawing on the gun raffle that will take place on May 21, and anyone interested in purchasing a ticket for a chance to win one of the pistols or an AR type rifle can call 689-318-5235.

Robyn Hattaway, candidate for State Senator, District 19, was voted in as an Honorary Member of our club in thanks for all of the support she has given us over the years. We are honored to have her as a member.

BREC member **Wayne Twiddy** presented two ways that we can all help our state and country. He presented two Calls To Actions: 1) Stopping Non-Citizens from voting in Florida's 2024 elections, https://tinyurl.com/onlycitizens and 2) No Harassment Bills, https://tinyurl.com/noharassmentbill to stop any harassment of U.S. citizens who try to monitor our elections to keep them safe and secure. These are excellent ways each of us can work to keep our country secure.

Next, BREC member **Richard Nink** spoke on the position of Poll Watcher and how important they are to keeping our elections secure. He is actively seeking people to become poll watchers, and can set you up for training and even schedule you a time and polling place to watch. Email him at <u>GOPBrevardEIC-Chair@hotmail.com</u>.

Our speaker next month will be award winning Christian, international, radio host and author **Alex Newman**, on March 19, 6:30 pm at the American Police Hall of Fame in Titusville.

THIS AND THAT

FLORIDA CONGRESSMAN BILL POSEY. Speaking on

the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives on February 1, Florida 8th District Congressman Bill Posey addressed the lies and propaganda spread by the Left surrounding the U.S. southern border – "more lies about the immigration crisis than any other issue since Obamacare" – as well as his support for HR 6976, the Protect Our Communities



From DUIs Act, legislation to require the deportation of illegal immigrants who have been convicted or committed the offense of driving while drunk or impaired. The states, he said, should stop issuing drivers' licenses to undocumented workers. Posey also expressed irritation with some Democrats claiming to have "friends across the aisle," but dismissing all as "MAGA extremist Republicans." He said the Democrats "have a right to stand with the drug cartels, but I and the rest of the MAGA Republicans stand with Texas and the United States" Meanwhile, on February 22, in a great showing of support for him, Posey announced that he has exceeded the 5,818 signature threshold needed to qualify for the 2024 ballot without having to pay a filing fee. "I am truly humbled by the trust that so many constituents have placed in me," he said. "It is the greatest honor and privilege to represent the community I grew-up in, raised a family in, and ran a small business in for so many years."

BREVARD FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN SCHOLARSHIPS. All Brevard County students who are U.S. citizens, and registered Republicans, are eligible to apply for three scholarships established by the Brevard Federated Republican Women. Each of these scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 for high school seniors and college freshmen are: Barbara Davis Scholarship; Lillian Banks Scholarship; and BFRW Trade School Scholarship. For more information, Dixie Riepl. Scholarship contact **Dr**. Chair, at driep16871@gmail.com or phone at 281-740-3080. Scholarship Applications and details can be found on the website BFRW bv visiting www.brevard federatedrepublicanwomen.org. Deadline to apply is Friday, April 19, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. The Brevard Federated Republican Women was established in 1950 to educate members on the political process and current issues, assist in electing qualified Republicans to office and promote Republican initiatives. The BFRW a member of the Florida Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women, which are powerful networks of women who produce results in elections and are committed to advancing the participation of Republican women of all ages

and backgrounds in the political systems. Monthly meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Space Coast Convention Center, located at 301 Tucker Lane, Cocoa, Florida.



Addressing the TRUTHFEST meeting in Viera, Florida, on January 27, speaker, author, and film-maker **Trevor Loudon** spoke on the Communist China Party (CCP) "war against

America," and what we can do to fight back. Noting that it seeks to destroy western economies via policies that appeal to environmentalism is why it champions such globalist initiatives as the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and companies affiliated with the World Economic Forum. Agenda 2030, he said, refers to objectives adopted by all U.N. member states in 2015



that span various aspects of human life and the economy, and includes calling for global wealth distribution and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in efforts to tackle climate change. Loudon, a New Zealander who now lives in Florida, also said the rioting that occurred following the 2020 death of George Floyd is part of a coordinated effort by communist groups to win the election for Democrat Joe Biden and "destroy" President Donald Trump, who has been tough on China and its communist leadership. Singling out the Black Lives Matter movement, Loudon called it a "Marxist operation with deep connections to the CCP." Many Americans see this as some social justice cause, but it's had a major impact on America," he said. "And I believe it was timed to have a major impact on the elections." He said that Marxism is the overturning of the natural, traditional hierarchies of life. We were given three institutions to govern us, and religious institutions -- churches, synagogues, temples. We were given a family with a tradition that goes with that. And we were given civil government." Additionally, he singled out a number of other communistaligned groups in the U.S., including the Communist Party USA and the Chinese Progressive Association in San Francisco, saying, "right under our noses, Chinese-affiliated voter registration organizations are helping to flip American elections." Without identifying them, he said many American political leaders "are working for China, and not for you." This is especially concerning in the Republican-strong South, Loudon said, where voter education drives are at work, what is needed, Loudon said, is to reinstitute Voter ID and paper ballots, since voters do not trust election machines. And he said that the 10th Amendment is needed for states to use against the federal government. "Treat it like organized crime," he said, "Vet candidates and work for the future of our children and grandchildren." The Democrat Party also needs to be exposed, Loudon said, for its consistent defunding of the U.S. military, the Iran Nuclear Deal, normalization of relations with Cuba, Islamic refugee re-settlement, \$15 minimum wage, fracking bans, pipeline shutdowns and the push for open borders policies that are consistent with communist and Islamist agendas.



