



Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—August 2018

Memo to Dems: “It’s the economy, stupid!”

By Tom Mullings

According to Wikipedia, “It’s the economy, stupid” is a variation of the phrase “The economy, stupid,” which senior campaign strategist James Carville coined for Bill Clinton’s 1992 presidential bid against incumbent President George H. W. Bush. The phrase holds true for many elections in the United States, since a solid case can be made that most people “vote their pocketbooks.” If true, in November the interim elections could turn out to be an odd year in which Republicans buck another historical trend which says that the party in power almost always loses seats in the House of Representatives and Senate in Washington D.C. That may still be the case in 2018, but even if the Democrat Party gains seats up on Capitol Hill, consistent good news about the economy—the latest of which was reported by the Commerce Department for the second quarter to be a robust 4.1 percent Gross Domestic Product growth—is making it less likely that those gains in 2018 will result in the Dems taking control of either the House or Senate.

When he took office in January of 2017, President Trump promised the American people he would jump-start our moribund economy and free it from the straightjacket

it had been placed in by former President Obama’s anti-business policies and burdensome regulations. He’s delivered on that promise, and positive economic numbers that make it unmistakably clear that the mighty American economic engine is heating up for a period of sustained growth of 3% or better are becoming harder for liberal Democrats to refute.

But they keep trying, and some of their efforts are more than a little amusing. Consider, for example, their economic take about the eight years of the Obama presidency. Virtually all presidents get credit or blame for what happens on their watch, but not Obama. His supporters insist that anemic economic output during those eight years was a direct result of the failure of his predecessor, George W. Bush, and now they are trying to take credit for the good economic news that is occurring during his successor’s administration.

Think about that; Obama may be the first American president in history who’s not responsible for what happened during his presidency! All I’ve got to say is—better the Dems trying to sell that idiotic line to the public than us.

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And what a line it is! The economy barely chugged along from 2008 to 2016, you say? W's fault, pure and simple. GDP gaining steam now? That's the Dems' doing. Unemployment figures the lowest they've been in many years? You can chalk that one up to Democrat polices as well. Latest numbers for Hispanic and Black unemployment the lowest they've ever been in history? Yup, you got the donkeys to thank for that one too.

Good luck trying to sell that pile of horse feathers to the American electorate leading up to November. The fact is that the economy averaged a pathetic 1.9 percent annual growth rate during eight years of Obama and it is taking off under Trump. And by the way, with regard to how Black Americans feel about all this mounting good economic news, I'd like to ask our dim Dem friends, who like the rest of us are probably fond of apples, a serious question: Given the fact that a just-released Rasmussen poll indicates that African-American approval of the POTUS has jumped from 15 percent a year ago to 29 percent now, HOW DO YOU LIKE THEM APPLES!!

The Dems will probably get more traction with their claims that Trump protectionist policies promise to derail any sustained period of growth that is in the offing, but once again they're misleading the public by leaving out certain "inconvenient truths" about the president's trade agenda. Truths like the fact that he recently accomplished "detente

with the EU [on tariffs] and agreement to form a united front against Chinese protectionism." And why shouldn't he? After clearing a path for China to enter the World Trade Organization, they are blatantly violating the rules of that organization by devaluing their currency to make their products more attractive to potential customers, stealing our technology and intellectual property, forcing our companies to give up technology as a price of doing business, and denying our companies access to their markets while enjoying free access to ours. All of these Chinese shenanigans have resulted in a whopping \$500 billion trade deficit with the Peoples Not-so-Democratic Republic, and it's about time that an American president stood up to them, so if the Dems want to champion these Communist hood-winkers' cause, let 'em. Like I said, better them than us.

As we head for the finish line of the 2018 elections, President Trump's pro-growth and pro-business policies designed to boost confidence, bring back jobs and capital from overseas, and stimulate a prolonged period of American economic expansion has done just that, and there's an excellent chance that voters will reward Republican office seekers all across the fruited plain in November. So in the interest of magnanimity let me offer some free economic advice to our dim, Dem donkey friends on the other side of the aisle who, to this day are still off in La La Land trying to lasso non-existent right-wing villains as a result of their dishonest Trump-Russian, collusion, delusion, illusion, conclusion: "IT'S THE ECONOMY, STUPID!"

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Human Trafficking

By Sid Dinerstein
July 26, 2018

Human Trafficking is the ultimate disrespect for life and law. Human Trafficking—those words are so repugnant that all Americans can agree to be against it. Really? Let's see if that's true. Human Trafficking, of course, is biblical. One tribe, or ethnic group, overwhelms another and rape, pillage and slavery follow shortly thereafter. No matter who you are and what tribe you descend from, you have some bad dudes in your distant family tree.

But I'm only interested in the good old U. S. of A. We are a good, decent and generous people. How do we stack up against the Human Traffickers of history? The first set of answers is easy. We imported slaves for two hundred and fifty years. In fairness to our country, we weren't a country for all of those years. And, in the "misery loves company" excuse arena, "everybody" was doing it. The reason was simple. Money. So Africans captured Africans and sold them to European and American "agents" who brought them to the homeland to be auctioned off. If I were a better writer I would be better able to capture the horror of what I'm describing. (One night rent the movie "Amistad." They get it). Here in America the buyers were large farmers; plantation owners if you will. Think Tara. In 1989 we ratified our Constitution. Slavery was a major bone of contention. The Southern farmers counted on millions of slaves to be their unpaid, involuntary labor force. The more industrial Northerners had no such need. The Southern States, Georgia and South Carolina, would not ratify the Constitution without legalized slavery. And furthermore, the Southerners wanted each slave family member to count for purposes of the census and the number of Congressmen, even though the slaves did not enjoy the rights of citizenship or voting. The Northerners, of course, objected. Thus was born the three fifths compromise: Everyone ratifies the Constitution, the thirteen colonies become the United States of America and for every five slaves the Southern states could add three people to their census count. My point? Human Trafficking is far broader than just the buyers, sellers and victims. It includes the political bedfellows, the I-don't-want-to-talk-about-it crowd and all the ancillary beneficiaries of a system built on immorality. Enough said.

This essay isn't about 19th century America or even the Civil war. This is about Human Trafficking in 21st century America—Illegal Immigration. We don't spend nearly enough time calling Illegal Immigration what it really is—Human Trafficking. Pay attention: The Mexican mother pays the "agent," more appropriately called a "coyote," up to several thousand dollars to get her son Juan to the United States of America. Human Trafficking. The coyote puts Juan in a large truck with one hundred other illegals, each of whom paid a similar fee. The truck has little air and one mission, offload the "cargo" and let these illegals disappear into America. Mostly they are successful. Sometimes they are not. The truck breaks down. The driver flees. The illegals die. Who cares? Juan's mother does. But it's hard to find people in America who care. Who's fault is it? Yours,

if you support "open borders." Yours, if you voted for Hilary Clinton and her open border policies. Yours, if you won't build a wall. Yours, if you hire illegals. Yours, if you support Sanctuary cities. Get it? Over half of all American adults are Human Trafficking Enablers, willfully oblivious to the death and destruction of the up-from-Mexico highway of horrors. And nobody's motives are in any way decent. Democrats want imported votes and some Republican employers want illegally low wages and unacceptable working conditions. A plague on all your houses.

Whoopi Goldberg and Judge Jeanine Pirro almost got to the core issue on "The View." Whoopi was tired of being called rapist and Judge Jeanine had no patience with lawlessness. As I watched the segment I took note of the audience's enthusiasm for Whoopi's "rapist" comments. At that moment it became clear to me. Everyone who applauded had Kate Steinle's blood on their hands. Everyone who applauded had the blood and misery of countless and nameless victims of illegals on their hands. And every one of us need to tell them so. Human Trafficking is never a victimless crime. And in the case of 21st century America, the victims are everywhere.

And last, but certainly not least, let's talk about Electoral representation. Remember the three fifths compromise for slavery? (Every five slaves added three people to the census). Today we have the five-fifths lack of compromise. Every five illegals add five adults to the census. If California has three million illegals (a very modest guess), they get four extra Congressmen, one for every 711,000 people. They're worse than the 18th century slave states. Et tu, Schumer?

In summary, illegal immigration is a modern iteration of Human Trafficking. No one who supports illegal immigration has a right to be absolved of guilt. There is too much blood on too many hands. And there is too little discussion about Human Trafficking in 21st century America.

Respect for life and respect for laws are the same thing.



Sid Dinerstein served as Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County from 2002 to 2012. A leader with a passion for Republican politics, Sid leads by example, motivating teams and uniting diverse groups to achieve a common goal. With a passion for promoting charter schools, Sid was honored by Inlet Grove Community Charter High School earlier this year as "Charter School Advocate." He authored Adults Only: For Those Who Love Their Country More Than Their Party in 2007, a book that was a finalist for the 2009 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Sid has been married to Esther since 1967, and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters.

