



## Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—January 2018

### Happy New Year America 2018

*by Rick Roth*

*Florida State Representative, District 85*

Happy New Year! As a newly elected State Representative in 2016, I spend a significant amount of time reading and staying up with current events. The Fake News Media predicts doom and gloom for President Trump and the Republicans. I am much more optimistic and see an ushering in of policies that will lead to a happy and prosperous 2018.

#### ***Early Events that will Impact our Economy and Job Creation in 2018***

No one likes to admit it, but our representative form of government is reactionary, not predictive in nature. Bush was a compassionate conservative who gave us two wars and did not veto any spending bills. Bush's Guns and Butter gave us \$400 billion deficits each year. A war-weary electorate eagerly gave Obama the chance to make real changes for the better. Instead, Obama, the progressive liberal, made every decision political. He is very intelligent, but he counted on a misinformed voting public to continue his liberal agenda. Eight years of bigger Government and unbelievable federal regulation growth resulted in 2% GDP growth and a stagnant economy. This new normal for eight years gave Trump his chance.

The world economy is moving into an economic growth phase after 16 years of no growth with cash-rich companies ready to expand. Obama's reaction to the BP oil spill in the Gulf is a case in point. His anti-oil regulatory policy led to two years of \$100 per barrel oil that jump-started the USA shale oil and natural gas boom.

Trump is a plain talking and brash conservative populist and a businessman. He has his principles, but solving problems and fulfilling campaign promises is more important than party or ideology—and it is also smart politics. Following a period of big spending Republicans and Democrats, Trump's common-sense approach gives us our best chance to move back to bipartisan legislation and a smaller, less intrusive federal government.

He is well on the way to succeeding with his bold pro-jobs, pro-business agenda.

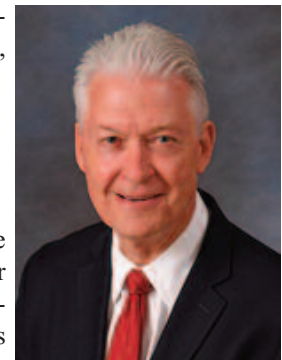
#### ***An Exciting time for Conservatives***

For 16 years the size of the Federal Government (and our National Debt) have grown exponentially. Looking at Trump's first year as president, the new trend line says we have the opportunity for 4% GDP growth in the USA and a Conservative wave election in 2018 similar to 1994 when 100 Republicans were elected to Congress.

Businessman Trump is on target to "Make America Great Again." As CEO of the Executive branch, he is unilaterally reducing the size and influence of the federal government and government interference in the marketplace. His judicial appointments define him as a conservative constitutional president. His cabinet appointments are experienced reformers who will carry out his campaign promise to drain the SWAMP in Washington DC.

Rush Limbaugh said it the best back in November on FOX NEWS when he was interviewed by Sean Hannity, where he predicted the following: "If Congress can pass legislation to Repeal Obamacare, reform the Tax Code to create new jobs and bring back jobs to America, rebuild the military, and rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure, the resulting economic boom will usher in 25 years of Conservatism in America."

This is my prediction. President Trump will change Washington, DC. The Keystone Pipeline and Dakota Access Pipeline are transforming Houston into the Refinery and Energy Export center. As America moves toward energy



*Happy New Year—continued on next page*

*Happy New Year—continued from previous page*

independence, worldwide economic growth fueled more and more by American energy is our greatest hope for paying down our federal debt. The “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017” will change the political landscape in Washington, DC. GDP growth over 3% means job creation, lower unemployment, and increasing capital expenditures. Reversing the trend of moving American jobs overseas combined with tighter border control will increase demand for good workers, which will result in real wage increases.

Let’s talk about the current political environment. In 2018, Trump has an opportunity to remake and re-energize the Republican Party. Everyone loves a winner. Reluctant, moderate, or globalist Republicans will rethink their position as our economy improves. That is no surprise.

What did surprise me is the hardline position the Democrats in Congress took on the tax reform bill. Not one D Representative or D Senator voted for the bill. Nine states that Trump won in 2016 have Senate Democrats up for election in 2018:

Bill Nelson, Florida  
 Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin  
 Bob Casey, Pennsylvania  
 Sherrod Brown, Ohio  
 Claire McCaskill, Missouri  
 Joe Donnelly, Indiana  
 Jon Tester, Montana  
 Heidi Heitkamp, North Dakota  
 Joe Manchin, West Virginia

I predicted that some of these D Senators would wait until all 50 R’s voted YES on the tax bill, before they could vote YES without any negative consequences. Obviously, **I was wrong.** They could have voted YES politically because the bill would pass anyway. They voted NO for several possible reasons. Most likely, party unity against Trump was the reason. But why they believe it was smart to vote against a bill that puts money in voters’ pockets and stimulates more jobs in America is the big question.

And the possibilities are all scary, at least to me:

Democrats as a party believe that the wealthy, who pay most of the taxes, should pay more.  
 Democrats as a party don’t understand that Trump’s immigration policy is already restricting both legal and illegal immigrants from entering the USA, and labor markets are tightening.  
 Democrats as a party believe business owners are bad and greedy and the tax bill will only help them get richer.  
 Democrats as a party don’t understand our free enterprise market economy and that small businesses create 2/3 of our country’s jobs.  
 Democrats as a party don’t understand that the economy is improving around the world and especially in America.  
 Democrats as a party believe the voters will believe the Tax Bill is bad just because they say so.

Democrats as a party believe the secret to winning is sticking together and staying on message, because voters are generally apathetic and uninformed.

### *A Well-Informed and Engaged Electorate is Key*

The Fake News Media wants everyone to believe Trump and the Republicans are in trouble. It is easy to predict mid-term losses for Republicans because that is the historic norm. But these are not normal times. I predict the opposite. This Unanimous No by the Senate Democrats on the tax bill will hurt them in proportion to how well the economy grows. I predict that Senators Manchin and Heitkamp are in trouble because Trump’s energy policy helps their states. Senator Nelson’s troubles will also increase as Florida’s economy continues to improve.

Surely, we all understand by now . . . that we as the voting public must ignore all the “talking heads” as we listen to the news. The more you know, the more optimistic you will be. The facts and the economic data all point to America becoming energy independent and America experiencing the strongest economic boom in over 30 years.

Conservatives believe that America is great because of economic opportunity, and a return to our founding constitutional principles will lead to greater prosperity for all Americans. Conservative principles lead to a stable environment for all people to prosper. The biggest problem in government today is apathetic, uninformed citizens. I submit that well-informed conservatives are more optimistic about the future, because they see the potential.

So here is my closing challenge. Take this opportunity to actively engage your FRIENDS to embrace our conservative principles. But remember this simple thought: “No one cares about what you know until they know that you care.” We must renew our friendships with old friends before we can share our opinions.

It takes 30 days to create a new habit, so you might suggest they try this for 30 days. First take out a trial subscription of the *Wall Street Journal*, 12 weeks for \$12, and take the all-access digital newspaper. Secondly, listen to Moody Radio while in your car. It is 89.3 FM in Boynton Beach or download the MOODY app. On the way home from work, listen to “In the Marketplace with Janet Parshall.” It airs from 5 to 7 pm Monday through Friday. They cover all the current events from a biblical perspective. In this day of Fake News, these are two excellent sources of information.

Finally, I am looking for politically active conservatives who are willing to get more involved in our representative government. I call it “Adopt a Legislator.” We as representatives need regular contact with well-informed friends on key issues to develop good policy and to succeed politically. As mentioned earlier, the key is first earning their friendship and trust. It is a long-term process that will pay many dividends in the future.

Thank you for all you are doing to “Make America Great Again.” Together, we can make a difference.

## Palm Beach County Republican Party Marches in the Martin Luther King Day Parade

For the fourth year in a row, on January 13 the Palm Beach County Republican Party participated in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade in Riviera Beach. As always, this annual event is held to “celebrate the dream” of racial equality and harmony of the legendary civil rights leader who, at the height of the turbulent ’60s gave his life for his cause.

Palm Beach County GOP Vice Chair Tami Donnally, having been away on party business and unable to attend last year’s parade, rejoined us this year in her shiny new red convertible. Each year the GOP keeps moving up in line during the event, thanks to the efforts of our Executive Director, Ryan Hnatiuk, who, knowing that the order in the parade is based solely on a first-come-first-served basis, wisely puts in our paperwork as soon as possible each and every year. Consequently, the Republican Party was second in line this year, making it easier on all who participated.

This year’s march was different in a number of ways. For one thing, the parade route, at 1.3 miles in length, was nearly half the distance of last year’s march. Also, the crowds were considerably smaller than in the past, perhaps because of the early morning starting time of this year’s event.

Much else was the same, especially the way the GOP contingent was treated by those in attendance, who, undoubtedly, were overwhelmingly Democrats. Concern over this was perhaps heightened this year in the first year of the Trump presidency, what with increasingly furious Democrat efforts to inflame their base supporters with the bogus belief that President Trump is a racist, but as I said, nearly everyone at the parade treated us kindly and with respect. One lady, more boistrous in her opposition to our presence than most, voiced her feelings as we passed by, but became noticeably subdued when I pointed to a picture of Dr. King on the cover of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning book, *Bearing the Cross*, that I was holding aloft as we marched, and yelled to her in response, “It’s not about us. It’s about him.”



Palm Beach County GOP Vice Chair Tami Donnally, a candidate for Florida Senate District 31 in the upcoming April 10 special election, greets the crowd.



PPBC GOP Chair Mike Barnett proudly marching in the parade.

This year’s Republican contingent included, among others, Palm Beach County GOP Chairman Mike Barnett, Vice Chair Tami Donnally, Secretary Cheryl Mullings, and Executive Director Ryan Hnatiuk.