Fifty-seven years ago, when left-wing activism on college campuses shocked American minds, The Fund for American Studies was created by a group of conservative leaders to advance the values of free markets, limited government, personal responsibility, and economic freedom in communities

throughout the world. Concerned that America was divided, and that too few young Americans understood civics, economics, or honorable leadership, they identified and trained students all across the country, helping them launch careers in business, government, philanthropy, and journalism. Today, said TFAS President Roger Ream, "in another period when

inflation is high and left-wing activism is again ascendant on college campuses across the country, we need to do more. And we need to innovate." In a message to supporters, he said, "Last year, TFAS launched the Center for Excellence in Journalism. We're not only training future journalists but also providing them with the tools and resources they need to fight



back on their campuses right NOW. Ream added that university campuses are not the only place TFAS is fighting back. "We also run a program that provides economics training for high school teachers," he said. "In this program, we equip educators with the knowledge and resources they need to teach actual economics to students before left-wing academics in the 'social sciences' can indoctrinate them. The teachers that we train reach over 150k high school students a year." Meanwhile, Ed Turner, TFAS's Vice President for Development, said that



in addition to the High School and University programs, the Fund's Liberty Plus Leadership campaign also works on the professional level, through Novak Journalism Fellowships, Rago Journalism Fellowship, a curriculum of Liberty seminars, summer Law Fellowships, and Public Policy Fellowships. Cultivating future leaders, he said, "more than 42,000

TFAS alumni are making the difference throughout the world by upholding the values essential to the preservation and success of a free society." Turner said the "big impact" on students in the in-person collegiate programs last year was the increase in the percentage of them who agreed at the conclusion that, among other things, global poverty is decreasing because free trade has increased over the past 50 years; markets create prosperity for all people; and through free trade, innovations like the airplane, electricity, and vaccines are more accessible to ordinary people. Regarding the Foundation for Teaching Economics in the high school division. Turner said more than 1.000 students and 1.400 teachers were enrolled last year, and for 2024, "we intend to adjust our goals up again." For additional information, visit the website: www.tfas.org.



Just in the first month of the new year alone, the Institute for Justice accomplished five lawsuit victories for American citizens. Scott Bullock, the IJ President and Chief Counsel, reported that 1) the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled

unanimously that an FBI raid of more than 700 security deposit

bank vaults boxes at was unconstitutional, and the Bureau was ordered to destroy all records created during the searches; 2) a Nevada district court denied the state's motion to dismiss Marine Corps veteran Stephen Lara's lawsuit challenging civil forfeiture laws which permit police to take people's property without showing they committed a crime; 3) a



North Carolina judge said a state licensing board violated the First Amendment when it ordered retired engineer Wayne Nutt to stop expressing opinions about engineering without needing a special license to do so; 4) a federal district court in California ruled that the state had been violating the constitutional rights of Akhila Murphey and Donna Peizer by onerously denying them the opportunity to provide emotional and practical support to the dying and their loved ones; and 5) a Pennsylvania judge ruled that municipal rental inspectors in the borough of Pottstown cannot barge into homes over the objections of tenants and landlords, and must provide notice before searching any property. "With these triumphs," Bullock said, "IJ is vindicating the rights of our clients while setting lasting precedent that unleashes the potential of all Americans to pursue their vision of the good life."



Speaking at the Leadership Institute's Wake Up Wednesday breakfast on February 7, Republican political strategist Mark Campbell said that politics is about "doing

exceptional things exceptionally well,"

and the trick is "to treat people the way they wanted to be treated." Winning, he said, "is about what is important now," and candidates have to stay focused. While working on a campaign, Campbell said, "We have to be special forces of political sanity. Anger and vitriol does nothing but split away



moderate, undecided voters - those who are "dazed and confused." We have to be smarter, brighter, patient, kind and nice, he said. "In other words, we have to be opposite of what the Democrats are." Campbell said the only way to beat the "woke Left," – which offers people "free stuff" – is to outwork them. Referring to the upcoming election, he said only 60 seats in the 435-member House of Representative really are in play today. He has four decades of experience in the field, having begun his career as a Presidential Fellow during the Reagan Administration. As a consultant, the New Jersey native, later became a key player in the 1991 state legislative campaign that

won veto-proof majorities for the Republican party. He worked on numerous campaigns, including those for Presidents George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush; the Republican National the National Republican Congressional Committee: Committee; the presidential campaigns of former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani and Texas Senator Ted Cruz; and the Virginia gubernatorial campaign of Glenn Youngkin. Campbell also has taught hundreds of political party leaders in emerging democracies around the world, including the art and science of connecting with voters, on behalf of the International Republican Institute and the Leadership Institute. At the Melbourne meeting of the