What's in Your Mailbox? Postal Socialism Makes No Sense in the Internet Age

By George Blumel

President Trump has introduced a wide-ranging proposal to reorganize the federal government, including privatizing the U.S. Postal Service. It is about time! Virtually every government entity is mismanaged, inefficient, costly and often, counter-productive. **The 600,000-worker USPS has been losing billions of dollars a year**—there is no way to sustain it as is. Email, Fed Ex, and UPS have just about wiped out the minimum revenue needed to keep the post office alive.

The challenge, as described by *Postalnews.com summarized*: The USPS was created from the Post Office Department in 1970. Since then, less expensive digital alternatives have taken much of its business, and along with its high fixed costs—generous employee benefits and mandated services—it has over \$100 billion in unfunded liabilities, capital investment backlog, and losses for over a decade.

Clearly, the USPS is a flawed business model. The President has issued Executive Order 13829 for a Task Force to examine the problems, considering changes in technology and the monopoly of letter delivery and mail boxes, pricing, workforce, etc.—all without shifting costs to taxpayers. The Task Force Report is due this month.

A universal service obligation for paper mail is not needed in the modern economy. Electronic communications bind the country together without it. Personal letters are only 3 percent of mail volume. Advertising is 60 percent of household mail. Bills and business statements are being replaced by electronic payments, which are now 63 percent of bill payments.

Given that most mail is advertising (junk mail), why do we need daily delivery? A private entity would have greater ability to adjust pricing in response to changes in demand or operating costs. Freeing USPS to more fully negotiate pay and benefits rather than prescribing participation in costly federal benefit programs and allowing it to follow private sector practices in compensation and labor relations would further reduce costs.

Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan explains: “. . . our flawed business model is the root cause of our financial instability because it imposes significant costs on us without adequate business flexibility to enable us to pay for them . . . potential reforms to fix our business model [must] be developed and then considered by the President and Congress in an open and transparent manner that fully analyzes the interests of America's consumers. . . .”

Many years ago, Sears entered into an arrangement with the U.S. Postal Service to run post offices, but it was killed by the labor unions. More recently Staples tried working out a modest public-private partnership by offering mail services in 82 of its office supply stores. The postal unions went berserk, running protests contending the Staples deal

amounted to privatization of a *basic government function*.

Privatization of the USPS should have a positive effect on our enormous national debt. Sale of business assets and properties could offset the unfunded liabilities, and cessation of the continuing losses would reduce the deficit. It is a no-brainer.

A major obstacle to achieving this benefit for our country will be career politicians who depend on union support for reelection. As we know all too well, for them reelection is Job #1. Need we reiterate how term limiting Congress would make them more likely to consider their constituents ahead of their lobbyists?

The Democrat Party has moved further in embracing socialist policies more openly since the Obama administration and the rise of socialists Bernie Sanders and Ocasia-Cortez. Socialists believe that the government should own and operate virtually everything as in the former Soviet Union, Cuba and now, Venezuela. Millennials, who have much to gain from economic freedom, seem to be ignorant of that history as our schools aren't teaching it anymore. Expect the Democrat Party to oppose privatization.

In this country, privatization is needed more than ever because the USPS is increasingly distorting the booming package delivery business. A study by Chris Edwards at the CATO Institute discusses USPS cross-subsidies between its mail and package activities, and an article in the *Wall Street Journal* tells how it gives Amazon an unfair advantage over competition. Recall that President Trump complained specifically about the unfairness and illegality of that one. The 2006 Postal Accountability Act made it illegal to price parcel delivery below its cost. That was to give FedEx and UPS the chance to compete.

Other well-researched articles on privatization can be found at Cato Institute. The referenced studies describe the postal and other federal system's inefficiencies in some detail and tells how European countries have privatized and/or opened their systems to competition. We must finally do the same.

Edwards concludes, “Bottom line: We do not need a giant and secretive distortion machine in the middle of our mail and package industry. Postal socialism makes no sense in the Internet Age.”

More history: *The Lost Genius of the Post Office*



George Blumel is a husband, father, grandfather; retired entrepreneur; blogger www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com; political activist—for freedom with responsibility.

How To Make Voting More Important: A Case for Compulsory Voting in Florida

By William J. Skinner

Low voter turnout in the Florida mid-term elections compared to presidential elections, and the municipal and local elections turnout at dismal and disappointing levels, coupled with the persistent lack of interest in cleaning up the voter lists of ineligible voters, is causing me to begin rethinking these problems and ask, “What are we doing wrong?” or “Why don’t more eligible people vote in our elections?”

On one side, the liberals and Democrats want open borders, same-day registration, and other gimmicks to allow more people to vote, citizens or not, even getting federal courts in South Florida to order special weekend unobserved secret voting before the election day in 2012. On the conservative-to-efficient, small-government-is-good side, the preferences are for orderly elections with voter ID, citizenship, voter registration, and accurate counting of votes with transparency.

But this is Florida, a swing state, where it is not just a liberal versus conservative standoff. In the five or ten most populous counties, we have a phenomenon that does not exist in most other states. We have home owner associations (Palm Beach County has the most, over 1,500) and hundreds of condo associations, plus a couple of other kinds of multi-community situations that have declarations and bylaws prohibiting political activity in these communities. This suppresses political participation because it prevents some activists from using signs, knocking on doors, and leaving political literature at homes. It is hard to find people who live in these communities to be a part of the political precinct systems.

We often see the situation in Australia cited when the compulsory voting subject comes up. A quick search on the Internet will disclose several explanations of the “system” used in Australia, but we can summarize by saying voting is compulsory and the failure to vote can result in a fine (see https://www.aec.gov.au/FAQs/Voting_Australia.htm, accessed July 24, 2018). A government commission Down Under has thought through the issues and explains it under these categories of discussion. [The spelling below is Australian.]

History of compulsory voting in Australia

- Compulsory enrolment for federal elections was introduced in 1912
- Compulsory voting for state elections was introduced in Queensland in 1915
- Compulsory voting at federal elections was introduced in 1924.

Arguments used in favour of compulsory voting

- Voting is a civic duty comparable to other duties citizens perform e.g. taxation, compulsory education, jury duty

- Teaches the benefits of political participation
- Parliament reflects more accurately the “will of the electorate”
- Governments must consider the total electorate in policy formulation and management
- Candidates can concentrate their campaigning energies on issues rather than encouraging voters to attend the poll
- The voter isn’t actually compelled to vote for anyone because voting is by secret ballot.



Arguments used against compulsory voting:

- It is undemocratic to force people to vote—an infringement of liberty
- The ill informed and those with little interest in politics are forced to the polls
- It may increase the number of “donkey votes”
- It may increase the number of informal votes
- It increases the number of safe, single-member electorates—political parties then concentrate on the more marginal electorates
- Resources must be allocated to determine whether those who failed to vote have “valid and sufficient” reasons.

Compulsory voting is not limited to Australia. Many other places in the world have it, including Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, and a dozen other countries where the laws are enforced. And there are seventeen countries where these laws are not enforced. For a world map showing how widespread this is, look at the article written for the Wikipedia (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compulsory_voting).

Recently I learned of a study about compulsory voting methods in Virginia in the colonial days before the Revolutionary War. Keep in mind that the colonies had been operating mostly unmolested by kings and queens for almost a couple of hundred years before the Tea Party and Stamp Tax Act. The time came when Britain needed money to support its large navy and army to maintain access to resources, commerce, and keep the peace around the world. The local government system in Virginia worked to the satisfaction of most local people until the taxation schemes out of London started to irritate the businessmen and farmers in the colonies.

Charles S. Sydnor was a history professor from the 1920s through the 1950s who wrote about the failure of modern democracy (during his time) to produce statesmen

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of a high order, and, in keeping with his notion that history was a useful depository of knowledge, he studied the political system of eighteenth-century Virginia. In *Gentlemen Freeholders: Political Practices in Washington's Virginia* (1952),¹ he found that the contending forces of aristocracy and democracy coexisted in general harmony. The members of the House of Burgesses, the proving ground for political leaders, were chosen in such a way that they were “more or less acceptable both to the leaders and to the rank and file of the voters.” They had been doubly screened, “first by the gentry and then by the freeholders.” It was this selection process that seemed to hold the secret of leadership. In Sydnor’s book the emphasis was not so much on new information as on a fresh interpretation. You can read more about Sydnor at <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/sydnor-charles-sackett>. He also covers who purchased the booze at election times, who made the political speeches, and how candidates chose their districts to run for office.

Sydnor studied local voting records in several colonial Virginia counties and reported on the seriousness given to compulsory voting. Here is a sample of how his book looks at penalties for not voting during these times.