In 1865, as mortally wounded Abraham Lincoln lay dying on a bed much too small for his 6’4” frame in a tiny bedroom across the street from Ford’s Theater, a small group of Cabinet members and friends watched over him. Upon taking his last breath, the President’s Secretary of War Edwin Stanton commented, “He belongs to the ages now.”

Martyred civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, whose sad end on a balcony in Memphis Tennessee in 1968, so mirrors that of our 16th president, also “belongs to the ages now,” but his memory lives on in the hearts of his countrymen who still believe in his “dream.” His was not a partisan dream, but a noble effort to advance American democracy and make us all not just better Americans, but better men and women too. The Palm Beach County Republican Party is right in marching in this annual parade to celebrate the life of this authentic American hero. As I said to the lady who objected to our presence, “It’s not about us. It’s about him” and the sacred cause he represented that we should all embrace.

—Tom Mullings



Palm Beach County GOP participants in the parade included Cheryl Mullings, Tom Mullings, Ruth Field Beck, Sofia Manolesco, Tami Donnally, Ryan Hnatiuk, and Mike Barnett.



## Taxes, Explained

*By Sid Dinerstein*

*December 27, 2017*

Happy New Year!

Clearly this is the happiest of New Years, not only for Republicans but for all Americans, except those who think a poor country is preferable to a rich one. This historic tax bill is much more President Trump's "Yuge" than Nancy Pelosi's "con job." This essay will sort it out from three perspectives: Economic Growth, Legislative Politics, and Bonus Treats.

Virtually all the near-term economic growth in this bill will come from the lowering of the Corporate Tax rate from 35% to 21%. This is arguably the single most pro-growth legislative tax change in American history. It has been decades in the making. What took so long for something that is so simple and so obvious? It's always billed as "Tax cuts for the rich," no matter how many jobs follow or how much more affordable oil we produce. The economic growth will come over time as money is repatriated (as much as \$2 trillion) and capital budgets are increased for domestic investment. There is no downside to this rate cut. There are those on the left who argue that this is no big deal because average corporate taxes are 24% already. They are either ignorant about the differences between average and marginal tax rates or they think everyone else is. Two trillion dollars sit in Europe because President Obama would not let them return without a 35% "haircut."

But what about doubling the standard deduction and lowering the other six personal income tax brackets? These provisions are what I call the benefits of Legislative Politics. They are not big economic drivers. They are vote drivers. And the first votes they drove were the fence-sitting Republicans in the Senate. The next votes they will drive will be the November 2018 mid-term elections, another good cycle for the Republicans. By then everyone's take home pay will be more and the middle class would have seen some financial benefit. But the 4% GDP growth they're going to see, feel and read about in the Fall of 2018 will be brought to us by the new 21% corporate tax rate, not by the reduction in long form filers from 30% today to under 20% in the future.

Make no mistake about it. There are a bunch of Bonus Treats in this tax package that are almost as powerful as the corporate tax rate cut. Front and center is the end of the Obamacare Individual Mandate. Obamacare was never meant to make Americans healthier. It was always meant to effectively nationalize the one-sixth of our economy referred to as Health Care. And then Obamacare was about transferring massive amounts of money from fiscally healthy families to fiscally challenged citizens and non-

citizens, legal or not. My daughter's family would have to spend \$20,000 (between the premiums and the deductibles) before they could get one dollar of reimbursement. No more. They'll now buy what they want from health insurers who will meet that market. Remember when John McCain kept us from repealing Obamacare? Well, what John McCain took Chuck Schumer gave. Remember when President Obama and his Democratic Congress locked the Republicans out of the Obamacare conferences? This time Chuck Schumer and the Democrats locked themselves out. Ergo, repeal of the Individual Mandate. Thanks, Chuck.

And another big Bonus Treat is drilling in the Arctic. No Democrats, no drilling opponents. No muss, no fuss. Energy Independence, here we come. And last, but certainly not least, is the cap on state property, sales and income taxes. For high-tax states (think, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Illinois and California) this could start a brain drain. For low-tax pro-business states like Florida and Texas, the beat goes on.

So what were the Democrats thinking? They had two thoughts. The first was that the John McCain Republicans would never let this bill pass. The second was, even if the bill passed, tax cuts, repatriated dollars and the gutting of Obamacare would never be popular. You can't make this stuff up. As good as 2017 has been, 2018 is going to be even better.

Happy New Year, again.




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*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.*

## CRC to offer Voters School Board Reform

*By George Blumel*

The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) is a group of 37 people appointed to review and recommend changes to the Florida Constitution. Every 20 years the commission is appointed to examine the Florida Constitution, hold public hearings and possibly recommend changes to the Florida Constitution for voter consideration.

The commission began its work in April 2017. It is holding public hearings throughout the state where citizens can attend, share ideas and feedback on potential proposals for the ballot. After gathering public input, the commission will recommend proposals for the November ballot, where 60 percent of the vote will be required to pass.

A much-needed proven effort to reform Florida's school boards by reducing the influence of special interests on career politicians is to limit the terms of school board members. As our Florida "Eight is Enough" rule has greatly improved the quality of the state legislature, it would do the same for school boards.

As testimonial to that effect I witnessed when Governor Jeb Bush invited a group of us who worked on his education voucher project were invited to the mansion to celebrate its successful passage in the legislature. He gathered us around him and thanked us for our support and concluded with "we couldn't have succeeded without the term-limited legislature." The entrenched politicians and their supporting lobbies always fought reforms that limited their power.

Proposals by CRC Erika Commissioner Donalds to limit Florida school board members to two four-year terms and to end the election of district superintendents won strong support with 5-1 vote last month from the CRC's Education Committee. Donalds serves on the Collier County School Board and co-founded the Florida Coalition School Board Members, plus other impressive qualifications for her position.

Nick Tomboulides, executive director of U.S. Term Limits, was not surprised by the overwhelming support, "The issue of term limits enjoys wide bi-partisan support with voters," he says, "however, it's less favorable with lobbyists and career politicians. This was made clear when Commissioner Bob Solari expressed his opposition to the measure and the lobbyists gave him a standing ovation!" Tomboulides concluded, "It's refreshing to be working with the CRC which is closer to the citizen legislature model that term limits would ensure if implemented."

Florida State Sen. Gregg Steube of Sarasota is introducing a bill for the 2018 legislative session that began Jan. 9. The goal and language of the bill is nearly identical with that of the CRC proposal and, if approved, would put the term limit Amendment on the November 2018 ballot.

Commissioner Donalds promoted a trio of ideas—the third being elimination of paying salaries to school board

members—to overhaul school district governance.

She called her ideas "best practices," explaining that board members should not be careerists serving for decades, becoming creatures of the institution rather than public servants. The superintendent job is considered more as a profession than a political post—superintendents need to be viewed as chief executives, with higher qualifications than being registered voters in their districts and having no disqualifying criminal background.

Commissioners generally agreed with the concept that a school board seat should not become a career, while the superintendent job should be one. As state education commissioner Pam Stewart, who sits on the Constitution Revision Commission, put it, the superintendency "is in fact a career and should be treated as such. As much of the politics as can be taken out of it, , , should be taken away from the office."

The pay proposal is not likely to pass, as four commissioners oppose it. Donalds called Florida an extreme outlier in providing salaries to board members, whose posts are volunteer in most other states.

The school board remains one of few areas in Florida government where there are no state term limits yet, only Duval County has them.

The CRC intends to make a second state tour to get input from voters before taking a final vote.

Other education issues being considered: The CRC also heard lengthy reports on the class size amendment and the use of state funds for religious schools. It has proposals on those issues coming forward in future meetings. Previous quotes on those two potential amendments by our Education Governor Jeb Bush are followed by my opinion:

"We have a Class Size Amendment in our Constitution that has nothing to do with student learning, it was done for a political purpose." The tiny class size amendment is a waste of a lot of money that could be spent on learning.

"Why should we trap kids in schools that aren't working?" In 1999, under his gubernatorial oversight, Florida became the first state where students could get vouchers to attend private and parochial schools.




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*George Blumel is a husband, father, grandfather; retired entrepreneur; blogger [www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com](http://www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com); political activist—for freedom with responsibility.*

## *Talking Points:*

# **Friday Briefs on Bad Boy Bannon, Academia Loves the Left, the End of a Legacy, R.I.P. Obamacare, UN American, Moving Day in Israel, and Open Arms to the Ukraine**

*By Larry P. Horist*

### **Busy Week for Politics—Bad Boy Bannon Bites the Dust**

In a previous commentary, I predicted that the Alabama GOP loss was the swan song for political gadfly Steve Bannon. He seemed to be victim of his own repeatedly bad judgment. One could not then know that he actually had a more serious propensity for political suicide. However, his participation in the Mike Wolff attack book has shown that his lack of judgment, political loyalty and malignant ego have no bounds.

The problem with Bannon is that he had come to believe that he resided at the pinnacle of political importance. He was the Pied Piper and the puppet master of a nationalistic movement that only he could lead—a movement that was less popular than his imagination would allow him to believe.

Ironically, the very Steve Bannon who the mavens of the media disbelieved and discredited at every turn is now the credible source based only on his book quotes attacking the Trump administration and the Trump family.

Trump blasted his former advisor, but that is not the worst of Bannon's problems. His key financial backer has now had enough of the pompous political operative. His return to his platform publication, Breitbart News, has not stemmed its decline of recent years. His reputation as a political guru is now laid waste by promoting and backing a series of candidates who were worse than just bad. His reputation and influence are as tattered and disheveled as his just-back-from-bivouac appearance.