Republican Liberty Caucus of Brevard on February 5, Alex Newman, "Liberty Sentinel" journalist, educator, author. and consultant who seeks to glorify God in

everything he

does, spoke on "so-called" Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) being "a critical piece of the architecture imposed on humanity by evildoers seeking what they call a 'New World Order.'" His talk included large amounts of evidence showing that CBDCs will be used to eliminate privacy and even control people's economic choices. While the



scheme is being worked on by the Federal Reserve and the Biden administration, he said, some governments and central banks have already imposed it. Eventually, Newman said, the forces pushing CBDCs will seek to eliminate cash, and install digital IDs and global currency. Thankfully, Newman explained, resistance is growing, and as an example, gave Florida as a state that already has banned CBDCs. But he added that just a few states alone would not be able to stop this alone. Newman concluded his remarks by urging the attendees to resist the effort – by using cash, getting involved in the political process, and working with elected officials. For more information, visit the website: www.libertysentinel/alex.



that while he is not a career politician, he is running in 2024 for the soon-to-bevacated District 32 seat in the Florida Legislature "to protect our rights and liberties, and tackle the critical issues facing our families." These issues, he said, include defending life, maintaining county roads, housing increases, high insurance costs, preserving greenspace, and reigning in trial attorneys, to keep

Addressing the Heritage Isle Republican Club on February 1, former Florida Congressman Dave Dr. Weldon, who also is a practicing physician, said



Florida an attractive place in which to live." Serving in the State House, he said, will enable him to continue his medical

practice part-time. So, he added, he is not running for the money, but "for love of country and righteousness, and the freedoms in the First Amendment." State legislatures, he said, "are the best protection against the dysfunction and big government overreach that has infected Washington, D.C., today," adding that the conversion of our criminal justice system is unbelievable. Weldon said Florida "is governed very well, and education is ranked no. 1 in the nation, including parent involvement." But at the national level, he added, there is corruption in higher education, especially in law schools and journalism schools, due to leftist professors. The media in the country is "a nightmare" and "hopeless," Weldon said, with good journalists leaving the profession behind for the liberals who have been indoctrinated. After serving seven terms in Congress through 2008, Weldon stepped down and encouraged the current Congressman - Bill Posey - to succeed him. During his tenure in Congress, Weldon championed religious and antiabortion causes, gun rights and strengthening American national security. He also worked to support and expand the His website www.dave-U.S. space program. is weldon.com....A second speaker at the meeting, businesswoman and community advocate Katie Delaney, is



one of several candidates seeking the soon-to-be-vacated District 1 seat on the Board of Brevard County Commissioners. The owner of a flourishing equestrian business, she paused her operation for her campaign for office, and also said she has been lobbying the Florida Legislature on such issues as medical freedom, parental rights, school choice, and constitutional carry. Delaney also was active in updating the county charter. It is her

goal, she said, to appoint "regular citizens" on boards rather than representatives of special interests. Transparency in local government, Delaney said, "is a cornerstone of accountable and effective governance." By ensuring open access to information, processes, and decision-making, transparency builds trust between authorities and citizens, she added, and it allows constituents to stay informed about policies, budgets, and projects, empowering them to participate actively in civic affairs. Delaney said she will prioritize resources for training, technology and collaboration between Brevard's Sheriff's Department, Fire Department and EMTs, and will never vote to close down the economy or support mask mandates or forced vaccinations. Her website is <u>www.katieforbrevard.com</u>.

AUDACITY AND IDIOCY

Lots of "winners" for this month:



--CBS Sports Chairman Sean McManus, for refusing to allow former President

Donald Trump to replace Joe Biden in a televised Super Bowl interview after the President declined to participate. McManus said he did not want the game to get "political." But what would it have been if Biden – who is running for re-election – had agreed to the interview?

-And CEO Robert Bakish of Paramount Global, the parent company of the CBS network, for announcing one day after a record-breaking 123 million people watched Super Bowl LVIII – the most viewed program in television history – that 800 CBS employees were being laid off "as an effort to improve earnings."

--White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, for blaming Republicans for the 39 percent increase in violent crime in Washington, D.C. last year, while the city's government passed laws that are soft on crime. But there are no Republicans serving on the leftist, all-Democrat city council.

--County officials on the Big Island of Hawaii, for fining Rabbi Levi Gerlitzky more than \$40,000 for hosting small religious gatherings, since members of the Orthodox Jewish faith do not drive on the Sabbath and walk instead to his home. While secular gatherings like Super Bowl parties and book clubs meet in peoples' homes with no penalty, the officials only allow group meetings for religious purposes when a use permit is submitted and approved. Saying that the county violates both the U.S. Constitution and federal law, First Liberty Institute has filed a federal lawsuit on the Rabbi's behalf against the county officials.

--Singer Taylor Slow – sorry, Taylor Swift – for threatening to sue a University of Central Florida student who publicizes online the movement of private jets to expose the amount of carbon emissions they produce, which comes from publicly available data. In two weeks of travel, her jet was estimated to emit more than 200,000 pounds of it – 14 times more than the average American household with produce in an entire year. She claims the student's flight tracker has caused her "direct and irreparable harm, as well as emotional and physical distress."