By law all freeholders were required to vote in elections. He who failed to vote in the county where he lived and owned property was subject to a penalty which was set in the year 1662 at 200 pounds of tobacco to be collected with costs by any informant. After 1785 the delinquent voter was supposed to forfeit an amount equal to one-fourth his levies and taxes for the year. The presiding magistrate of each county was required to charge the grand jury to present all qualified voters who had failed to participate in the previous election. To aid in discovering these persons, the law provided that the jury be given a list of the freeholders and a copy of the poll.²

This kind of scrutiny by informants and follow-up may be what we need in 2018 and beyond to get the people interested in voting again. Use of the grand jury would also give more citizens some training in what the local government faces in trying to operate the many county and state programs and give them an education on how to take part.

The year I retired to Florida in 2003 was a time when many residents were forming groups to fight against the always increasing property tax. One group was organized to take a couple of busloads of citizens from Palm Beach County to Tallahassee with yellow T-shirts emblazoned with “Floridians for Property Tax Reform” bearing a drawing of a man in a shirt and tie pulling his hair out. This was a state-

wide lobbying day that set up appointments with House and Senate members. We made our own posters before or on the way to Tallahassee. It was a full-day event, and we got to express our ideas about slowing down the tax increases to individual members of the legislature.

Over the passing years there have not been many times when issue groups went to Tallahassee or West Palm Beach. When there were such events, they seemed to be much smaller. It seems to me the participation in the recent Constitutional Review Commission was fairly sparse. Palm Beach County had to call a grand jury together to study and make recommendations about the opioid crisis and then the school safety issues in 2018. However, there have been only eleven grand jury reports on issues made public from 2006 through 2018 and none concern voting (see <http://www.sa15.state.fl.us/stateattorney/Newsroom/indexGJ.htm>, accessed July 26, 2018).

There has not been another such large lobbying effort until the gun rights folks and ban guns groups organized trips to Tallahassee after the Valentine’s Day shootings in Parkland. That the shootings occurred exposed thousands of dollars of misspent property taxes and other taxes for services and law enforcement programs that all failed the citizens at the relevant county, state, and federal levels and the families and friends of 17 victims. We seemed to have had too many programs and none of them worked as designed.

Today we have an aristocracy in D.C. that is called the Swamp, made up of the elite establishment politicians. We also have in Palm Beach County a GOP aristocracy of several long-tenured club presidents who refuse to recruit new club officers to allow others to gain experience in operating political events in keeping with the mission statements adopted to obtain their charter from the state GOP. Today on the national level we have a left-leaning democracy that is beginning to attract socialists wanting to let government run everything and raise taxes. We Republicans have three months to recruit voters to the conservative values to balance this system. We need more people educated in the operations of city councils, county commissions, and the state legislature.

I recommend an excellent resource for candidate and election team training that we are not using in Palm Beach County. This resource has about 40 different training programs that are held at its headquarters offices or in places around the U.S. Qualified leaders who have given classes before or who have been elected using the techniques taught are leading these programs. The provider is The Leadership Institute, a conservative, non-partisan, tax-exempt organization with a successful and productive record. LI will not co-sponsor programs with political parties, but will make its conservative programs available to individuals who want to attend for nominal costs. My sources tell me LI graduates include Rep. Jim Jordan, Sen. Rand Paul, former Virginia

1. The book was also published under the title of *American Revolutionaries in the Making: Political Practices in Washington's Virginia*.

2. Sydnor, *Ibid*, p. 38.

What's in a Name?

By Colonel Arthur DeRuve

According to Shakespeare, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. However, this theory does not hold true for all specific nouns. For example, a Liberal, which “smells” or is defined as a compassionate, freedom-loving individual, is the exact opposite when being part of the political left. Such a “Liberal” more accurately smells like, acts like, and should be defined as a FASCIST. Why? Because these so-called “liberals” have no compassion for freedom-loving individuals, nor governments that serve such individuals, like the United States of America.

These so-called “liberals” tolerate no opposing points of view. If you doubt this, try to get a conservative speaker on a college campus, or try to get a conservative point-of-view letter published in your local newspaper. Consider the number of attacks in public on citizens who have done nothing more than express support for the man who is proving to be one of the greatest presidents in our nation’s history. Open thuggery is an approved tactic of theirs.

I could go on endlessly with examples of the Brown Shirt/Black Shirt/KGB/et al. tactics the political left employs, but it is unnecessary as it is obvious. The point of this write-up is to start a movement to call the bad guys the bad guys! We start by stopping all references to them as liberals, but instead call them what they really are—FASCISTS. Remember, it is no longer simply The Left or The Liberal Left, it is **THE FASCIST LEFT!** Let them hear it a few thousand times from a few thousand of us, and maybe it will sink in.

To paraphrase William S., *A Fascist on the left, by any other name smells as badly!!!*



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AG Ken Cuccinelli, Karl Rove, and Ainsley Earhardt, plus many more names you would recognize. Check out the programs offered at <https://www.leadershipinstitute.org/training/>. Candidates who utilize LI programs will be taken seriously by knowledgeable supporters.

If people had to pay a penalty for not voting, this could also encourage them to take part in the nomination of properly prepared candidates to local and state office. We might have smarter decisions being made and better programs being administered. We need more participation by citizens in programs that make us aware of how government operates and what it takes to be an elected official—a statesman of high order—and learn the secrets of leadership.

It would be a wake-up call if we had a serious penalty for not voting that would get people involved again. Even a vig-

orous discussion of the alternatives for these penalties might start the process. No need to grow tobacco or soybeans, but how about a \$500 fine? What do you think? Write to the editor Tom Mullings at tommullings@comcast.net to tell us.

William J. Skinner is the Chairman of the PBC REC Voter Fraud Coalition and has been active in exposing voter fraud in the county since 2006. See his blogs on related topics at <http://bill-skinner.blogspot.com>. He recently filed a Florida Voter Fraud Complaint with the Florida Secretary of State concerning the voter registration lists that allowed hundreds of people to vote in Florida and New York in the November 2016 presidential election and who are still on both states' voter lists as eligible to vote in both states in August and November 2018.

Governor Scott on the Campaign Trail in Boca Raton

On July 18, Governor Rick Scott visited Capitol Lighting in Boca Raton, as he recognizes successful small businesses around the state. He is pictured below (*on left*) with supporters and with Palm Beach County GOP Chairman Mike Barnett.



2018 GOP Political Jamboree

By Fred Scheibl

Every two years, during the summer of an election year, the county GOP hosts a “Jamboree”—an old fashioned political picnic for candidates on the upcoming ballot to introduce themselves to the party activists. With a barbecue lunch under the pavilion roof at the South County Civic Center, surrounded by covered booths hosted by candidates and political clubs, it is gathering place for the GOP faithful and those who seek to represent them at all levels of government.

After remarks by County Chairman (and RPOF Vice-Chair) Michael Barnett, and State Committee reps Cindy Tindell and Joe Budd, master of ceremonies Sid Dinerstein introduced the candidates.

The only statewide candidates present were Attorney General candidate Ashley Moody who listed her impressive resume and endorsements which include current AG Pam Bondi, and John Mercadante—a long-shot candidate for Governor with lots of enthusiasm.

In CD-18, incumbent Brian Mast has drawn a couple of primary challengers, mostly as a result of his controversial stance on gun control, which is perceived as a vulnerability. Dave Cummings spoke and presented himself as a conservative in support of the Trump agenda. The winner of this primary will face one of two well-funded Democrats in a race that has drawn national interest.

CD-22 was represented by candidate Javier Manjarres who is facing Nicholas Kimaz (who was at the event but left before speaking), and Eddison Walters. The winner will face entrenched Democrat Ted Deutch (who has a long-shot primary challenger in Jeff Fandl) in this D+14 district.

For state legislative offices, Belinda Keiser spoke. She is competing with current House member Gayle Harrell for the Senate 25 seat vacated by Joe Negron. The winner will face Democrat Robert Levy in the fall.

For House district 89, vacated by term-limited Bill Hager, competitors Matt Spritz and Joe Caruso spoke. The winner of that race will face one of two Democrats in November.

At the city level, we had Boca acting mayor Scott Singer and his opponent BocaWatch founder Al Zucaro. Municipal elections are usually in March, but the departure of indicted former Mayor Susan Haynie prompted a special election to be held coincident with the August primary.

This year, the number of candidates was fewer than past years (9 versus 19 in 2016 and 14 in 2014), partly due to a lack of challengers overall, and partly from the absence of Republican candidates that are running. CD-18 incumbent Brian Mast and challenger Mark Freeman were absent, for example. This year there are NO Republicans running for open seats on the School Board, Port Commission, or County Commission Districts 2 or 6.



REC Secretary Jane Pike enjoying the festivities.



Fun for the whole family! Attendees were treated to a scrumptuous barbeque, lively band, and enthusiastic candidates.