Bannon may have been the worst of the political baggage Trump took on during the campaign. There were good reasons why he and Michael Flynn were short-lived denizens of the West Wing—and people like Paul Manafort and George Papadopoulos never got past the Pennsylvania Avenue gate. Bannon's only access to the limelight is the never Trump media that will be more than willing to give his damaging rants more airtime than they deserve.

### **Hatred and Terror Are a Plus on Academic Resumes**

In December of 2016, Drexel University Professor and strident Communist (by his own admission) George Ciccariello-Maher gained a bit of national notoriety when he tweeted that "All I Want for Christmas is White Genocide." Following a wave of outrage by alumni and the general public, University officials issued a condemnation of his racist rant and Ciccariello-Maher claimed his obnoxious wish was only satire even though one would be hard-pressed to see

anything satirical in his comment. Also, his satire excuse does not hold water in the face of his own clarification. He wrote, "To clarify: When whites were massacred during the Hattian revolution, that was a good thing."

His Christmas wish was not a one-off sentiment that might be contributed to imbibing a bit too much at the faculty Christmas party. Ciccariello-Maher also hates the military. During a flight, he posted on Facebook this observation. "Some guy gave up his first-class seat for a uniformed soldier. People are thanking him. I'm trying not to vomit or yell about Mosul." Mosul? Is the professor siding with ISIS against the Iraqi government and the United States who combined forces to rid the city of the Islamic terrorists?

His inbred self-righteous venom appeared again after the October massacre in Las Vegas. Despite the lack of any racial motivation or targeting, the good professor tweeted "It's the White Supremacist Patriarchy, Stupid"—targeting white folks and especially men. He added, "White people and men are told that they are entitled to everything. This is what happens when they don't get what they want." Finally, Drexel had enough and put Ciccariello-Maher "on leave"—meaning, "we are going to give you time to find a new job."

Well ... after a year of criticism from those he describes as "right-wing, white supremacist media outlets and internet mobs" and complaining that Drexel was "bowing to pressure from racist Internet trolls," the unhinged professor announced his long overdue departure from Drexel—from whence he should have been dismissed more than a year earlier.

Based on his vile and irrational hatred, it should be nigh-impossible for Ciccariello-Maher to find a job at any respectable academic institution. But noooo! Apparently, the repugnant professor has found a home as Visiting Scholar(?) at New York University.

Ciccariello-Maher is as bad as any of the white supremacists he simultaneously condemns and emulates, and far worse than the majority of white Americans he slanders with his baseless broad-brush racist rants. Yet, he is given the cloak of undeserved credibility by the liberal elitist press. His hateful opinions can be found on the editorial



*Talking Points—continued on next page*



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pages of such publications as the *Washington Post*. He is a welcomed lecturer on college campuses.

It is impossible to explain why academia gives prominence and prestige to the worst of the left-wing misanthropes, such as Ciccariello-Maher. It brings to mind such people as Bernadette Dorn, whose terrorist activities resulted in the death of a police officer and a prison term after years hiding from the law. The law? Oh, she spent her later years as a law professor at Northwestern University. Her husband, co-conspirator and terrorist bomber Bill Ayes, taught education at the University of Illinois.

Ciccariello-Maher reminds me of something I first penned a long time ago. No one is entirely worthless because they can always serve as a bad example.

### **Farewell to Legacy**

One of the themes of current elitist media narratives is that President Trump is purposely unraveling the legacy of President Obama. Well, duh! If the press had been paying attention, they would have noticed that the people of America have been opposing the leftward drift of the Obama administration since the GOP reclaimed the United States House of Representatives in 2010—a time when Obama himself said on behalf of his fellow Democrats, “we took a shellacking.” He, the Democrats and the press could see the Republicans rising like the Phoenix from the ashes of 2008, but they never, to this day, seemed to have figured out why. When Obama campaigned in 2008, he did not campaign as a left winger. He was a centrist—almost conservative. He spoke in defense of the Second Amendment and religious freedom. He opposed gay marriage (which was a calculated lie at the time, according to his top advisor David Axelrod). He gave speeches that Ronald Reagan would have endorsed. So, the good people of America trusted his lack of experience and his membership in the infamous Chicago Machine.

Once in office, the moderate mask was flung to the side and his administration became one of the most leftist in American history. Almost immediately, voters’ remorse set in. By 2010, his signature healthcare program was opposed by two-thirds of the American people. His economic program was inflating the National Debt like a Macy’s Christmas float. His classic liberal Neville Chamberlain-style foreign policy was undermining America’s historic international leadership.

The more the Obama Democrats imposed unwelcomed left-wing policy on the people of America, the more they hired Republicans to fight back in 2012, 2014 and then in the granddaddy of all political rejections, 2016. As nice and personable as Obama may be, the nation did not want what they now call his legacy.

If the Obama legacy is being shredded, it is because that is exactly what President Trump was hired to do.

### **Obamacare—Essentially Dead?**

True to their tradition of dwelling on the petty to find ways to spin stories against Trump, one of the latest narratives of the elitist liberal press involves what the President said at the end of the year about Obamacare. Specifically, Trump said that with the passage of the Tax Bill and the elimination of the public mandate, Obamacare is “essentially dead.” Note the word “essentially”—meaning for all practical purposes.

That is not how the press reported it, however. They misquoted Trump by claiming he said it is “dead,” finito, gone. They then used their inaccurate interpretation to claim Trump is exaggerating, making false claims and even outright lying. That spin has come from news anchors, guest journalists and panelists over many programs throughout the broadcast week.

But is Trump wrong? If there has been any bipartisan consistency since the Affordable Care Act was introduced into Congress, it was that the ACA was not economically feasible without the public mandate forcing all those healthy young people to purchase insurance they did not want or face a fine they could not afford. The lack of such a mandate, however, was considered the death knell of Obamacare. Everyone agreed.

While it is true that the Tax Bill did not technically terminate Obamacare, it struck a lethal blow—which is largely being ignored despite the fact that Obamacare will have to be dealt with again in the future. Obama’s health plan was crashing even before the public mandate was ended—with even Democrats admitting the ACA had to be “tweaked” if it was to survive. With the removal of the mandate, Obamacare is now in political hospice. It is terminally ill—or as Trump put it, “ESSENTIALLY dead.”

### **UN-American**

The resolution by the UN condemning the United States’ decision to shift the American embassy to Jerusalem was meaningless but not surprising. The resolution was purely symbolic, meaning that it has no effect in the real world.

It was not surprising that even many of our allies voted against the U.S. since they all have deep interests in the Middle East and do not wish to upset the Arab leadership in the area—which understandably is unhappy with the decision.

Since the resolution ripped the scab off an old wound—the fact that America pays too much and gets too little out of the UN—the U.S. is now starting to reduce our investment in the international alliance and curtail some of our more excessive foreign aid expenditures with various individual nations. That is not necessarily a bad plan.

The liberals, who love the UN, seem to believe that America should provide blank checks to every troubled or

*Talking Points—continued on next page*

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failing nation in the world without strategic considerations. That appears to be coming to an end—finally.

But, what about the move of the embassy itself?

**Moving on Trump Style**

Apart from the political gnashing of teeth, was moving the embassy a good idea? The answer to that is an emphatic “yes!”

The current criticism from the Democrats is their height of hypocrisy. The policy of moving the embassy to Jerusalem has been the bipartisan national policy for decades. The United States Senate had previously voted overwhelmingly to move the embassy. It had the full support of congressional Democrats until a president they do not like decided to actually do what they only intended to promise. That is what they call diplomacy.

It brings reality to the formal position of not only the United States, but to many western nations that follow the liberal practice of establishing a policy and then doing nothing to impose or enforce it. (Think of our red line in Syria, the demand that the Russians withdraw from the Crimea and the no nukes in North Korea.)

What is widely recognized in the world community is that Jerusalem IS the capital of Israel. In fact, it has been the center of the Jewish people throughout history. For too many nations, however, that policy is only lip service—a diplomatic game of virtual reality. Trump’s decision also gives meaning to our strong alliance with Israel, something over which the Obama White House cast a shadow of doubt.

Israel’s current sovereignty over most of the city is a matter of unquestioned international fact. The only controversial issue is the claim of Palestinians over a portion of

the city as part of a two-state solution—should that ever become a real possibility. That debate is not necessarily affected by the U.S. action. While we recognize Jerusalem as the national capital, we are not committed to any specific boundaries, as independent Senator Joe Lieberman points out. It does not prevent a section of the city from becoming a part of a future Palestinian state should such an agreement be reached—but that is a much longer and more complicated discussion.

Yes, there has been a flare-up of international anxiety. That is always the case when there are changes in the status quo. But in the larger and longer sense, the issue of Israel’s capital has now been settled. The contretemps of the moment will pass. Other nations will eventually move their embassies to Jerusalem—and I see Guatemala has already announced its intention to follow suit. The enforcement of America’s longstanding policy will at least take one of the contentious issues off the table for future negotiations.

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*Larry Horist writes Tuesday and Friday commentaries for the Punching Bag Post . . . punchingbagpost.com. This article was posted on Friday, January 5, 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](mailto:lph@thomasandjoyce.com).*

**A Christmas Visit to the White House**



National Committeeman Peter Feaman and his wife Sally were honored to visit the White House over the holidays.



## Clean Water Is Still A Long Way Off—Maybe Further Than Mars

*By William J. Skinner*

**B**ack in September 2017, I wrote an article about “Water, Water Everywhere” to sum up a few of my discoveries about what is being done about the toxic algae problem in Florida with a focus on Palm Beach County and Lake Okeechobee. The problems are much bigger than any of us expect.

The effects of toxins in water on human health, especially brain health, are being studied around the world. The problems are complex, but we can study it and find how to reduce the damage and deaths.