--Officials at Theodore High School in Mobile County, Alabama, for kowtowing to the Freedom From Religion Foundation, and painting over the Bible verse: "Whatever you do, do it for the Glory of GOD. I Corinthians 10:31" on the wall of the school baseball team dugout. The team members had no problem with the display, but the foundation said it "violated the Constitution" by creating a preference for religion over non-religion.

--Officials of the Skaneateles Central School District and Board of Education in New York, near Syracuse, for deliberately lying to Jennifer Vitsaxaki about the mental health and social struggles her 12-year-old daughter Jane was going through, and not telling her that she was being bullied and socially transitioned, referred to as a boy. Mrs. Vitsaxaki has pulled her daughter out of the school, and the Alliance Defending Freedom is suing the school district on her behalf, saying, "Parents have the right to direct the upbringing and education of their kids, and they cannot fulfill those responsibilities when schools hide information from them and make critical decisions that can have lifelong consequences for their child." --The "woke" National Multiple Sclerosis Society, for firing 90-year-old Fran Itkoff, a disabled Californian who had volunteered for the organization for 60 years, because she did not understand why people were listing their preferred pronouns at the bottom of emails. So, MS's manager of community engagement told her she was "not inclusive enough" and dropped her as a volunteer for "failing to abide by the agency's diversity, equity and inclusion guidelines." It made the national news, so wonder how it will affect MS's charitable donation efforts.

--More wokeness – The Disney Company and partner company Kleenex, for producing "LGBTQ Pride" tissue packaging with Disney-themed designs. It is not funny!

--The U.S. Department of Education, for assessing a record fine of \$37 million against Phoenix, Arizona's Grand Canyon University, purportedly because the private Christian school without citing any student complaints - "insufficiently informed PhD students that they may have to take continuing courses while completing their doctoral dissertations." The university enrolls students in every conceivable discipline and has grown and thrived without raising tuition on its students in over 15 years. Since the Biden Administration has refused to provide documents that explain the massive fine, the Goldwater Institute is suing to hold the government accountable and get the answers the public deserves. By contrast, when Michigan State University refused to address sexual assaults committed by its athletic director, Larry Nassar, who abused more than 500 students, the school was only fined \$4.5 million.

--The Indiana Department of Child Services, for removing a 12-year-old boy from his parents' home and placing him in a "gender-affirming" custodial home because his parents, Mary and Jeremy Cox, were not referring to him according to his preferred gender identity as a girl. It was government-sponsored leftist activism. The parents are asking the Supreme Court to take up their case to regain their parental rights and protect parents across the country. The case began in 2019, when their son's comments went against their religious beliefs that God created people with two sexes – male and female.



YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP

--California Governor Gavin Newsom was shopping in a Target store when he witnessed a shoplifter brazenly walk out with stolen

goods, while a clerk ignored the situation. Newsom then demanded to know why, and the clerk – without realizing whom she was talking to – responded: "We don't stop them because of the governor." Amusingly, after Newsom then said that was not true, and California has the 10th toughest state threshold at which property theft becomes a felony, the clerk finally recognized him. But the merchandise was still gone.

---When armed robbers entered a Starbucks location in St. Louis, Missouri, two employees overpowered them and held

them for the police. So, what thanks did the baristas receive for their heroic actions? The management of the "woke" coffee store promptly fired them and issued a statement saying: "The safety and wellbeing of our partners (employees) and customers is always our first concern. All partners are expected to follow our carefully crafted protocols to ensure the safety of customers and partners during these situations." A lawsuit has now been filed against Starbucks – for firing them "without any explanation as to what, if any, policy they violated, or what they should have done differently about the situation."

--Who's worse? Irresponsible activists who deface museum works of art with soup, potatoes, and other food "in the name of climate change," or woke authorities in France and Germany who take no action against the activists because they share the same left-leaning views?

--After Target stocked limited edition Stanley Quencher Cups – a collaboration between Starbucks and Stanley and priced at \$49.95 – seven store employees purchased one. The store then fired all seven, allegedly for using their "insider status" – a policy violation – to unfairly obtain the sought-after cups.

--Last September, we reported that Shane Murnan, the principal of John Glenn Elementary School in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, moonlighted as "Drag Queen Shantel Mandalay," and previously faced child pornography charges. It took a few months, but on February 1, Murnan announced his resignation. State Schools Superintendent Ryan Walters said, "The drag queen is out. I've demanded it from day one. This is not what parents want for their kids."

--Officials at Brookfield High School in Connecticut – allegedly to support feminine hygiene needs -- used education funds to purchase a tampon machine. But they installed it in the boys' bathroom, where it lasted all of 20 minutes before being ripped off the wall.

--Democrats in Maine are pushing for a new "migrant resettlement" office within the governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future. This new "Office of New Americans" will look to attract 75,000 new workers over the next five years by incorporating illegal immigrants into the state's workforce. Proposed legislation calls for establishing an advisory council of 19 individuals to help the governor make decisions on "matters affecting the long-term economic and civic integration of immigrants," AND at least 10 of the 19 members will be legally required to be immigrants – 8 of them appointed by the governor with a focus on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).