Master of Ceremonies Sid Dinerstein with Linda Gore.

Talking Points: **Ocasia-Cortez Is Not Very Bright**

By Larry P. Horist

Is Ocasio-Cortez just a pretty face (or even less)???

The bright shining star of the Democratic Party, Alexandra Ocasia-Cortez, is not really very bright. The young woman who defeated incumbent Joseph Crowley—a long time member of the Democrat leadership team—is starting to remind me of Democrat Congressman Hank Johnson.

If you are not aware of Johnson's claim to fame—or infamy—you need to check out his questioning of Admiral Robert Willard during a House hearing. Addressing an increase in military presence on Guam, Johnson asked the Admiral whether he was concerned that putting more people on the island might cause it to “tip over and capsizе.” Yep! That was the congressman's concern—that Guam just might go belly up.

Johnson's question could be the dumbest one ever asked in the history of the Congress. Hard to say. Willard's straight-faced expression in response to the question is priceless. Even as he tried to offer a polite thoughtful answer, the expression on the Admiral's face suggested he would have preferred to have exclaimed, “What in God's name are you thinking?”

I make the comparison to Ocasia-Cortez because she is likely to be entering the Congress as one of the least informed and factually-challenged candidates in this year's election. I do not say “ignorant” as a partisan pejorative, but a reflection of the fact that her tree of knowledge does not appear to be bearing a lot of fruit.

To make matters worse, the left-wing leadership of the Democratic Party—who are totally star struck with her youth, her beauty (both irrefutable) and her dogmatic devotion to the socialist agenda—has put Ocasia-Cortez on a national political media tour as the new (pretty) face of the Party.

One can certainly debate the strategic wisdom of making socialism the new future of the Democratic Party. It may be counterproductive in our right-of-center nation—but much has been and will be debated on that subject. The real problem with Ocasia-Cortez is that she is obviously not ready for

prime time. Democrats might have been better served to keep her in the shadow rather than put both her political philosophy and her lack of knowledge on full display.

For historical comparison, one might also consider former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, who was brought to national prominence as the 2008 GOP vice presidential candidate by the standard bearer Senator John McCain. The excitement and energy generated by the Palin selection—and her outstanding acceptance speech—quickly faded in the face of a few less-than-brilliant comments and responses to questions. Palin was not ready for prime time, but her political faux pas were more rhetorical than expressions of fundamental ignorance. Not so with Ocasia-Cortez.

Ocasia-Cortez' obvious lack of knowledge led to a number of on-air responses that might have seemed more like a Saturday Night Live routine or an *Onion* satire. In one interview, Ocasia-Cortez said that the unemployment rate is low because people have three and four jobs. It should be explained to her that unemployment is calculated on the person, not the number of jobs some people might have.

She sees Israel as an aggressor that is occupying Palestine (a nation that does not exist now) and massacring Arabs with little knowledge or appreciation of the constant attacks on the Jewish state by Palestinians. She makes the totally false claim that people who work 80 hours a week (and that is very, very few people) cannot feed their children. She favors abolishing Immigrant and Customs Enforcement (ICE) because they maintain “black (secret) sites” on the border even though ICE does not even operate on the border. That is a completely different agency. She claims we have “no-



Talking Points—continued on next page



Talking Points—continued from previous page

holds-barred hyper-capitalism” even though business in America is highly regulated by governments at all levels.

Ocasia-Cortez’ incredible lack of knowledge is compounded by a platform presence that adds to her unintentional comedic persona. On many questions, she seems lost in thought as she tries to create an answer that she is fundamentally unprepared to give. She flounders. She fumbles. Her pondering gives the appearance she not only does not have an intelligent and informed answer, but that she does not even understand the question. Her pondering expression is reminiscent of old-time comedian Oliver Hardy’s icon inquisitive look sans the head-scratching. (For those under 40, you can do an online search on Oliver Hardy videos).

As an ardent supporter of the so-called “occupy movement,” Ocasia-Cortez says “we”—presumably the radical left—have to occupy everywhere including the border, airports and government buildings. This comes very close to governance by mob rule—don’t ya think?

Taken together, Ocasia-Cortez’ lack of knowledge, her radical views and her lost-in-space appearance certainly supply fodder for partisan criticism and mockery, but her dialectical talking-points reveal a very shallow knowledge of economics and political issues—to which she at least once candidly confessed that she is “not an expert.” An understatement, to be sure.

When asked how she would pay for her socialist free everything-for-everyone economic programs, she falls back on socialism’s false premise of getting the money from the corporations. Rather than reduce corporate taxes to produce job growth, she and her fellow (and gal) radical left-wingers would increase corporate taxes—in her case a 23 percent job-killing tax.

Where Ocasia-Cortez’s abysmal ignorance comes in—or her willful efforts to deceive the public—is in the fact that corporations and business do pay taxes. Shocking as that may seem to the capitalist-hating left, it is true. Corporations are merely vehicles to get the money from the customer to the government.

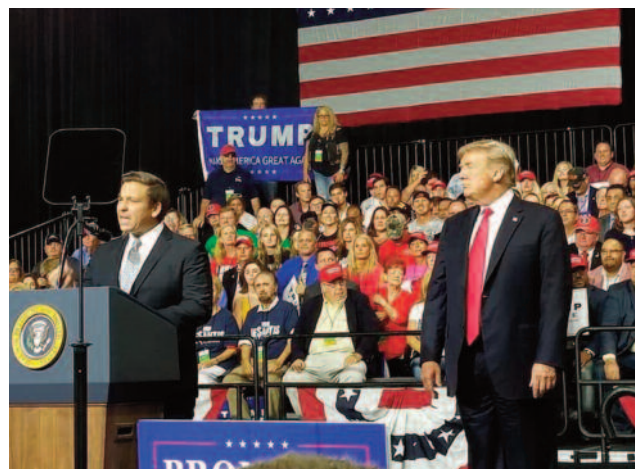
Taxes on businesses are a very regressive tax on the people who purchase the taxed goods and services. It is built into the price. It is regressive because price increases hit hardest on those with the least income and financial resources. Imagine that. Truth be known, Ocasia-Cortez is actually promoting taxes—indirect but real—that hit hardest on all those middle-class and poor folks she claims to be championing. In that bit of deceit, she is a true socialist.

Ocasia-Cortez is less than just another pretty face. For Republicans, the Democratic Party’s trending toward socialism is a gift that keeps giving and Ocasia-Cortez may be the best present yet.

*Larry Horist writes Tuesday and Friday commentaries for the Punching Bag Post . . . punchingbagpost.com. This article was posted on Sunday, July 29, 2018, by Larry Horist, Feature Commentator. **Larry Horist** is a conservative activist with an extensive background in public policy and political issues. Clients of his consulting firm have included such conservative icons as Steve Forbes and Milton Friedman, and he has served as a consultant to the White House under Presidents Nixon and Reagan. He has testified as an expert witness before numerous legislative bodies, including the U.S. Congress and lectured at Harvard University, Northwestern University, Florida Atlantic University, Knox College and Hope College. An award-winning debater, his insightful and sometimes controversial commentaries appear frequently on the editorial pages of newspapers across the nation. He can be reached at lph@thomasandjoyce.com.*

Mr. Trump Goes to Tampa

On Tuesday, July 31, President Trump held a rally in Tampa to support gubernatorial candidate Cong. Ron DeSantis. The rally was held at the Florida Fairgrounds and was attended by more than 9,000 enthusiastic supporters, with thousands more outside watching on a jumbotron. Here is some of what they saw.



Constitutional Amendments to Appear on Our November 6 Ballot

The following Amendments to Florida's Constitution will appear on our November 6 ballot. The Republican Party of Florida (RPOF) has endorsed several of them and recommends their support. These are indicated here, along with the origin of each amendment. Please note that Amendment 13 is currently in the courts and may be pulled from the ballot.

(1) Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption—RPOF ENDORSED

The Florida Legislature/House (HJR7105)

Increases property tax exemption for homestead property from \$75k to \$125k

(2) Limitations on Property Tax Assessments—RPOF ENDORSED

The Florida Legislature/House (CS/HJR 21)

Makes permanent the rule that property tax increases are capped at 10% in a given year (otherwise that rule expires this year)

(3) Voter Control of Gambling in Florida

Voters In Charge

Allows citizens initiative to authorize gambling in Florida, however, doesn't take away legislature's rights over gambling

(4) Voting Restoration Amendment

Floridians for a Fair Democracy, Inc.