What brings this subject to my mind to share with you is my personal knowledge and involvement in brain health issues. It is hard to grasp the enormity of the science involved, but we do have the means to unravel some of these biological secrets if we keep studying the problems. A little simplified and condensed history about smoking tobacco might help.

Seventy years ago before I was a teenager, cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco were commonplace. When I was in my thirties, my father died of a heart attack. He smoked 5 or more cigars a day sometimes. That probably led to his death at age 60. Next I learned that the husband of one of my mother’s cousins died of throat cancer at about age 50; he was a smoker and chewed tobacco. Next one of my grandfathers died of emphysema at about 78. In those days tobacco was king and it was lightly regulated. Then came the science.

I remember learning about Dr. Bruce Ames, a scientist in California, who was one of the pioneers in developing laboratory tests to determine the “hits” on mice and rat DNA from being raised in a tobacco smoke rich environment. A “hit” is when it could be determined that the DNA was reconfigured because of something the animal had breathed or eaten. As time when on these tests became more accurate. When DNA is modified, it can cause cancer to develop.

In the past 20 years, we learned that nicotine, in tobacco, was also addicting and the growers and sellers knew this before the public did. Tobacco is now regulated by laws and regulations administered by the Food and Drug Administration. But people still smoke and chew, though not as much.

On television today we are inundated with commercials selling prescription drugs that extoll the virtues of the drugs and ask you to ask your doctor. The idea of drug science is becoming a second nature to a new generation of TV watchers.

Everyone who keeps up with the news for the past 30 years knows that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has expanded its authority so much that President Trump’s election was supported by many to rein in the broad grabbing of authority by EPA. This was a problem the Congress caused in many ways.

Before retiring to Florida 14 years ago, I was a supporter of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for many years. It has

done some good work in the states that have the water sheds that flow into the bay. The CBF Winter 2017 magazine just came and Will Baker, the CBF President, described the problems being done by the chemical pesticide, chlorpyrifos, “which is acutely toxic to Bay life and has been found to cause brain damage in children.” Baker quotes Fernando Stein, the President of the American Academy of Pediatrics, writing in the *NY Times*, “This chemical is unambiguously dangerous and should be banned from use.” Baker quotes other people familiar with the chemical. Then he proposes support for two bills in Congress, S.B. 1624—The Protect Children, Farmers, and Farmworkers from Nerve Agent Pesticides Act of 2017 and H. R. 4420—The Chesapeake Bay Farm Bill Enhancements Act of 2017 which also supports multi-state water quality challenges. Senate cosponsors are all Democrats. House cosponsors include a couple or Republicans from bay districts.

Now we move on to what the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals wrote back in June of 2017 about Florida’s water. The 11th Circuit is an intermediary court between the local U.S. District Court and the Supreme Court of the U.S.

The Court was a three-judge panel of Circuit Judges Tjoflat and Rosenbaum, plus Hon. Jane A. Restani, U.S. Court of International Trade sitting by designation. Judge Rosenbaum wrote the 52-page opinion. The opinion began by reviewing background issues. Notice how three judges described the “algae blooms.”

“Plaintiff-Appellants Florida Wildlife Federation, Inc., Environmental Confederation of Southwest Florida, Inc., and Conservancy of Southwest Florida, Inc. (collectively, “Conservationists”), complained about serious environmental problems in this channel and the surrounding areas where Lake Okeechobee’s waters flow. They asserted that decisions by Defendant-Appellee U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the “Corps”) about when and how to release water from certain locks along the Waterway violate the Clean Water Act and Florida law because they negatively affect the quality of the waters the Corps regulates. In response, the Corps invoked sovereign immunity, and the district court dismissed the Conservationists’ complaint on that basis. The Conservationists now appeal.

But they aren’t the only ones. The South Florida Water Management District (the “Water District”), an agency of the State of Florida, also appeals the judgment. It does so, though, on the basis that the district court first should have decided whether the Conservationists failed to join the Water District as an indispensable party under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 19(b).”

\* \* \*

*Clean Water—continued on next page*

*Clean Water—continued from previous page*

“To the Conservationists, this case is about the quality of water and the ecological conditions along the Waterway. To the Corps, it is about federal regulation of navigation through the Waterway. And to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP”) and the Water District, the case is about protecting any authority the state might have over the waters at the center of this controversy. So resolving this case requires us to consider complex and overlapping interests. Because understanding these interests is critical to finding the right answer here, we review relevant background information below about Florida’s water geography, Florida’s water-ecology issues, the roles that the federal and state entities play in regulating the waters at issue in this case, and federal and state law concerning water quality.”

\* \* \*

#### “B. Florida’s Ecological Water Issues

Florida suffers from a Goldilocks problem when it comes to water in the Waterway: too much or too little results in serious consequences. The waters in the Waterway are healthiest and most useful when they fall within a range that is just right. In this lawsuit, the Conservationists complain about only the problems that arise as a result of low water in the Caloosahatchee River, a condition they attribute in part to the Corps’s management of S-77, S-78, and S-79 under its 2008 regulation schedule. See generally U.S. Army Corps of Eng’rs, Jacksonville Dist., Cent. & S. Fla. Project: Water Control Plan for Lake Okeechobee & Everglades Agric. Area (2008) (“2008 LORS”).

Low water levels can have adverse effects on navigation, water supply, and fish and wildlife in the area. Among other negative effects, low water levels can aggravate ecological conditions in the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Estuaries by causing too high a level of salinity and saltwater encroachment into the freshwaters of the Waterway. But the Conservationists draw special attention to another serious problem associated with lower water levels: the emergence of algal blooms. Often characterized by the bright-green appearance of the water in which they are occurring, algal blooms represent a serious environmental problem because they consume an excessive amount of oxygen from the water when the constituent cells die. The remaining levels of oxygen may be too low to sustain aquatic life, which can die off as a result. Algal blooms also can result in taste and odor problems with drinking water, contribute to the formation of **carcinogenic substances** in drinking water when it undergoes chlorination, and produce **toxins** that are not removed by the treatment process. Algal-bloom toxins, in turn, can cause **liver and neurological disease in animals and humans** who drink or come into contact with the water. They can induce skin irritations, kill fish and other animals, and seriously impair the recreational value of the body of water. **And eating fish taken from waters during algal blooms is dangerous.** Algal blooms have happened in the

Caloosahatchee River eight of the eleven years between 2001 and 2012. In 2011, eight weeks of algal blooms proliferated.” [emphasis added.]

The remainder of the opinion and specially concurring opinion by Judge Tjoflat dealt with the procedural position for dismissing under Rule 19 or the claim of sovereign immunity. Rule 19 was selected as the primary reason for dismissing the case. No ruling was made on the operational procedures for the locks or the dangerousness of the algae blooms, but the court explained what it understood of the science that was put before them during the case.

11th Circuit Court of Appeals—June 19, 2017— Opinion in *Florida Wildlife Mgmt, et al v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineer*; Case No. 4:12-cv-00355. Case dismissed for failure to join SFWMD in the suit under Federal Rule 19 (b).

Now for those who like to watch videos, I am giving you three to watch in order. They are all short, but very interesting.

To learn more about BMAA in the brains of humans watch these three quick videos in this order:

1. 2012 Paul Alan Cox speaks about BMAA in tangle diseases at Jackson Hole

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7jWi6WQQ9wo> then go on YouTube and search for “update on Paul Alan Cox BMAA research since 2012” and you will find several more short reports that claim BMAA is found in brains of people dying of ALS, Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s Disease.

2. April 3, 2017 Update on use of L-serine for ALS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4cwR8SMs4w>

Published on Jan 24, 2016

BREAKTHROUGH: Cause of Alzheimer’s discovered: where you live and what you eat are crucial. A POISONOUS algae found in freshwater lakes in the UK is being blamed for an increase in the number of people developing dementia, which is expected to hit one million by 2050.

3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNIHGU-LR8Y>

Published on Mar 5, 2016

The neurotoxin BMAA is found in seafood and the brains of Alzheimer’s and ALS victims. Might dietary changes help prevent amyotrophic lateral sclerosis? [This one shows research papers and connection to fish in USA.]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLVUFYEnVvs>

Downloaded 12-5-2017 WJS

We may have to go to another world to get our brains away from the danger of chlorpyrifos and BMAA. Ask Stephen Hawking if you don’t believe me.

## NYers to Cuomo: Reduce Taxes; Create More Jobs

*By Alan Bergstein, January 3, 2018*

We hope that the tears being shed by Governor Cuomo over President Trump's new tax plan will not run into the Hudson and add to the threat of the rising seas. Andy is having fits that the Fed's new tax plan that limits the Federal deductions for state and local taxes to \$10,000 and the deduction for mortgage interest capped on houses worth more than \$500,000 will chase those with higher than normal incomes out of The Empire State. Is Andy now concerned that his wealthy New York citizens whom his party calls evil, rich, one percenters and capitalists will be looking to relocate in order to avoid NYS's huge tax rate? And if many among those looking to scam to more welcoming states are Republicans, isn't this exactly what he called for when he said that Conservatives are not welcome in his state?

Cuomo had the chutzpah to utter these memorable words to CNN last week: "We're going to propose a restructuring of our tax code. I'm not even sure what they {Republicans} did is constitutional and that's something we're looking at now. You can change the tax code but you can't penalize my state because of its political affiliation. There's never been a double taxation before in the history of the nation." And this guy went to law school? Doesn't he know basic civics that all states and localities are allowed to impose their own

income taxes and so can the feds. It's the Constitution, stupid! Doesn't he even know that NYC has an income tax even on out-of-towners who work in the Big Apple? Hasn't he read the outline of the plan that the mortgage deduction cap will be imposed on the rest of the 49 states as well? New York State is not being singled out. The citizens of our state may whine at the new law but that's because Cuomo and prior governors have seen fit to tax us too much. They've bled us dry. If he wants to, there's no one stopping him from proposing the lowering of our state taxes to keep our well heeled citizens within our borders rather than scampering off to such more welcoming states such as Florida, Alaska and Texas among others where governments get along without taxing the earnings of their residents.