--The North Carolina so-called "Justice Academy," which was established to enhance the careers of criminal justice officers through research, education and training, actually focuses on "defining 64 terms for gender identity," using the Human Rights Campaign and the Anti-Defamation League "as sources to consult regarding which classes of people ae vulnerable to hate crimes," and reducing training on constitutional law.

EXPERTS' EXCERPTS

Florida Congressman Bill Posey, writing in "Newsmax" on Biden's Border Crisis a violation of oath, dereliction of duty:

"On his first day in office, President Biden went to work tearing down important border security measures put in place by President Trump, sending a strong message to the world that his administration would not enforce our border laws. In doing so, Biden paved the way for an invasion of millions of illegal immigrants on our southern border



and set the stage for this dangerous and unsustainable border crisis.... When I visited the border near Nogales, Arizona several years ago, I saw firsthand how dangerous it is. Aside from inviting millions of illegal aliens to break our immigration laws, an open border empowers the brutal cartels notorious for drug smuggling, human trafficking, gun running, and committing extreme acts of violence. Fentanyl, which is heavily trafficked by these cartels with help from China, has become a leading cause of death for adults aged 18 to 45. Open borders enable human trafficking to flourish, and sadly the United States has become one of the world's worst offenders. Scariest of all, terrorists have used the border crisis as cover to slip into our nation undetected. What brought us to this point? Mere hours after taking the oath of office, President Biden suspended President Trump's successful remain in Mexico policy, defunded the border wall initiative, lifted President Trump's visa restrictions on countries known to be terrorist havens, and repealed Trump's executive order on sanctuary cities and expediting removal of dangerous criminal aliens. Biden also raised the annual refugee limit from 15,000 to 125,000 and reinstated the DACA program, further incentivizing illegal border crossings. Biden's lifting of Title IX border security laws and regulations has created the border crisis and placed America at risk.... Many cities and towns are struggling to cope with the sheer number of illegal immigrants arriving and taxing local resources. New York City's Mayor Eric Adams estimated the border crisis will cost his taxpayers \$12 billion over the next 2 years. Many other cities like Chicago and Washington, D.C. are spending tens of millions to provide food, shelter, and other services to Biden's illegal immigrants. The Biden administration has gone so far as to sue the state of Texas for stepping in where the federal government has abandoned the border. To address the border crisis, the House passed strong border security legislation (H.R. 2 The Secure Border Act) which restores President Trump's successful border policies to gain operational control of the border and finish the border wall, target the cartels, stop the processing of illegal immigrants, require background checks on all immigrants, and reforms the asylum system to stop uncontrolled migration flows. I was proud to support this legislation which I believe will move the country in a more secure direction. Furthermore, working with Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody, I have introduced legislation to allow state officials to enforce immigration laws when federal agencies refuse to act.... What the Biden administration has done on our southern border is purely destructive, and

Congress must step in to protect the nation.... The Biden administration has proven they have no interest in enforcing the law. All a new immigration law will do is give them more laws to ignore!"

WND News Editor Bob Unruh, writing on Tucker Carlson's interview with Vladimir Putin:

"Russian President Vladimir Putin, in an interview with first-strike journalist Tucker Carlson, says his sources have revealed to him that Joe Biden 'is not running the country.' Biden's policies since he's been in office have portrayed America as a weak, vacillating nation



blown back and forth by the winds of social ideologies that he's emphasized. Those ideologies include transgenderism and abortion, which Biden is insisting on imposing around the globe; global warming, on which he is demanding to spend trillions of dollars; and undermining the nation's elections by trying to ban President Donald Trump from the 2024 election....Rejecting the idea that he views the U.S. as an enemy, Putin said, according to a transcript posted by Peter Halligan on Substack, 'We were allies in WWII. Russians helped settle Alaska, California and we were in Hawaii too. Our people are not enemies but those in D.C. are certainly not our friends.' Asked to name names, he responded, 'It would be pointless. It is not up to us to solve your domestic issues. Besides, I'm sure you know the names better than us. Joe Biden may not even be aware of what's going on. He may not understand the level of sanctions thrown at Russia. Who put those sanctions together? Those are our ... adversaries.' To Americans, Putin would say, 'Our message is Russia is not your enemy. We don't want war. We're ready for peace. Your leaders seek conflict. This is not what we want. Russia stands for its own people. We do not want what is not ours'.... When Carlson cited a poll showing support for Putin, the Russian said, 'I don't know if that should be taken seriously but Russian ideals have support. We believe in traditional values; marriage is between a man and a woman: men are men and women are women.' He said it's not for him to say who should be the next president in the U.S., but noted, 'We had good relations when Mr. Trump was president. There was no war. Our relations were at a high point. That said nothing is predictable or stays the same. We will have to see.' He said on the Democrat claims created by partisans and pushed for years that Russia interfered in the 2020 election, 'Contrary to longstanding accusations we do not meddle in your elections. We don't need to because the same people end up running things anyway.' On Trump being re-elected, he said, 'For one thing he never insulted us. He has a great respect for Russia. We would start from a position of friendship and trust – then all problems are solvable. We could get it done.' He explained his conflict with Ukraine: 'Did we invade or were we invaded? Look at the history. Look at the people living there. Historically it's we who were invaded and are simply fighting back now. The lands and people are Russian and we will have again what was always ours'....He wondered at the fact that 'no one from the White House' has reached out to him since he congratulated Biden on his election. 'It's puzzling to us that communications are colder now than during the Cold War'....