Restores voting rights to felons after they've completed their sentences (except for murder or sex offenses)

(5) Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees—RPOF ENDORSED

The Florida Legislature/House (HJR7001)

Requires 2/3 legislature vote to increase taxes that are under the legislature's jurisdiction

(6) Rights of Crime Victims; Judges—RPOF ENDORSED

Constitution Revision Commission

Requires that administration develop a victims' rights that will be enforced by the court

Also increases mandatory retirement age for judges from 70 to 75

(7) First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities—RPOF ENDORSED

Constitution Revision Commission

Requires that agencies of the state pay death benefits and adds educational benefits for survivors for first responders killed in line of duty

(8) School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools—RPOF ENDORSED

Constitution Revision Commission

Creates term limits for school board members to eight consecutive years

(9) Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

Constitution Revision Commission

Prohibits drilling of oil and natural gas off state waters

(10) State and Local Government Structure and Operation

Constitution Revision Commission

Requires a new Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within the FDLE the state to maintain a Department of Veterans Affairs. Counties may not abolish statutory officers (sheriff, tax collector, supervisor of elections, etc.) nor transfer their duties or shorten their term to less than four years

(11) Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes—RPOF ENDORSED

Constitution Revision Commission

Cleans up obsolete language already passed. Allows prosecution of crimes committed before repeal of a criminal statute and eliminates language that says that's not allowed

(12) Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers—RPOF ENDORSED

Constitution Revision Commission

Expands current restrictions on lobbying by former elected officials and creates restrictions on lobbying by current elected officials

(13) Ends Dog Racing

Constitution Revision Commission

Phases out dog racing by 2020

The Winner in Helsinki: Israel!!

By Alan Bergstein

“The Businessman Meets the Bully,” should be the title of the recent Trump-Putin meetings in Helsinki. And these talks came right after Trump, without taking so much as a breather, rushed around the world to meet with the dictatorial leaders of North Korea, China, the heads of the NATO nations, and the royalty of England. That’s not a bad itinerary for a president who has received unwarranted criticism by his political adversaries.

In Helsinki, Trump discussed a litany of topical issues with the Russian president. Chief among them were commerce and trade, denuclearization efforts, the crisis in Syria, a joint effort in strengthening cybersecurity, and, of course, Trump queried Putin on his role in the alleged collusion matter. He asked Putin if he had any knowledge of these 12 Russian hacks who were indicted by the Mueller team for stealing the DNC’s e-mails and releasing them to WikiLeaks.

Above all, Trump stood firm that he will fight tooth and nail for what he considers the best for his country. In other words, he carries the slogan, “America First” with him whenever he takes off on Air Force One. A pleasant change. The encounters behind closed doors are where the real contentious topics are hammered out and sometimes—sometimes—ironed out. And we have to wait to see what changes are forthcoming in the days, weeks and months ahead.

And while we’re at it, let’s not kid ourselves about who we are dealing with. Putin is a ruthless guy. He’s a former KGB thug who still hands out death sentences as readily

and routinely without any sense of remorse. He has no concern for others.

Trump is no fool. He knows that Russia had been coddled for years by our former presidents to do as he wished in the Ukraine, Crimea, Syria, and to threaten the former Eastern Bloc nations of Poland and Czechoslovakia. Trump has evidenced total and military support in all of those areas to counter Putin. Donald will not blink. We’ve even killed Russians in Syria. Trump has energized and strengthened the anti-Russia forces of NATO with his openness. Trump plays hardball and the scarred veteran spy chief Putin knows the score.

In their torrent of coverage of the summit, what the mainstream media has conveniently left out is that the real winner here is Israel. Yes, folks, amazing as it may sound, the tiny little Jewish State now enjoys the full-throated support of both the United States and Russia. During their joint press conference in Helsinki, Trump spoke of the U.S.’s unwavering commitment to Israel’s security as Putin concurred and said that Trump had emphasized this during their negotiations.

Just a few years ago, the BDS movement had seen more than a modicum of success with their insidious campaign to malign Israel and thus isolate her globally. Dramatic changes, however, have taken place and thanks to President Trump’s support, Israel has regained its confidence on the world stage and forges ahead in their perennial quest to survive in a hostile neighborhood.



Trump plays hardball and the scarred veteran spy chief Putin knows the score.

Noble Arrogance

By *CS Bennett*
(*The Ram of God*)

“If they bring a knife to the fight, we bring a gun,” was the infamous battle cry declared by then-candidate Barack Hussein Obama, to his followers in Philadelphia (the City of Brotherly Love) in 2008. No doubt this signaled the mindset all liberals would soon adopt in their dealings with those on the right side of the aisle. Since then, the discord has grown, insults thrown, and a certain attitude, and arrogance, have prevailed. The vitriol, venom, and vulgarity is something you’d expect from ole Satan himself, or one of his disciples. Sound reasoning, openness and civility have left the room.

Oddly, I recently watched the movie *13 Hours*, which chronicles what happened that night in Benghazi when the compound, with former military personnel then working as security contractors at a top secret CIA compound, comes under attack by local jihadists. After word is passed along that the American ambassador is killed at his compound, this crew of six tries to figure out exactly what is going on, while trying to stay alive and protect their people. Remember, we are talking about highly trained, and highly skilled, former military personnel providing security in this situation.

From the onset of the movie, it is not long before you witness the animosity, hostility and pompous disdain the bureaucrats working for the CIA have towards our former U.S. Marines and Navy SEALs. They are treated as if they are low-paid rent-a-cops at the local mall. And they are talked down to as if they were uneducated third-world citizens. The pompous arrogance on display towards these men of honor, valor, and great courage by these rude, uppity, Ivy-League-educated-red-diaper-doper-baby types, is appalling. These are men who are expected to put their own lives at risk for these ungrateful, *I-am-most-important-for-the-mission-diplomacy* gods.



When we see arrogance displayed at this level of government involvement, is it any wonder we get this sort of behavior from those in other branches of government that are teeming with left-wing ideologues? Is it any wonder why these so-called “enlightened patriots” feel as though they have the brightest minds, the legal authority, and moral justification, to operate outside of the law? Do the names Peter Strzok and Lisa Page come to mind? Is it any wonder why Hillary can violate the law, give the system, and the American public, the middle finger, then walk free? Even make a possible third run for the presidency. How can this be?

Lovers of freedom and the American way, we not only need to drain the swamp, we must banish the slime in it forever, my friends. . . . Only then can we return this country back into the one and only great republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. . . .”

Curtis S. Bennett is an author, a national conservative talk radio co-host, and a columnist. He is a decorated Gulf War veteran and serves as Vice Chairman of the Putnam County Republican Executive Committee.

The media has excoriated the First Lady for her fashion but has said nothing about Hillary for hers.



DeSantis Rocks Trump National

By Fred Scheibl
July 16, 2018

On Saturday, Republican candidate for Governor Ron DeSantis appeared at Trump National in Jupiter with “The Great One” Mark Levin, Fox pundit Dan Bongino, and CD-1 Congressman Matt Gaetz. The large crowd was welcoming and enthusiastic, and possibly indicative of a surge in popularity for his candidacy. With some polls showing that the double-digit lead held by Adam Putnam has waned, Ron appears to be making the most of his endorsement by President Trump, and has begun to define his value proposition as governor.

Ron has had support among the Tea Party grassroots since before his election to the sixth congressional district seat (coastal from south Jacksonville to New Smyrna Beach including Daytona Beach) in 2012. A Tea Party conservative, he is a key player in the House Freedom Caucus. I have long been a fan of his work in Congress, repealing Obamacare, opposing the Iran deal, and pushing for oversight of the corruption at the top levels of the Justice Department and FBI. His candidacy for governor though, had seemed to be weak.

For the most part, Ron had seemed to be touting his congressional bona-fides, and his campaign literature and fundraising appeals seemed more a call for congressional reelection than a bid for the top executive job in the third largest state. A line of attack from the Putnam camp is that he is running his campaign on Fox News (Ron is a regular), has never held an executive job, and knows little about the Florida issues outside of Washington.

It was a different message we heard on Saturday. First, his surrogates described his work in D.C. as just as much “Florida Issues” as national ones. Health care, immigration, tax cuts and de-regulation to boost the economy—these are all things that concern us within the state’s borders.

When Ron took the podium, he brought the focus back locally. Water issues and toxic algae, sanctuary cities and immigration—these are state issues, as is opposing Common Core and introducing civics back into the K–12 cur-



riculum. He drew a sharp contrast to Adam Putnam on Sugar money (he doesn’t take it), ethanol mandates (Putnam opposed a measure to stop the measures that were harming the marine industry), and congressional term limits (Putnam opposed).

Although his website is still short on specifics, he seems to be holding his own on the issues with Putnam and referred the audience to the Fox News debate between them last month, which he feels he won.

On the Democrat side, Jeff Greene seems to be developing a lead. With the money he plans to put in the race, a unified GOP will be needed to hold on to the governor seat. DeSantis and Putnam are both credible candidates, but a tightening race may see the race turn negative. Let’s hope not.