New York State now has a projected \$4 billion deficit and Cuomo seems to be more interested in preparing for a possible presidential run than improving the lives of his state's citizens who have been made into taxpaying zombies. Let the governor work toward being presidential and fiscally responsible by reducing our taxes, creating more jobs and putting an end to his ceaseless spending so as to create a positive environment for New Yorkers to stay in New York. That sounds like a good New Year's Resolution for Andy.

### President Trump Returns to Palm Beach



Palm Beach County Chairman Mike Barnett was on the tarmac to greet President Trump when he arrived at PBIA on December 22. Describing the event, he said: "Waiting at PBIA for President Trump with the Palm Beach County clergy who helped him to win Florida. We got lucky this time. He came to greet the crowd. What a privilege to introduce him to the pastors and rabbi who helped get him elected, and to thank him on behalf of the Palm Beach County GOP for all the amazing work he's done for our country in such a short time. The best part was listening to President Trump talk with the pastors about his visit to Little Haiti back in September 2016. That made a huge difference for him in Florida and he knows it. And he thanked them profusely."



## Conference on the Middle East in 2017

I attended a conference on the Middle East in Boca Raton on November 17, 2017, and it was most enlightening. The talk was given by Mr. Moty Ruham, who is Chief of Staff for the Israeli Vice Prime Minister, Silvan Shalom. What follows is his view of the present situation in the Middle East, which, happily, seems to bode well for Israel's future and gives some interesting facts about the changing nature of what is happening there:

- *The situation between Hamas and Fatah.* Egypt has attempted to force a reconciliation between these governing bodies in order to show President Trump that all goes through them, but actually the sides signed a paper in which Fatah and President Abbas rely on Saudi Arabia and Hamas relies on Iran.
- *The situation with ISIS.* Despite the demise of Islamic State, ISIS has effectively smashed away all the borders in Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and its message will never disappear as an idea. Although in decline, the land they control in the Middle East is still double the size of the state of Israel.
- *The situation in Egypt.* ISIS attacks the Egyptian army day by day, especially in the Sinai Desert region of the country. Soldiers join the army just to secure enough food and water for themselves and their families. Without heavy government subsidies and rationing of electricity and water in Cairo, the city would collapse. Egypt's GDP is \$2,500 per capita as compared to Israel's \$40,000.
- *Sunnis and Shiites.* They've been in conflict with each other for 1,300 years. Sunnis represent 85% of Islam. The Shia, which is regarded as a cult, represents only 12% of Islam. Sunnis dominate Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Hamas in the Gaza Strip. The Shia are dominant in Iran, Hezbollah in Lebanon and Assad's Syria.
- *The situation in Syria.* Assad is running out of soldiers for his army and only one in 17 Syrians supports his Allawite Regime. His army has only 25,000 soldiers today and is being propped up by thousands of fighters from outside the country like Iran and Russia. 2.5 million refugees fled the country, going to Jordan and Europe and the brutal conflict has left 75% of Syria lawless and uncivilized.
- *The situation in Bahrain.* 1.5 million with Shia majority, but Sunni regime that controls the country is likely to be stroked by Iran.
- *The situation in Qatar.* 2.3 million people are mostly Sunni, but support Iran against Saudi Arabia. America has its largest air base in the region there, from which it attacks ISIS.
- *The Iran Nuclear Deal.* It's all about the money! At least from France's perspective, who did a \$55 billion energy deal with the Ayatollahs. Effective sanctions are possible that would cut off much needed funds to the clerics and prevent the Iranians from paying for weapons from abroad.
- *Situation in The Iran Saudi Arabia war which has begun.* Iran has an old army and virtually no air force. The target of its missile forces is to ultimately bring down the Saudi Regime. Saudi Air Force is attacking targets in Yemen on a daily basis. Saudi Arabia has done a huge weapons deal with America, of which Israel approved, their view of such deals with the Kingdom having dramatically changed as of late. Today there exists a much closer relationship between the Jewish State and the Saudi monarchy that borders on a de facto alliance.
- *Who wins from Iran Saudi war?* Mr. Ruham's view is that the U.S. will not go to war with Iran, instead cooperating with Kurds, Saudi Arabia and others to stop Iran from dominating the Middle East. Fascinatingly, with fear of Iran growing to unprecedented levels, former enemies of Israel such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan are no longer concerned about growing Israeli economic might.
- *The situation in Europe.* What's happening there is most troubling. Muslim immigration to the continent has only just begun and will be in the millions! Europe is governed by weak utopian thinking left-wing governments, whose main policies are dominated by out-of-control social and welfare spending which is very attractive to many refugees who don't speak the language of their host countries and have limited skills.
- *Conclusions.* Some interesting stats provided here by Mr. Ruham that raises eyebrows and reveals some surprises. For example, in Europe the birthrate of Muslims is going up while in Israel their numbers are doing down. 15% of the France's population is now Muslim and that number is increasing. In Austria 10% of the population is Muslim (8 million). Ten percent (10 million) of the population of Sweden is Muslim also and each year 50,000 Swedish leave the country for Canada, the United States and Australia. When Jews emigrate around the world they only go to Israel. The European birthrate is 1.5. The Muslim birthrate is in steep decline (because of despair over the kind of life their leaders have given them) in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, while the Jewish population in Israel is increasing at one of the highest rates in the world.
- Obama focused on the Palestinians being the main issue and key to bringing about peace between Israelis and Arabs, but today all recognize that the Israeli/Palestinian conflict is not the main issue in the region.
- Consequently Israel, for the most part, is on the sidelines and is not interfering in the Middle East conflict.
- The conflict in the region today is, in essence, a collapse of the old states established in colonial times which has been replaced by the rise of the tribes. This conflict is essentially without borders and we are only in year eight of this war, which will probably last 50 years or more.
- The discovery and exploitation of oil lifted up the Arab world and dramatically increased their power, and now oil (fracking revolution) has collapsed the Arab world and just as dramatically lessened their power.
- The technology gap between Israel and the Arab world is continuing to grow day by day.
- The situation for Israel today in the Middle East and prospects for its future is the best it has ever been in its history.

## Staying the Course

By *CS Bennett*

Let us remember that 2018 is an election year and that those on the left are going to go all out to win, and not only to beat us, but to bury us six feet under, and to add insult to injury, they are going to top our gravesite with a 24-inch-thick slab of concrete. They are going to lie, cheat, and exaggerate their way through the process, and they are going to do this using every tool in their box of corruption and deceit. This will include misinformation, disinformation, and propaganda.

Disinformation, and propaganda, is something we use in the intelligence business to influence the outcome we are hoping to achieve. Unfortunately, for our side, liberals/progressives are masters at this. We are barely into the New Year and some of the pundits, who call themselves conservatives, are sounding like we have already been conquered and defeated by the left. It is depressing, to say the least.

Warnings are one thing, capitulation before we even walked onto the battlefield, is outright criminal. Just remember this one thing, my fellow patriots. The men and women who heard, and suffered, throughout the very day United States citizens voted for a new president, endured the taunts and jubilation exhibited by the left as the polls assured them that Hillary Clinton would not only beat Donald Trump, but embarrass him.

Well, all went according as planned, by the left, from the opening bell. By midday, the biased left-wing media gave Hillary a 78% chance of defeating presidential candidate Donald Trump. Yes, and by the end of the day, she would be anointed, and crowned, the next president, and first female president, of the United States of America. Republicans and independents, some of them, appeared nervous, and a lot of them prayed. Those of lesser faith, by noon, felt it was a lost cause. They were already cursing the day they got behind Trump and supported him.

And of course, we had the “*Never Trump*” Republicans, who could not wait to go on television, many of them on CNN and MSNBC, to voice how right they had been, all along, about their doubts of a viable Trump presidency. But then something divine occurred that evening. The conservatives returned home from work. And by the millions. After a quick bite to eat, they converged on the polling precincts and had their say. And it turned the tide, big time. Of course, we all know the end results of that effort.

Democrats, listen to me. Those same people who supported and voted for Donald Trump still exist. If anything, our ranks have swelled. Sure, we have been diminished by those on the left, and are never looked upon as a factor in the upcoming midterms, but we are still out there. Better yet, Trump’s supporters will continue to back this president



as he returns this republic to its constitutional roots. So, my Republican friends, do not fall for the hype of an assured Democrat victory in 2018, or 2020. We, as Americans, make the difference, not the media or the Sunday morning news pundits.

For those on our side who believe in reaching across the aisle for the sake of saying we are inclusive, when did the Democrats ever seriously reach across the aisles to Republicans when they were in power? It does not happen. We must remember that our representatives should be representing us, and while they are at it, they should be protecting and preserving our Constitution and our freedoms. Doing what is right for America, and Americans, is of upmost importance, not their reelection.

If Democrats ever get their policies in line with the Constitution, then fine, let’s court their cooperation. If not, forget them. But be buffered by the following reality: the one thing liberals/progressives, and the Establishment on both sides of the aisles fear, is an informed American voter. Yes, “*we the people.*”

So, listen to the experts, if you must, but go onto work, and continue to educate your children about our difficult, but proud history, and teach them great values, knowing that on election night, it is your vote that will have the final say in matters. Let 2018 be the year of informing others about this great republic and why it is so unique. We do that, and we will never have to fear the left again. And America will indeed, be truly great again. . . .

Oh, by the way . . . pay little attention to left-wing polls in 2018. They are done by the same political caliphate that said that Trump had as much as chance of winning the election as a snowball had in hell. . . . *Poof* to that.