On Biden's work to open America's southern border to illegal aliens: 'We Russians find it ironically amusing your Congress will spend billions protecting foreign borders but neglect its own. It's quite laughable but deadly.'"



Editor **Katie Pavlich**, writing on "The Censorship Industrial Complex Strikes Again," for townhall.com:

"Just when we thought the extent of the federal government's censorship had been fully revealed, an entirely new industry has been exposed as a partner in burying dissent and subverting the First Amendment. This time, we're learning the National Science Foundation (NSF)

worked with academic institutions - including the University of Michigan, the University of Wisconsin, and others - to censor 'misinformation' online through Big Tech platforms and search engines. Alarmingly, they're using new artificial intelligence technology to do it. This means studies and data coming out of universities can no longer be trusted. Grants depend on promoting a government narrative, not pursuing the science. It also means overbearing censorship police on the most pressing issues facing Americans. 'In the name of combatting alleged misinformation regarding COVID-19 and the 2020 election, NSF has been issuing multi-million-dollar grants to university and non-profit research teams. The purpose of these taxpayer-funded projects is to develop artificial intelligence (AI)-powered censorship and propaganda tools that can be used by governments and Big Tech to shape public opinion by restricting certain viewpoints or promoting others,' the House Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government released in a stunning report. Given the NSF's efforts to censor science and accurate reporting that cuts down its narratives – and, more importantly, its control – it's no wonder hundreds and hundreds of Townhall's stories about climate change and government lies surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic have been flagged by Big Tech. These stories have been demonetized, stripping our work of advertising revenue. When the federal government has tools to censor conservative outlets 'at scale,' making the censorship industrial complex more powerful than ever, it means putting us out of business. They want to bankrupt us by pulling our advertising revenue through bogus claims of 'disinformation,' 'harm' or being 'unreliable.' That's always been the goal. Their latest tactic is to drown us with new technology and artificial intelligence. Documents prove they know exactly what they're doing and that their efforts to quash differing viewpoints or factual stories aren't a mistake or oversight. It's the entire goal.... NSF forged ahead, supporting new technologies that would essentially enable the censorship of online speech 'at scale.' From legal scholars, such as Jonathan Turley, to conservative journalists, NSF tracked public criticisms of its work in funding these projects. NSF went so far as to develop a media strategy that considered blacklisting certain American media outlets because they were scrutinizing NSF's funding of censorship and propaganda tools. We are one of those conservative media outlets. Big Government, Big Tech, and Big Academia are working together – against us. We're refusing to back down.... Our Townhall VIP program allows us to publish the truth and get around the big government censors. It gives us direct funding to conduct journalism on the issues you care about most. We've never been afraid to debunk government, Big Tech or academic 'science' narratives with the facts, but we have been, and continue to be, punished for it."

American Security Council Foundation Senior Analyst

Laurence Sanford, writing on Venezuela – Narco State, in his "Sanford on Security" publication:

"Venezuela is a Narco State. Over 15% of the world's supply of opium is funneled through the country. 'Operation Money Badger' was initiated in 2013 by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to record and build drug-trafficking cases against Venezuela's leadership, including



President Maduro. Colombian drug traffickers were utilizing Venezuela's tightly controlled foreign currency system to launder drug money from sales in the U.S. In March 2020, the U.S. government indicted President Nicholas Maduro of conspiring 'to flood the United States with cocaine' and use it as a 'weapon against America.' Secretary of State Mike Pompeo offered a \$15 million reward for information leading to the arrest of Maduro. Other U.S. officials accused Maduro of harboring drug traffickers, guerrillas from Columbia, and the terrorist group Hezbollah. Russia, China, Iran, and assorted Islamic terrorist groups support the Venezuelan government. U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley in 2018 called for Maduro to step down from ruling the narco state. The Trump administration instituted wide-ranging sanctions and also called on the Organization of American States to suspend Venezuela for its lack of election transparency, totalitarian rule, and migration of millions of Venezuelans to other countries, including the U.S. Millions of Venezuelans are suffering from food and medical shortages. Haley compared Venezuela to the failed states of Cuba and Nicaragua. Yet Maduro is now thriving in Venezuela. The Biden administration lifted oil sanctions, arranged a prisoner swap, and eased prosecutions of Maduro's inner circle. Columbia has a new leftist president, Gustavo Petro, a former urban guerilla who has promised to transform Colombia's economic system. He and Maduro have a cordial relationship. Maduro is a Marxist thug.... And like other Marxist thugs who do not honor existing treaties and territorial claims, such as Putin in the Ukraine, Xi in the South China Seas/Taiwan, and Kim in North Korea, Maduro is claiming two-thirds of neighboring Guyana belongs to Venezuela. The territorial dispute was ongoing for most of the 1800s but was settled with an 1899 treaty. Venezuela recently re-opened the dispute with the discovery of massive oil deposits off the Guyana coast. A phony referendum in Venezuela claimed the disputed area of Essequibo, which represents two-thirds of Guyana. Maduro gave an ultimatum of three months for oil companies (American) to stop drilling in