At the end of the day, the Trump factor may make the difference. The President has endorsed DeSantis, and praised his work with the Freedom Caucus. There is evidence that Putnam has never really been a Trump fan. We will see how much weight that carries in Florida.



“The Great One” Mark Levin speaking in support of Cong. Ron DeSantis. This was only the second time Mr. Levin had campaigned for a candidate; the other time was for Allen West.



Event volunteers enjoying a moment with Cong. DeSantis and his wife Casey (center).

We Must Argue as Simply as Liberals

By Alan J. Huber, CFP

*Dreamers
Pre-Existing Conditions
Discrimination Against Gays
Ripping Babies Away from Mothers*

Shocking simple concepts. Conservatives, on the other hand, sound like college professors: “It’s always been the law, which was passed by Congress concerning asylum claims not originating at a port of entry and in compliance with the federal court order. Trump is simply following the law.” Does anyone really believe this is an okay response to: “Ripping babies away from their mothers”?

We have to provide simple answers to complicated problems or “WE WILL LOSE.”

Let’s start with the Supreme Court and the gay wedding cake.

Dem: Is it okay for the Supreme Court to deny gay people the right to buy a wedding cake?

Rep: Do you have the right to demand that a Publix employee write on a cake either: 1) God Loves Gays? or 2) God Hates Gays? 90% of America will agree that nobody should be forced to write something that is against their belief.

That is the gay wedding cake case. It was not about baking the cake or a gay wedding, it was about forcing an artist to create a work of art that went against his religious beliefs.

Dem: Do you think is right to separate mothers and their babies?

Rep: If you and your baby returned to MIA or MCO airports from Europe and walked right past the immigration booth without stopping what would happen?

Dem: I would probably be arrested.

Rep: Can we agree that anyone that enters United States should have to stop at the immigration booth same as you, a United States citizen?

Dem: that makes sense?

Rep: Oh. . . . And you would not want them to arrest your child because YOU did not stop at the immigration booth would you?

Dem: No!

We must talk about “Immigration booths,” NOT “Ports of Entry.” Most Americans do not understand the difference between legal and illegal immigrants.

Changing subjects. . . . I spent over 25 years doing personal income taxes and I learned that most Americans have no idea that they pay taxes. They think taxes are a check they get from the government every year around April 15th. Stop using words like “TAX CUT.” Use: “More take-home pay” and “Large bonuses.”

This is just a starting point. We win on every issue if we only learn how to explain it simply and easily.

Alan J. Huber is a Ceertified Financial Planner™ and is the director of Freedom From Obamacare (www.FreedomfromObamaCare.com) which advocates for more options for those hurt by Obamacare as well is offering alternatives to Obamacare policies. Since 2015 his accuracy rate in predictions on the Trump candidacy, election and steps taken as president exceeds anyone in mainstream media. Alan’s predictions and analysis can be found in the Facebook group “Common Sense Conservatives.” He can be reached at 855-561-0500



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REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

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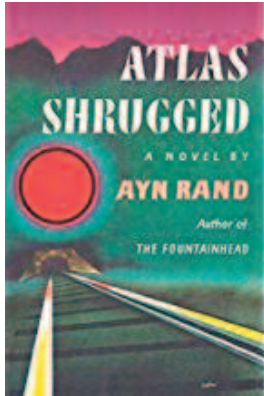
Mission Statement

The Republican Party of Palm Beach County is committed to promoting Republican ideals and principles; recruiting and electing qualified candidates for public office; developing a grassroots organization that will motivate the electorate to vote; and raising the funds necessary to complete these objectives.

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Book Review

Atlas Shrugged, by Ayn Rand. New York: Signet Books, 1957. 1086 pp., paperback.



Let me make a prediction here at the outset. This will be the most unusual book review I've ever done. Unusual because I didn't really enjoy reading the book that much. It's not the kind of fiction that makes it so you can't wait to see what happens next. Someone gave me *Atlas Shrugged* over 40 years ago and while vowing to read it someday, I always avoided doing so until this month and no wonder. At

nearly 1,100 pages with the text typeset in a miniscule type size it's quite an investment in time and a bear to get through.

So why am I reviewing and recommending it? A fair question and I'll try to give you a fair answer. *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand is a classic book by a visionary author that was way ahead of its time according to many conservatives who have read it and I couldn't agree more with that assessment. The first edition I have was published in the mid 50s and what Rand accomplished through her fictional story telling served as a warning to Americans about what was coming as a result of anti-business, anti-idea left-wing politics in the country, the legacy of which President Donald Trump is doing his best to overturn today in 2018 America.

In her "Message from the author" on the very last page of the book, Rand cryptically refers to the villains of *Atlas Shrugged* as the "neo-mystics of our age who reject [our traditional] culture," but it's liberal democrats of whom she speaks and I dare say few conservatives if any, reading the book would be likely to conclude otherwise. Let me give you some examples and see if you agree:

The editorial said that it was unfair to let one man hoard several business enterprises, while others had none and it was society's duty to see that no competitor ever rose beyond the range of anybody who wanted to compete with him. The editorial predicted the passage of a bill forbidding any person or corporation to own more than one business concern.

"Whether you like it or not, the Equalization of Opportunity Bill represents a great step forward," said Bertram Scudder. "I don't see why industrialists should be considered at all. It's idiotic to expect people to be stopped by some scrap of paper called a property deed. Property rights are a superstition. One holds property only by the courtesy of those who do not seize it. The people can seize it at any moment. If they can, why shouldn't they? Right

is whatever's good for society. The Equalization of Opportunity Bill places the public good above any personal consideration. Ideas are just hot air."

This back and forth from a powerful member of the government in Washington to the heroine of the story, Miss. Dagny Taggart:

Mr. Lawson: "The engineers? No, no, no. I was much more democratic than that. It's the real workers who interest me. The common men . . . I must hold the national welfare above any private privileges or interests. . . . I've never sought anything for myself. Miss. Taggart, I can proudly say that in all my life I have never made a profit."

Miss. Taggart: "Mr. Lawson, I think I should let you know that of all the statements a man can make, that is the one I consider most despicable."

Here's a gem from a guy also to Miss. Dagny Taggart that should be familiar to anyone with a rudimentary understanding of Marxist thought;

Ivy Starnes: Our plan? We put into practice that noble historical precept: From each according to his ability, to each according to his need. Everybody in the factory, from charwoman to president, received the same salary—the barest minimum necessary. . . . The income of the factory was distributed accordingly. Rewards were based on needs and the penalties on ability. . . . That was our plan. . . . It required men to be motivated, not by personal gain, but by love for their brothers.

And this revealing exchange between Miss. Dagny Taggart and Mr. Thompson:

Miss. Taggart: Start lifting taxes and removing controls. Mr. Thompson: Oh no, no, no. People aren't ready for freedom.

And finally this prescient tidbit of what we were headed for in society with those on the left leading the way:

. . . as if the vandal who smashed a statue were greater than the artist who had made it, as if the murderer who killed a child were greater than the mother who had given it birth.

Like I said at the outset, this was not an easy book for me to read, but it was in fact a great book by an author with unparalleled vision and foresight about the future. All who dare to take on *Atlas Shrugged* will be well served, learning as you go, how we got to where we are today through the eyes of an uncommonly astute observer of the American scene who saw it all coming over a half century ago.

—Tom Mullings

Book Review

***The Three Lives of James Madison: Genius, Partisan, President*, by Noah Feldman. Random House, 2017. ISBN: 9780812992755, 773 pp.**

This is a new treatment of major parts of James Madison's life that intersects with his friends Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, and other founders including George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Aaron Burr, Edmund Randolph, and several others. The table of contents lists three books under titles of Constitution, Party, and War, each with sub-parts focusing on five or six categories of subjects. The book bills itself as a biography, but the end notes run from pages 631 to 716, then there is a bibliography to page 730, and the book index adds another 42 pages. So it is also well documented from many resources, including lots of correspondence, reproduced portraits of several people and places, and it approaches being a history in some aspects of Madison's life. This is not a quickly-produced book about Madison to take advantage of a publicity phenomenon that authors about Donald J. Trump are writing now.

Noah Feldman is the Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and author of previous books, most recently *Cold War: The Future of Global Competition*. He is a Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows at Harvard University and a columnist for *Bloomberg Views*. Feldman says this book was one of the longest writing projects he has undertaken.

Since this review is for a Republican Party newsletter circulated from Palm Beach County, Florida, I first have to tell you that the "Partisan" and "Party" labels used by Feldman place Madison in the original Republican camp, since he and Jefferson organized the first Republican Party after the Constitution was ratified. These two needed a party to defeat the Federalists, who acted like they wanted to cozy up to England. The details are too voluminous to completely explain it all in a short review, so you will have to read the middle of the book carefully. But let me give you a few more interesting details covered by Feldman.