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*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.*

**News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County**

**The JCRC Meeting with “The Professor and the Student”**

Dear Friends,

On the evening of January 9th, the Judeo-Christian Republican Club with its usual packed meeting welcomed as its guest speakers Dr. Irving Berkowitz, a professor and dean at a local college and Michael Furnari a Boca resident and currently a freshman at a top NY state university. The professor discussed the history of Communism in Russia and its disastrous effects on the world for 100 years. Mr. Furnari told of his solid, what many would consider an old fashioned philosophy, that of being raised in a conservative household with a closely knit, stable, religious family inspiring him to have confidence in his decisions based on his own sense of self worth. As a brand new freshman, he petitioned his school to have his own student led, conservative radio show. He is now on the air inspiring others. Talk of strength and courage on the campus.

A great evening with a professor and a college student both giving the audience an example of what our educational system should strive for: Brilliant and informed teachers and willing to learn, unspoiled students encouraged and supported with strong religious and familial ties. Sadly, that is not the norm. But the evening gave us the hope that Michael and professors like Dr. Berkowitz might both pass on their feelings of family solidarity, respect for education and their love of country to the next and all future generations. People such as these are worth fighting for. And that is what we will continue to do. Join with us and let's stand together against the forces that threaten the beauty of our American democracy.

[judeochristianrepublicans.com](http://judeochristianrepublicans.com)

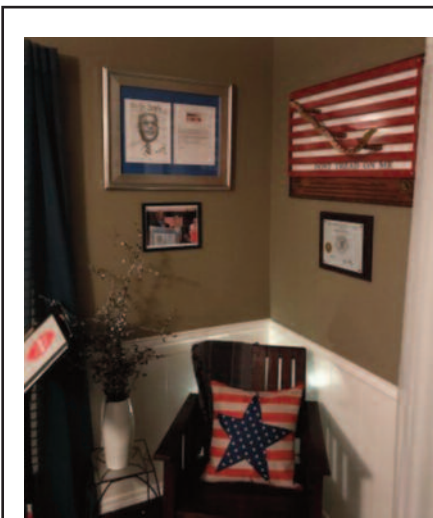
—Alan Bergstein  
*President, Judeo-Christian Republican Club*  
January 11, 2018



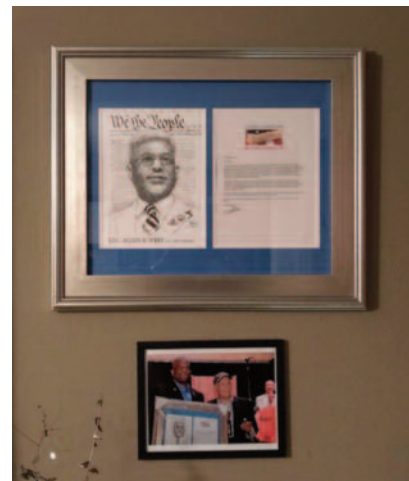
Professor Berkowitz speaking to the Judeo-Christian Republican Club.



JCRC Secretary-Treasurer Eve Bazer with Michael Furnari, who spoke earlier, and JCRC Vice President Bill Petraglia, listening to Professor Berkowitz.



At the December meeting of the Judeo-Christian Republican Club, guest speaker Allen West was presented with a framed portrait of himself by Mort Kuff, along with a letter of appreciation from the Club. Col. West was kind enough to send photos showing where he hung the presentation in his home.





## News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County

### Dimensional Harmony Highlights December Luncheon of the Republican Club of the Palm Beaches

*By Fred Scheibl, December 20, 2017*

Our Christmas lunch was enhanced by the sweet tones of Dimensional Harmony from Boynton Beach High School and their leader **Sterling Frederick**.

The a cappella chorus did a range of traditional Christmas songs, as well as some of their pop favorites, with some excellent solo performances.

We also heard from Palm Beach County GOP Chairman

**Michael Barnett** with some end of the year remarks as he swore in the club officers for the next year, and **Tami Donnally**, who is now a candidate in the special election for Senate District 31.

Mark your calendar's for next month's meeting on January 24 which will feature **Starla Brown**, Florida Grassroots Director for Americans for Prosperity.

### Kings Point Republican Club Celebrates Its Third Anniversary

Our December 6th free Holiday Party celebrating the third anniversary of our Club Charter and achievements was a huge success. Over 100 people were in attendance in the Monaco Ballroom.

The party featured refreshments, entertainment and great speakers. Colonel **Arthur DeRuve** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by **Alan Klein** singing our National Anthem. Then Colonel DeRuve gave an outstanding commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day.

**Peter Cavanagh** conducted the Election of Officers. Our elected officers for 2018 are **Paul Tocker**—President, **Jonathan Winson**—Vice President, **Bill Hartnet**—Treasurer, and **Marie Cimafonte**—Secretary.

**Michael Barnett**, Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County and Vice Chair of the Republican Party of Florida, gave a great talk about Republican accomplishments followed by **Tami Donnally**, the Vice Chairwoman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, who is a candidate Florida Senate District 31 in a special election scheduled for April 10th. Tami told us of her campaign. She is a terrific candidate with a wealth of experience and deserves our whole-hearted support. **Carla Spalding**, a candidate for the U.S. Congress in the 18th Congressional District against Debbie Wasserman Schultz, told us why she is the best person for the job. **Peter Cavanagh** conducted the raffles for the \$25 Publix gift card, and the 50/50 raffle winner collected \$89.00. Then **Zail Greenbain** entertained us.

Everyone enjoyed the speakers, the refreshments and the feeling of camaraderie.

We hope to see you all at our next meeting. Please remember that we meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7 pm in the "Social Room" in the main Clubhouse near the East End Café. Don't forget, everyone will have a free chance to win a \$25 Publix gift card. We do not charge dues and there is no admission charge. We do accept and appreciate donations.

Paul Tocker—President (561) 235-0840

Jonathan Winson—Vice President (561) 600-0416



From left: Carla Spalding, Michael Barnett, Tami Donnally, and members of the Kings Point Republican Club.

## Letters

### Let Mueller Investigation Die on the Vine

I respectfully disagree with Tom Mullings' Editor Post-script in the last Newsletter, suggesting that Robert Mueller's collusion investigation should be "shut down." This would fall right into the narrative that Democrats are praying for, that such a step would amount to an effort by Attorney General Sessions or the President to suppress revelation of corruption.

Moreover, unless the Mueller investigation is allowed to run itself into the ground while Congress continues to expose the hypocrisy of its essence, it will hamper any momentum picking up to explore Hezbollah-Gate and Uranium One by our new Justice Department.

It is obvious at this point that mainstream media is taunting and daring the President into taking a measure that would backfire on his Administration. The Mueller appointment was a train that should never have left the station to begin with. However, now that it's running down the tracks it should be allowed to either derail or run out of steam by itself.

Respectfully,  
Tom Vaughn  
Boynton Beach, FL

### The Truth about "Sh-thole" Countries

Dear Friends,

So now we see that President Trump naively welcomed the knife toting enemy into his chambers for a chat on issues and as a reward these individuals claim, without actual corroboration by video, that he referred to countries shoving illegal aliens over our borders, as "shithole nations." Are they? Would anyone choose to live in them? Why are people risking their lives to swim, walk and paddle here if their homelands were fit to live in? Has anyone asked illegals on camera, "Why did you leave Haiti, Honduras, Somalia or Iraq?" Just what made their nations undesirable to them and their families? Where are the hordes lining up to replace them in the huts, shacks and tents they abandoned?

Where are the illegals from Norway, Germany, Italy or Switzerland who are flooding our country? Why do they choose to remain content in their homelands and not seek refuge here? Answers, please.

My parents came from Poland and Russia, lands not fit for them to live in. Were they alive today and asked, they would characterize their birth nations as not tolerable and safe. In other words, in language that needs no interpretation, they left shitholes for the safety, security and opportunities found in America.

This ballyhooed attack on "brown people" is the curtain going up on the next act of the Democrat performance of, "How Best to Destroy President Trump Together With this Nation of Ours." Of course, DJT happens to be one of the major contributing playwrights to this seemingly never ending assault on his office. Better for him not to write the scenario for the Progressives and their media hysteres and let them go it alone with the likes of Nancy Pelosi and Maxine Waters adding the black/white comic routine to their Party's mind numbing stupidity.

Alan Bergstein  
Boca Raton, FL

### Color Coding Politics

Democrat Congresswomen Lois Frankel and Jackie Speier are looking to upstage President Trump's State of the Union speech by hijacking the Golden Globes, and having members of Congress wear black under the pretense of supporting the #MeToo and #TimesUp movement fighting sexual harassment.

This is a blatant attempt to embarrass the President and distract from his message by superseding it with a masquerade.

In the event this grandstanding color code stunt gains traction, the President should deliver his address wearing a white tuxedo and American Flag bow tie.

Tom Vaughn  
Boynton Beach, FL

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### HB 7069 Case Hits a Bump in the Road

**N**ine Florida County School Boards filed a lawsuit on November 19, 2017 in the Florida Supreme Court over the passage of HB 7069 by the legislature. The Boards asked for issuance of Writs of Quo Warranto and Writs of Mandamus so that the legislature and state officials are required to adhere to the School Boards' interpretation of the Florida Constitution. The papers filed total 715 pages.

The Florida Supreme Court looked at the case, CASE NO.: SC17-1996, and on December 19, 2017, transferred the case to the Leon County Circuit Court. The Supreme Court also ruled in a four-to-three decision that it would not entertain a rehearing, and that the Leon Circuit Court should

rule on all issues. LABARGA, C.J., and CANADY, POLSTON, and LAWSON, JJ., concur. PARIENTE, LEWIS, and QUINCE, JJ., would request responses.