the disputed waters. Now, Venezuela is threatening military action. Troops, tanks, and missile-equipped missile patrol boats are massing near the Guyana border. Maduro has ordered state-owned oil companies to drill for oil in the waters off Guyana. ExxonMobil Guyana plans to expand operations in the same waters that Venezuela claims, but by treaty are located in Guyana territory. Previous attempts by ExxonMobil to drill in the disputed waters failed because of Venezuelan military actions. Now, the ExxonMobil president said the oil concessions were granted by the Guyana government, and that it is committed to its operations. The British have sent a warship to the Guyana coast, and the U.S. has promised to supply modern military equipment. It announced the commencement of joint military drills. Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva voiced concerns over the border dispute and is reinforcing its military presence in the border area. America's dominance of the world is over. Rising threats from China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and Islamic terror groups have diffused power throughout the world. Technologies allow minor league players to assert world threats. Internet viruses, biological viruses, supply chain disruptions, food availability, and political/religious strife can result in fundamentally transforming the world order.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

"Even after the national trauma about cheating in the 2020 election, three key swing states - Arizona, Pennsylvania, and Nevada - do not require voters to present photo IDs to cast ballots. A fourth, Michigan, requires it but people can still vote if they sign affidavits saying that they don't have photo IDs with them but that they are eligible voters.... The Michigan photo ID requirement that allows voters to submit affidavits saying, in effect, 'Oops, I left my photo ID at home' is simply an invitation to fraud. Blank affidavits will be stacked up in front of Democratic poll watchers to allow hundreds of thousands to vote without showing photo IDs. The problem of election cheating is all the more serious in light of our open southern border, through which millions have passed in the last year. While they are not yet eligible to register to vote, they will be trying to vote, en masse, without showing photo IDs in swing states."

--Political analyst **Dick Morris,** on election cheating problems -0-

"Since 2022, at least 15 far-left district attorneys backed by liberal megadonor George Soros have resigned, retired, been recalled, or lost re-election, according to a recent report from the watchdog group 'Virginians for Safe Communities.' With fewer Soros prosecutors taking office in that time, it seems conservatives may be turning the tide against the radical criminal justice 'reform' movement. On January 8, Milwaukee County District Attorney John Chisholm became the latest Soros DA to announce that he would not seek re-election this year... None the less, the Law Enforcement Legal Defense Fund counts more than 70 Soros prosecutors who are still in office, including in the nation's largest cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Americans will have their next opportunity to deliver a further rebuke of the radical criminal justice 'reform' movement in primary and general elections this year. With cities continuing to succumb to chaos and lawlessness, the worst backlash for Soros prosecutors may be yet to come."

--AMAC Newsline columnist Andrew Shirley, on Sorosbacked DA's in the U.S. -0-

"This sort of more radical activism, social justice-oriented, whatever that means, has slowly but surely taken over in a lot of areas, especially undergraduate education, and there's a lot of good work being done by more science-minded sociologists....They don't generally agree with the decision to drop sociology, but they agree with the critical part that sociology has lost its way and become too much about social activism and ideology at the expense of scientific research, integrity, and academic integrity."

-- Wayne State University Sociology Professor Jukka Savolainen, on why the left-wing drift in the study of sociology has led to Florida dropping it from university curriculum as part of its war on woke colleges -0-

"Americans need to know that the Chinese Communist Party is engaged in an unrestricted war with us. They are engaging all organs of the state to achieve their goal of world domination. We need to defend and protect ourselves from the all-encompassing assault. Reciprocity should be the foundation of American policy towards the CCP. Chinese spying in the U.S. is so widespread that the FBI is launching, on average, two counterintelligence operations per day. FBI Director Christopher Wray said the sheer scale of Chinese efforts to steal U.S. technology shocked him when he became director in 2017. Over 2,000 cases are open.

--American Security Council Foundation Senior Analyst Laurence Sanford, on China cyber crimes -0-

"George Soros named his self-proclaimed 'more political' son Alex as the new leader of the Open Society Foundations in June. He could well be more radical than his father on everything from abortion to climate change to the weaponization of race to demonize his political opponents. We saw how George Soros' influence affected the 2020 election. Now, it will be even worse this year. Media Research Center is working to expose the Soros money machine and combat their efforts to manipulate the 2024 election and expose their efforts to silence conservative voices and undermine American value."

--**MRC President Brent Bozell,** on exposing the Open Society Foundations

UPCOMING BREVARD COUNTY EVENTS

March 1:	Federated Republican Women in Action meeting, MeMaw's BBQ, Palm Bay, 12 pm.
March 5:	Moms For Liberty meeting, Pizza Gallery, Viera, 6 pm.

- --March 6: Brevard Federated Republican Women meeting, Space Coast Convention Center, Cocoa, 11:30 am.
- --March 7: Heritage Isle Republican Club meeting Heritage Isle Clubhouse, 10 am.
- --March 11: Space Coast Patriots meeting, Merritt Island Library, 6 pm.
- --March 16: Brevard Federated Republican Women Red Wave to Victory Dinner, Space Coast Convention Center, Cocoa, 5:30 pm.
- --March 19: North Brevard Republican Club meeting, American Police Hall of Fame, Titusville, 6 pm.
- --March 21: Republican Women's Network of South Brevard meeting, Suntree Country Club, 11 am.
- --March 23: Space Coast Republican Club meeting, Red Lobster, Merritt Island, 11:30 am.
- --March 25: Ronald Reagan Club meeting, Oceanside Community Church, Satellite Beach, 6 pm.
- --March 28: Space Coast Young Republicans meeting, Pub Americans, Melbourne, 6:30 pm.