Floridians who want to know how East Florida, West Florida, New Orleans, and the Louisiana Territory were defined and how these areas were held by Spain, then the French under Napoleon, and transferred to the United States as well as the role that the Washington-Jay Treaty with England granting our former foe, England, the "most favored nation status" can find it all explained, and how the United States consummated an unconstitutional purchase of the Louisiana Territory and what was included.

Madison is labeled a genius by Feldman for being able to construct a new constitution among the people of the thirteen member states in the Articles of Confederation. Madison was one of the few who made it his business to solve the problems of liberty by studying many forms of govern-

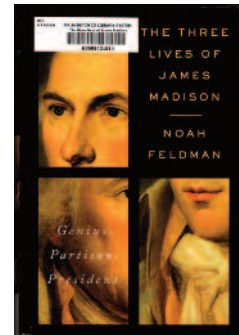
ment organization from the earliest of historical times. Madison's quest for answers began with his attempt to solve the meaning of the freedom of religion question that was in his formulation process at Princeton University under Rev. Dr. John Witherspoon, a Presbyterian from Scotland. Madison himself was a supporter of the Church of England or Anglican Church.

Even while the Revolutionary War was being fought, Madison was corresponding with Jefferson in France to purchase copies of many books about government organization. Jefferson sent Madison several trunks of books that he digested and then wrote study notes about them as he went about designing the parts of a new constitutional government. Madison did not just stand before an audience and mesmerize them with his speech, but he laboriously wrote articles for newspapers and speeches for himself and others on various options for the new constitution.

Tracing Madison's work on the development of a new form of government from the liberty ideas in the Virginia Declaration of Rights and The Memorial and Remonstrance documents to Jefferson's Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom, Feldman points out some of the background materials Madison considered. Madison learned about free trade, tariffs, and economics from Adams Smith's writings. He learned that the "balance of trade" was determined by the amount of money in the country. He learned about business "bounties" or government handouts from those who wanted to restore buckles to shoes by giving government handouts to manufacturers of shoe buckles.

In the House of Representatives in January 1794, Madison gave a series of seven resolutions in speeches that "were intended to implement an aggressive trade policy against any nation whom the United States did not have a commercial treaty or that itself blocked U.S. trade." But Madison did not have the political skill to get a vote on his ideas. The Republican House wanted to regulate trade, but Jay, Hamilton, and George Washington had signed a treaty with England that gave "most favored nation" treatment to them and allowed English ships to board American ships to take sailors off that the British thought did not belong there. This was called "impressment."

"First Madison had defined Hamilton as his enemy and created a party to oppose him. Then Hamilton had conquered Washington. In the end, that meant Washington, too, had become an enemy. As leader of the domestic enemy, the Federalist party, he had allied the United States with the



James Madison—continued on next page

James Madison—continued from previous page

foreign enemy, Great Britain. War with France could not be far away” (p. 409).

Madison retired from the House and got himself elected to the Virginia House. George Washington convinced Patrick Henry to run for the Virginia House to get rid of Madison, but Henry died before the election. In the book there are many details on why the Bill of Rights was needed to get the Constitution ratified and Madison ended up changing his mind from against to favoring the Amendments. Madison got reelected to the U.S. House when his friend Jefferson was elected President. The details of the presidential election are many and interesting. Madison was appointed Secretary of State by Jefferson, but not a word about who took the seat Madison had in the House.

Jefferson and Madison get wind of the Louisiana Purchase opportunity and arranged to buy it, knowing there was no constitutional authority to do so. A series of war losses including one at Trafalgar against the British where Lord Nelson died and 55,000 malaria deaths of French and others, prompted Napoleon to get rid of the land. In 1810 all Madison could get from Congress was economic sanctions. A Navy was not favored by the Republicans. When it was uncertain whether the West Florida land was included in the Louisiana Purchase, Madison boldly proclaimed that it was supposed to have been delivered by French, but the deed had not been received.

There are many details in this part of the book. Also included are more details about the War of 1812, the burning of government buildings in the District of Columbia, and Gen. Andrew Jackson’s victories in New Orleans with hundreds of recruits from Kentucky and Tennessee who joined in.

Madison became the first president who signed a war resolution after the House voted 79 to 49 on June 4, 1812 and the Senate 19 to 13 on June 18, 1812. Shortly after the war started, John Quincy Adams, who had been appointed Ambassador to Russia, arranged for Russia to agree to mediate the war between the U.S. and England. Madison favored this. In describing why the U.S. had to go to war, Madison used every argument he could muster, including religion, which he had kept out of politics until July 23, 1813 when he drafted a proclamation asking the people to assemble in their respective religious congregations to give thanks to God for his blessings and ask for forgiveness for America’s sins.

A dramatic naval engagement led by Oliver Hazard Perry on September 10, 1813, on the Great Lakes gave America a great victory over the British that Madison learned about on September 21. Madison used every success to promote this war as the second revolutionary war. Meanwhile there were members of Congress who were talk-

ing about impeaching Madison, since they said he was under the control of the French. [Current Congress v. Trump rumblings of impeachment and tariff wars come to mind. Not much has changed.]

The War of 1812 taught Madison some new lessons about the need for a standing army and navy for defense and territorial expansion. Madison’s and Jefferson’s views about an agriculture-based economy now included places for manufacturing businesses.

After Madison left his two terms in the White House to retire at Montpelier in western Virginia, he rewrote his notes taken at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, trying to get them into shape to publish in order to make some money to support Dolley, who was several years younger than he. After 35 years in government work, he spent his retirement as a farmer who made a profit in only two years of almost twenty before he died. Madison owned slaves and tried to improve their living conditions, but he and later, Dolley never let them go free. Madison worked on solving this problem but could not find a solution that would work for all.

Feldman in part concludes: “Constitutional freedom was the central core of Madison’s legacy. It brought together the three areas of his political life. In the first place, he had designed the Constitution to preserve liberty. In the second, he had created the Republican Party to defend constitutional liberty against subversion by the Federalists. Now he was pointing out that constitutional liberty had endured even during the war he prosecuted in the third. And it had extended even to Federalist on the verge of subverting the Constitution again” (p. 614).

Madison died June 28, 1836 at Montpelier after Paul Jennings, a slave who had served in the White House and at Montpelier, had brought him breakfast. Madison’s niece, Nelly Willis, was in the room. “What is the matter, Uncle James?” she asked. “Nothing more than a change of mind, my dear,” Madison replied. “With that, ‘his head instantly dropped, and he ceased breathing as quietly as the snuff of a candle goes out’.”

This book is available from the Palm Beach County Public Library. This review was written by William J. Skinner who retired to Florida in 2003 after being both a pharmacist and attorney for more than 50 years. He and Elaine were married in 1960 and have three sons and a daughter. Skinner was active in the Boy Scouts for 66 years, two years short of how long George Washington lived. They have two sons and four grandsons who are Eagle Scouts, plus six other grand children or step-grandchildren. Skinner was elected to the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee in 2003 and remains a member, now serving as Voter Fraud Coalition Chairman.

—William J. Skinner

Editor's Postscript

Mueller's Witch Hunt

By Tom Mullings

This is a terrible situation and Attorney General Sessions should stop this witch Hunt right now, before it continues to stain our country any further.

—President Trump Tweet

The president of the United States believes that special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation is nothing more than a witch hunt. Is he right? Consider the following:

Exhibit A: Virtually all of the so called unbiased investigators Mueller chose for his team are solid Democrat—contributors, supporters or both—yet he expects us to believe that that had nothing whatsoever to do with their selection! Mr. Mueller also apparently expects us to believe that he could not find or there was no need to find any similarly qualified unbiased investigators who were solid Republican—contributors, supporters or both—in the interest of a balanced, fair investigation. And by the way, isn't Deputy AG Rod Rosenstein supposed to be overseeing Mueller's investigation, and if that is so, shouldn't he have objected to the inclusion of such a hopelessly partisan team around his close friend to avoid being accused of conducting a witch hunt?!

Exhibit B: During the 2016 Presidential race, the Hillary Clinton campaign secretly hired the opposition research firm Fusion GPS to dig up dirt on their political opponent (Donald Trump), the result of which was the bogus "unverified and unsubstantiated" (Comey's characterization) Steele dossier. That infamous dossier was then used to obtain a FISA court warrant to spy on the Trump campaign, but the fact that it was commissioned and paid for by Hillary and company was hidden from the judge!