The Palm Beach County School Board issued a notice on August 25, 2017 that it would file a separate suit because joining the other counties' case would make it easier for the state officials to defend themselves. However, it is believed that the Palm Beach County School Board is waiting to see what happens.

*Exclusive to the PBC GOP Newsletter  
by William J. Skinner, December 29, 2017*

## Book Review

***Being There: Why Prioritizing Motherhood in the First Three Years Matters.* By Erica Komisar, LCSW. New York: Penguin Random House, 2017. Hardcover, 271 pp.**

I like the quotes from the front of this book. They say much about what's inside. Try them on and see if you like them too:

*Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.*

—C. S. Lewis

*There is no way to be a perfect mother and a million ways to be a good one.*

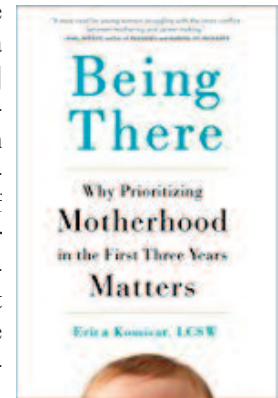
—Jill Churchill.

The author of *Being There*, Erica Komisar, is eminently qualified to speak out on the subject of her book, being a clinical social worker, psychoanalyst, and parent guidance expert. She's a graduate of Georgetown and Columbia Universities and the New York Freudian Society. According to her bio she's "psychological consultant bringing parenting and work/life workshops to clinics, schools, corporations, and children settings including the Garden House School, Goldman Sachs, Shearman & Sterling, and the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue Early Childhood Center." In the way of qualifications, Mrs. Komisar also has three teenage children of her own.

I spent an inordinate amount of time delving into Mrs. Komisar's qualifications because of the vital subject of her book—our children's upbringing, particularly the first three years of that upbringing. It is her contention that a mother's desire to satisfy her children's physical and emotional needs declines in intensity as they grow older and is most needed early on in their lives.

Conservatives, I suspect, will like this book. Like I said, the author contends that a mother's presence is most required in the first three years of a child's life and the lack of doing so on the part many American mothers these days is responsible for what she believes to be a "dramatic increase in emotional, social, and behavioral difficulties like Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), anxiety, depression, and increased aggression in children from toddlerhood through adolescence." She cites troubling statistics to support her claims that America is failing its kids. "According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 11 percent of children between the ages of four and 17 years have been diagnosed with ADHD," an increase of 16 percent in the last 10 years. "Two-thirds of those children have been treated with stimulant medications like

Ritalin and Adderall, which have significant side effects." As a result "11 percent of [children] over the age of 12 now take antidepressants. There has also been a dramatic increase in eating disorders and "hospitalizations of children twelve years and under for eating disorders have increased 119 percent in the last decade." Violence among the nation's young has also risen significantly in recent years.



Mrs. Komisar believes that the reason for these disturbing trends in America as of late are the result of working mothers putting their careers and their own personal needs ahead of their children's needs, especially in the first three years of their lives when they are the most vulnerable.

I believe it took a great deal of courage for the author to write and publish this, and here's why. According to Mrs. Komisar [and I strongly suspect that she is correct] "Clinicians are reluctant to make direct correlations publicly between an emotionally disengaged or physically absent mother and a child's personality, social functioning, and even mental illness, but it is what [she and her colleagues] discuss as clinicians among themselves. A growing body of evidence from neuroscience and hormonal, attachment, and epigenetic research supports the link that [they've] seen in [their] clinical practices."

In my humble opinion the author makes a convincing case for her contention that our innocent children need their mothers perhaps more than many Americans believe today, and along the way she points out some obvious truths. For example, she says that "before age one your baby's cries should always be assumed to be caused by need or fear, but after age one, children may cry for many reasons, including frustration and anger."

I thought *Being There* was a most valuable book and well worth reading, giving one expert's enlightened opinion on the price we've paid in the Post WW II era of the "working mom" of subcontracting the care and upbringing of our children to people other than their mothers. Had you told me when I started reading this book that I would end my review of it with a quote from the Rev. Jesse Jackson, I would have not thought it was possible, but here goes. As the reverend once said and Mrs. Komisar strongly contends, "Your children need your presence more than your presents." Read her book and see if you agree.

—Tom Mullings



## Book Review

***What Do We Really Know About The Bill of Rights? James Madison and the Struggle for the Bill of Rights.* By Richard Lubinsky. Oxford University Press, 2006, ISBN: 13: 978-0-19-518105-0 and ISBN: 10: 0-19-518105-0.**

The above titled book was published in 2006, so you are already ten years behind if you have not read it. But if you get it now, it will be worth your while if you cherish the Bill of Rights like I do. From the opening page to end of the Epilogue there are 264 pages packed with details about James Madison's work on the Constitutional Convention and the ratification in Virginia and other states, plus the election of Madison to the First U. S. Congress and his more than two year effort to pass the Bill of Rights.

Remember that the Continental Congress was meeting in New York City for several years during the Revolutionary War. James Madison was from Orange County, Virginia, a several day trip to New York and a trip that Madison dreaded because of his long-time illness that comes to light in this book. Madison had a gastrointestinal problem that frequently caused diarrhea and other discomforts that were embarrassing to him during long trips on a stage coach or other conveyance with a couple of other people. For me this was the first glimpse of the personal fortitude that Madison had in dealing with his personal health problems while he was the instigator and daily shepherd of the assembly of the Constitutional Convention, the adoption, the ratification, and the struggle to adopt a Bill of Rights.

The advance praise for the book comes from James Madison organizations and individual historians like Garry Wills, Philip Bigler, Charles F. Bryan, Jr. and David B. Mattern on the book cover. I am confident that if you read this book it will open your eyes to the divergence of views about adopting the Constitution in the first place to the switch by Madison from opposing a Bill of Rights to being the only real champion of adopting the Bill of Rights. This took Madison over two years of meticulous letter writing and personally speaking to hundreds of people.

You will learn that Madison was not a dynamic speaker like Patrick Henry. Madison was a soft voice of reason who preferred to work behind the scenes, but if called upon to address a legislative body, he could hold his own with detail after detail. Madison was particularly good in legislative committees where a few people often recognized his intelligence and deferred to his solutions for the problems under discussion.

The beginning of the book was somewhat dull to me, but essential to understand what was happening during the constitutional developments. I began making notes at page 174 when Madison's election to the first U.S. Congress was described. Madison detested having to give up his work with the Continental Congress in New York and come home to Virginia to run for office to the House of Representatives.

He did not like to ask for votes or do things like make promises. He thought everyone should know what he stood for and accept him for those characteristics.

There were secret political goings-on that prevented Madison from being nominated for the U.S. Senate from Virginia. Some people tried to get Madison to run for Congress in a district where he did not live because those people want him to represent them. Patrick Henry, a former governor of Virginia and an ardent Anti-Federalist, had succeeded in designing districts for the ten Virginia House seats (Virginia was the largest state in the Confederation at the time. Remember it included today's West Virginia and Kentucky) that would place Madison in a district that Henry thought Madison could not win. Henry was against the adoption of the new Constitution because he thought that the document took too many powers away from the individual countries, such as Virginia. This is the first book that I have read that shows the people of the time flat-out described the states as "countries" and it is obvious to me now that all of the thirteen colonies thought of themselves as individual countries at that time.

But finally Madison was persuaded to come home four or five weeks before the election to campaign in ten inches of snow in the hills and hollers of Virginia. Madison managed to show up in county seat after county seat and talk to the people. Madison was frost bit a little during his travels in the counties of Orange, Louisa, Culpepper, and others, but he won the election over his friend, James Monroe, another individual who needs to be explored more by serious constitutional learners and scholars. Only 44% of the eligible voters came out in Madison's district that first Virginia election, and in his district Madison was the victor.

Madison and Monroe were so close that they invested in land together and invited Thomas Jefferson to join them in a venture at one time. Madison made more money in land, perhaps, than he did from Congress or his estate at Montpelier. This was another interesting discovery in the book.

In that first election the Sheriffs of each county took down the voters' preferences orally and made a record. Because of the bad weather, some Sheriffs took votes for three days because it took some hearty souls that long to get to the county seat to vote at considerable risk.

Think of this and contrast it with how easy it is to vote in the 21st Century. We are now coddled, one might say, with our voting machines and fraud prevention systems that sometimes allows double voting, false registrations, and other devious election irregularities.

Another item that piqued my interest was the beginning of Chapter 8 where it is disclosed that New Yorkers wanted to make that city the permanent capital of the United States. I live in Florida in a district where most of the voters are from a single ethnic group who used to live in New York,

*Book Review—continued on next page*

*Book Review—continued from previous page*

mostly New York City. My neighbors are democrats and I am a republican, so this struck me as especially interesting. Also my family and I lived in the Philadelphia area for five years during which time I accompanied my three boys and other Cub Scouts to the Independence Hall in Philadelphia where the Declaration of Independence was debated and signed on several occasions. The place still has the ability to produce memories and dreams of the 1770s.

Here is some detail about this time period that I learned from the book that will give you a good example of Labunski's writing style:

Even the state's Anti-Federalists, many of whom had wanted to prevent ratification at the New York convention in July 1788, agreed to approve the Constitution only because Federalists had strongly hinted that the city would likely become the permanent seat of government. Anti-Federalists knew that if New York did not join the union, its largest city would have no chance of hosting the new government.