The Republican Liberty Caucus of Brevard and the Brevard Republican Executive Committee meetings - both TBD

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER. Through email, website and Facebook, we are now reaching nearly 2,000 people on our everincreasing distribution list. The newsletter goes to readers not only all over the country, but beyond. **Editor Stuart Gorin** and **Designer Frank Montelione** hope to see the numbers continue to grow as we pass on information. We continue to cover activities of the Brevard Republican Executive Committee, Republican clubs in the country, and conservative organizations, so both elected officials and the typical "man-in-the-street" are kept abreast of what is happening at the local, state and national levels. Since Republicans as well as Conservatives will never agree 100 percent on all issues – for example, differences between Conservative members and establishment Republicans – we will not necessarily support any writer's positions, but will present them so you, the reader, can make up your own mind – fair and balanced. There is a link to this issue at www.thetusk.org and several recent back issues are available in the archives on the same website. To sign up for your free subscription (or to unsubscribe, if you are so inclined), or to send your comments, suggestions or information to share, email: <u>spacecoasttusk@gmail.com</u>.

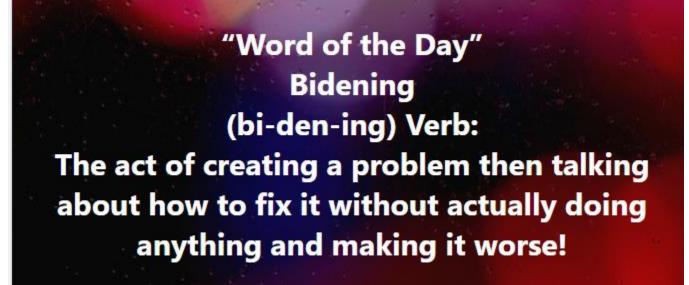
COMICAL CLOSERS

The U.S. Bobsled Team has renamed its sled "Biden," because nothing has taken America downhill faster. -0-

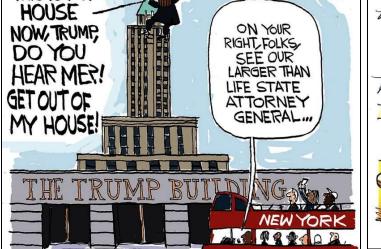
Not political, but still amusing – A man found a \$20 bill in a parking lot, and wondered "What Would Jesus Do?" So, he turned it into wine!

SEVERAL PAGES OF PERTINENT POLITICAL CARTOONS AND PHOTOS FOLLOW



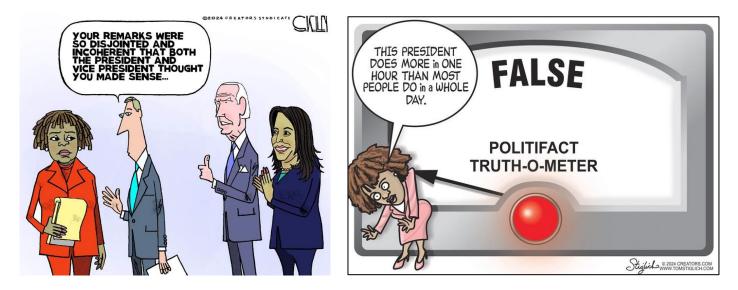






THIS IS MY









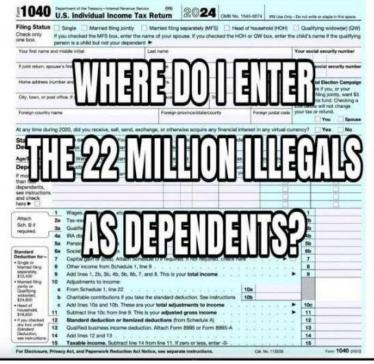


ONE IS A DUMMY, THE OTHER IS JOE BIDEN



The IRS has returned my tax return to me this year after I apparently answered one of the questions incorrectly..... In response to the question, "Do you have anyone dependent on you?" I wrote, "9.5 million illegal immigrants, 1.1 million crack heads, 3.4 million unemployable scroungers, 80,000 criminals in over 85 prisons plus 650 idiots in Washington." The IRS stated the answer I gave was "unacceptable!" I then wrote back" Who did I leave out???"





Wife texts husband on a cold winter morning: "Windows frozen, won't open." Husband texts back: "Gently pour some lukewarm water over it and then gently tap edges with hammer." Wife texts back 10 minutes later: "Computer really messed up now."

For the record: Betsy Ross was a Quaker. Quakers were abolitionists. Quakers helped ban slavery in England. Quakers were vital to the American underground Railroad to free slaves. Objecting to the Betsy Ross flag, because they say it represents slavery, shows their complete and utter ignorance of the truth