Exhibit C: "Why Mueller widened his Russia investigation beyond the 2016 presidential election" can be gleaned from an opinion of a federal judge in the Paul Manafort case. After dissecting "Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein's May 2017 appointment order to Mr. Mueller, Judge T. S. Ellis III concluded that the prosecutor is empowered to look at virtually any Russian contact no matter how stale it is, giving Mueller wide latitude when deciding whether to target a Trump person[!]" That's why the judge denied Manafort's motion to dismiss the indictment against him because it had nothing to do with the 2016 election. J. D. Gordon, a Trump campaign advisor, retired Navy officer and former Pentagon spokesman, commenting on those unfortunate enough to be snared in this "expansive definition," perhaps put it best when he said, "If and when they manage to haul you before a judge, your fate is basically a roll of the dice based upon the actions of FBI leadership during the Obama administration. The Trump-Russia probes are tyrannical by definition." All of this makes it abundantly clear that prosecutors real target is the President.

Exhibit D: On July 22, 2016, WikiLeaks released for public consumption some 19,000 emails hacked from the



Mueller—continued on next page



Mueller—continued from previous page

Democrat National Committee. On July 25, 2016, Hillary Clinton’s then-campaign manager, Robby Mook told CNN [Clinton News Network] that, according to “experts,” Russian state actors had stolen the emails from the DNC and were releasing them through WikiLeaks ‘for the purpose of actually helping Donald Trump.’” While Mr. Mook never actually used the word “collusion,” CNN and ABC News did that day, and “over the next two weeks, the word ‘collusion’ was used hundreds of times[!]” Use of the word by the liberal media has created the impression in the minds of tens of millions of Americans that Donald Trump conspired with the Russians to illegally deny the election to Hillary Clinton despite the fact that to this day “no tangible evidence has emerged to support such a charge.”

Exhibit E: Deputy AG Rod Rosenstein signed the FISA warrant recommending that Carter Page be investigated, even though he had to know that the Steele dossier, which was used as evidence, was bought by Hillary and company and “contained information obtained from self-interested Russians[!]”

Exhibit F: Mr. Rosenstein has stonewalled Congress for many months, keeping out of public view “the scope of activity memo he gave to Mr. Mueller” and many other mysteries as to the origins of just how the FBI got into this investigation. Also, there are solid reasons to believe that he has conflicts of interest with this investigation, which begs the question, why does he refuse to recuse himself?

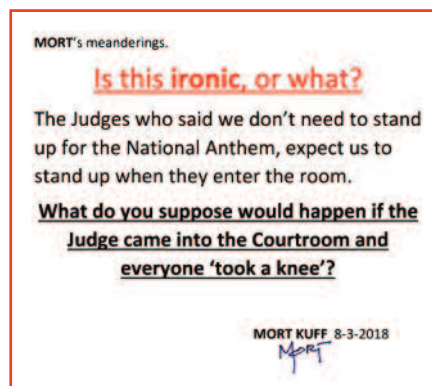
Exhibit G: What is going on with AG Sessions, and why has he been such a sphinx in the Trump-Russian collusion probe? This from the *Washington Times*: “Because of his reputation of being an upright fellow, the attorney general may yet surprise us by having implemented a plan to indict and/or otherwise remove the bad actors in Justice and the FBI, including Mr. Rosenstein. If not, it is fair to accuse Mr. Sessions of being incompetent or too timid as many (including former judges) are now doing. It has also been a subject of speculation that Mr. Sessions may be subject to blackmail. This would explain why he agreed to recuse himself from the Russian investigation without telling the president beforehand, and then hiring and inexplicitly protecting Mr. Rosenstein (and indirectly Mr. Mueller). Many people have

dark corners in their lives which could not only lead to embarrassment but even jail time from misbehavior that might have been committed decades earlier.”

There are many more “exhibits” to support the president’s claim that the Mueller investigation is a witch hunt, but they are too numerous to list here. At the recent House Judiciary Committee hearing, Trey Gowdy said to Rosenstein and FBI Director Christopher A. Wray, “Whatever you got, finish it the hell up,” but frankly, I believe that to be much too mild a response to what is going on. What we have here is the greatest political scandal of our lives and the mainstream media are ignoring it and misleading the public as to what has really happened. Hillary Clinton and the DNC paid millions of dollars to produce a bogus dossier IN COLLUSION WITH RUSSIAN ENTITIES, then used that to get a FISA warrant to spy on their political opponents in the upcoming presidential election. But they never expected to lose the election and they’ve since tried to cover their tracks by accusing Trump and company of what they themselves were actually doing, getting senior pro-Democrat officials at Justice and the FBI to help perpetrate this fraud on the American public.

The President is on to something here—it’s a “witch hunt” with a fishing expedition thrown in for good measure. But it’s even worse than that. Senior officials in our federal government have deliberately abused their power, undermined the rule of law, and shaken the very foundation of our democratic way of life, and Republicans should be screaming to the high heavens. Finishing “it the hell up” is not enough. Heads should roll and people should go to jail, and the hopelessly biased liberal media, who are knowingly keeping their heads buried in the sand, should be forced to cover this despicable story of lies, cover up and abuse of power at the highest levels of our government by an out-of-control minority party that has totally lost its way!

Tom Mullings is a decorated Army infantry combat veteran of the Vietnam War, who served as a scout dog handler with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He was one of the three original incorporators of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a long-time Republican Executive Committeeman from precinct 5154 in Palm Beach County.





Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

The Republican Executive Committee (also known as the REC) is the governing body of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The REC elects the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Party. Members of the REC also approve the Party's constitution; Rules, Policies & Procedures; and budget.

Members of the Republican Executive Committee represent the registered Republicans who live in their precinct. They serve as the Party's liaison to the Republicans in their precinct. REC members are expected to maintain contact with the Republicans living in your precinct and to keep them informed as to what is going on in the Republican Party. This can be done through E-mail or other means like regular mail, phone calls and walking your precinct. The REC is the basis for our grassroots efforts and we rely on REC Members to organize and develop their precincts, recruit new volunteers, recruit candidates to fill vacancies on the REC, find sign locations for Republican candidates, register new Republican voters and work to get out the Republican vote in their precincts during elections. The role of committeeman or committeewoman is essential to Republican Party's and our candidates' success in Palm Beach County.

REC Committeeman & Committeewoman Duties and Responsibilities

1. Expected to donate financially to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County
2. Attend REC Meetings
3. Organize your precinct and carry out the policies and programs of the Party within your precinct. Active participation in the various programs of the Party is expected.
4. Serve on a Party Committee.
5. Develop a presence in the broader community by joining a Republican Club; serving on a local board or committee; or monitoring local media for relevant material.

ALL APPLICANTS FOR THE REC MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN IN PALM BEACH COUNTY. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REC APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT ALONG WITH A PHOTO COPY OF THE FRONT OF YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CARD. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S VOTER REGISTRATION CARD WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING REC APPLICATIONS IS 11:00 AM, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REC MEETING.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Cell Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

Profession: _____ Precinct #: _____ Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

I am applying for the position of:



Committeeman



Committeewoman

Please return your REC Application to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County Headquarters,
1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 210, West Palm Beach 33401 or fax (561) 686-1898. Phone (561) 686-1616



Republican Party of Florida Party Loyalty Oath

I, _____, swear and/or affirm that during my term of
(Name of Member – Please write clearly)

office I will not actively, publicly, or financially support the election of any candidate seeking election against:

- (1) The Republican Party's nominee in a partisan unitary, general, or special election that includes a Republican nominee; or
- (2) A registered Republican in a non-partisan election except that this provision does not apply to judicial races under Chapter 105, Florida Statutes.

I further swear or affirm that, in a contested Republican primary election, I will not support the nomination of one Republican candidate over another in my capacity as a Republican County Executive Committee member unless the Party has voted to endorse under RPOF Rule 8. This provision does not preclude me from supporting in any manner my personal Republican candidate of choice in a contested Republican primary election, provided I do not express such support with public reference to my title or office within the Republican Party of Florida.

Signature of Member

Signature of Witness

County/Precinct #

Date

Office: _____

(State Committeeman, State Committeewoman; Precinct Committeeman, Precinct Committeewoman;
Alt. Precinct Committeeman, Alt. Precinct Committeewoman)

Address, as it appears on voter registration

Email

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

**CANDIDATE OATH -
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN AND
COMMITTEEWOMEN**

OFFICE USE ONLY

OATH OF CANDIDATE (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

I, _____
(PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT * -- NAME MAY NOT BE CHANGED AFTER THE END OF QUALIFYING)

am a candidate for the office of Precinct Committeeman Committeewoman Precinct Number _____,

I am a qualified elector of _____ County, Florida; I am qualified under the Constitution and the Laws of Florida to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; and I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number (located on your voter information card): _____

* Please print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot for persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form):

STATEMENT OF PARTY (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the _____ Party; I have not been a registered member of any other political party for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, as a candidate for said office by the executive committee of the political party, of which I am a member.

X	()		
Signature of Candidate	Telephone Number	Email Address	
Address	City	State	ZIP Code

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____ **day of** _____, **20** _____.

Personally Known: _____ or

Produced Identification: _____

Type of Identification Produced:

Signature of Notary Public
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public