New York officials worried with good reason, that Philadelphia would persuade lawmakers to return to that city, which was the home of the First Continental Congress in 1774 and where the Confederation Congress had met for nine years. Representative John Page of Virginia said that New York 'is not so half as large as Philadelphia; nor in any manner to be compared to it for Beauty & Elegance.' Benjamin Rush, a prominent Philadelphia physician, who wrote a long letter to John Adams in early spring to remind him of his home city's many amenities and virtues, including 'Philadelphia is the centre of the State of the Union: she is wholly & highly Federal.' Another Pennsylvanian Timothy Pickering, said that 'In Philadelphia, the Congress will find convenient lodgings & public buildings—provisions good, elegant, plenty & cheap—& the most extensive libraries adapted to the use of public bodies, that are to be found on the Continent.' Those libraries appealed to John Adams, who as vice president would be expected to be involved in the selection of a permanent capital. He told Benjamin Rush that "I love Philadelphia quite as well as New York, and the noble Libraries there [in Philadelphia] would be Strong temptation to me." [footnotes omitted.]

Around page 180 I was interested in the reference to Representative Elias Boudinot from New Jersey as he is another founder I have recently studied and written about in regard to his religious beliefs. Boudinot, earlier under the Continental Congress he was the second president of the Congress when the country only had officers of the Congress. We only had three of those presidents as I understand it. Boudinot told his wife in a letter that when they arrived in this "dirty city [New York City]"—"The difference of the wholesome Country Air, from the Stench of the filthy Streets was so apparent, as to effect our smelling Faculties greatly." My own visits to New York City from the 1960s to present day did not exhibit what Boudinot found upon his arrival, so the years have allowed New Yorkers to make appropriate improvements.

I cite Boudinot for another reason at page 220 of Labunski's book where it is disclosed that Elias Boudinot was the chairman of the House Committee of the Whole when Madison was introducing the Bill of Rights in August. Someone raised the issue of whether the committee of the whole had to recommend the Amendments to the full House by a two-thirds vote. "The chairman, Elias Boudinot of New Jersey, ruled that a simple majority was sufficient, and his decision was upheld by a vote of the members." [Footnotes omitted.]

This book covers the complicated story of the adoption of the Bill of Rights from 40 or more amendments to the twelve submitted to the states by President Washington to the final ten amendments ratified and adopted as additions to the Constitution. There were complications throughout the debates over the amendments as to whether they would be incorporated into the Constitution or appended to the end of the document. We know now that the ten amendments were added to the end and the Supreme Court is still interpreting what the founders meant by each Amendment.

You will not waste your time or money reading this story that can lead you to many other wonderful tales and happenstances about the Bill of Rights. If we let our children graduate from college, perhaps even high school, without knowing what is in this and similar books, we have to accept a degree of blame for letting them down.

—William J. Skinner, Revised 9-3-2017

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### Theodore Roosevelt's Life and Times

For some interesting reflections on the antics and behavior of an American President, you have got to see Joe Wiegand lecturing like he was President Teddy Roosevelt. During the course of an hour you will learn some valuable history lessons as well as gain an understanding of how we will survive our current unexpected President Donald J. Trump. Trump will be remembered for his individuality and success in the office of President much like Roosevelt. We will be the better for knowing more about both men. Show this to your children and grandchildren. This video is on C-span and it is free, but you may have to set up an account to connect.

OCTOBER 30, 2017—LAST AIRED DECEMBER 2, 2017

Joe Wiegand Portrays *Theodore Roosevelt*  
*Theodore Roosevelt's Life and Times*

Joe Wiegand portrayed *Theodore Roosevelt* in an appearance before the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia. He recounted the 26th president's *life and times*, including his unexpected ascension to the White House after William McKinley's assassination. <https://www.c-span.org/search/?searchtype=All&query=Theodore+Roosevelt%3A+Life+and+Times>

—Recommended by William J. Skinner, January 5, 2018

## Editor's Postscript

### Who Will Deliver the Descendants of the Legendary Persian Empire From Tyranny?

*By Tom Mullings*

In the June, 2011, issue of this Newsletter, I argued that the massive protests that broke out in Iran, and similar protests that eventually spread throughout the Middle East that came to be known as the Arab Spring, presented a golden geopolitical opportunity for the United States that should have been exploited. I further opined that better organized Islamist elements in the Middle East could easily co-opt these uprisings from weaker democratic movements if the U.S. did not take on a more central role in aiding and guarding these budding movements. I also warned that thanks to the Obama Administration's policy of "leading from behind," we faced the specter of a takeover of much of the Middle East by antidemocratic religious fanatics.

Sadly, that is what happened, and thanks largely to American withdrawal from the region, Iranian dominance spread in the area, ISIS was born and established in numerous countries, and a caliphate was declared in conquered parts of Syria and Iraq. Happily, at least some of these developments have been reversed, thanks largely to the Trump Administration, and the murderous obscenity known as Islamic State has been all but eliminated. Still, major progress in Iranian ambitions to be the regional hegemon accomplished during the Obama years thanks to U.S. indifference remain unassailed.

But now a new opportunity to reverse the damage to our strategic interests in the Middle East has emerged in the form of a significant new Arab-Spring-like protest movement in Iran that has taken to the streets in recent days. With friendlier, not to mention wiser people in power in Washington these days, it's fair to ask how can a more willing Trump Administration help Iran's protesters, who seek better economic opportunities for their families and relief from the oppressive theocratic regime in Tehran? "Be quiet," tweeted former Obama senior advisor Susan Rice the other day. That is exactly the policy that was followed by her boss in 2009 that left us with the mess we have today in the region, enabling a greater level of Russian/Iranian influence than has been seen in decades. With American indifference at its nadir during Obama's eight years in office, the clerics in Tehran deployed many thousands of their Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Quds Force operatives in Syria. They've also sent thousands of their surrogate Shiite militias to that brutal civil war, including elements of Hezbollah from Lebanon and some of the 150,000 they've trained and control in Iraq. Tehran tells the outside world that their presence in these countries is necessitated by their need to fight the Islamic State, but that's just a cover story. What they are

really after is "fulfilling a strategic goal of stretching a Red Crescent of domination west from Tehran through Iraq, Syria and Lebanon to Israel's doorstep," with regional Iranian domination and Israel's destruction being their ultimate objectives.

Obama tolerated all this creeping harm to our interests and Israel's in the region in order not to disturb his Iranian Nuclear Deal which he thought was worth the price. It clearly wasn't. As President Trump has often said, it may very well have been the dumbest international deal the United States has ever negotiated. Although he hasn't nixed the pact, on October 13 he made public that he was "decertifying the Iran nuclear deal and called on Congress to fix it," giving them a deadline of 120 days. But the deal's continued existence has made our European allies most reluctant to confront creeping Iranian regional domination for the same reasons the Obama Administration thought it unwise. Consequently Tehran continues to spread their power in preparation for their future show down with the "little satan," Israel.

How to upset these diabolical plans of the ruthless clerics in Tehran? My take is to support the protesters in the streets of Iran in a meaningful way that will give us a good chance of taking down the regime. "The current uprisings in Iran have so far been relatively limited, although they have been broadly distributed throughout the country [but] have grown in scope," according to Middle East expert Anthony Cordesman at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. Democrats like former President Obama and Susan Rice believe that protesters in Iran don't "represent fundamental change," but they could if we gave them real support. According to a book I read years ago by *Wall Street Journal* reporter Jay Solomon, *The Iran Wars*, the CIA sought Obama's permission to launch a clandestine effort to overthrow the theocratic regime in Iran, and he turned them down. President Trump should give his permission to such an undertaking and go all-out to make it succeed. The ayatollahs are responsible for the death of thousands of Americans since the Iranian revolution in 1979 and they have much to answer for. If we really want to stabilize the



*Editor's Postscript—continued on next page*

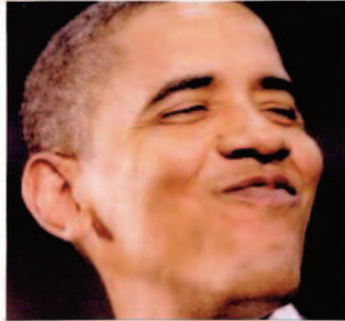


Editor's Postscript—continued from previous page

Middle East, not to mention strike a meaningful blow at the very heart of the world Islamist movement, we need look no further than the land of the ancient, legendary Persian Empire, where their descendants suffer under the tyranny of totalitarian rulers straight out of the thirteenth century.

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.

### Mort's Meanderings



Never a positive solution to any problem; always a snarky lecture, finger-pointing, much arrogance, lots of Muslim Taquiyya and way too much ignorant smarminess, 24/7.

Mort Kuff @2016

MORT's meanderings.

This is my personal, open message to GEORGE SOROS:

YOU HAVE ACHIEVED WORLD-WIDE RENOWN FOR YOUR WEALTH AND POLITICAL POWER.



BUT, AS A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN RACE, YOU HAVE FAILED, BIG TIME.

Mort Kuff @2017

**DEATH to IRAN !**



**And, we mean that in a good way so, please don't be offended.**

Mort Kuff @2017



#### Officers

- Michael A. Barnett, Chairman**
- Tami Donnally, Vice Chair**
- Cheryl Mullings, Secretary**
- Jane Pike, Treasurer**
- Joe Budd, State Committeeman**
- Cindy Tindell, State Committeewoman**
- Ryan Hnatiuk, Executive Director**

### REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

January 2018 issue of the Newsletter, published monthly by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The views and conclusions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, REC Board of Directors, or the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee. Letters to the editor are welcomed but should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited for length and content. All submissions are property of their respective authors and may not be reproduced without prior permission of the author. Any comments, questions, or other feedback should be directed to [tommullings@comcast.net](mailto:tommullings@comcast.net).

#### 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.

[www.palmbeach.gov](http://www.palmbeach.gov)



# 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.

<b>X</b>	( )		
<b>Signature of Candidate</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>ZIP Code</b>

**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

\_\_\_\_\_