



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

Not This Soft Target! Secure the Schools!

For Americans, regular incidents of mass killings have been a way of life for decades. Unfortunately, in our continental-sized country of 325 million people, there are an infinite number of soft targets for these cowardly, homicidal monsters, who wish to end their unhappiness among as many innocent victims as they can pile up. Sadly, we cannot stop them from fulfilling their heinous dreams of murder, but there is one subspecies of these spineless predators, the so-called “professional school shooters,” who are in urgent need of our limited ability to deter, and, as a society, we should exercise that ability as soon as possible.

After every one of these mass shootings at our nation’s schools, beginning with Columbine High School, the knee-jerk reaction from progressives has always been more mindless calls for “gun control,” as if the illegality of owning a gun would stop this kind of murderous individual from stealing or buying guns on the black market. Now, if prohibition didn’t stop people from illegally purchasing alcohol early in the 20th century and current drug laws have not made it difficult to buy illicit drugs in our own time, why would draconian nation-wide gun control make it any harder to buy guns? Clearly it won’t and while liberals continue to try address the problem with more dead-end pro-

posals like banning assault weapons, “school shootings have increased to a point where 150,00 of our nation’s students have now experienced a school shooting or a threat of one.”

While stopping attacks on all potential soft targets in the U.S. is a virtual impossibility, we can and should prevent the targeting of our children in their classrooms. President Trump proposed “arming teachers in 2015” and that’s a good place to start. Another step that should be taken is for the “federal government to mandate that school districts take such actions in order to qualify for federal funding.”

Progressives argue that we should not take such steps because we don’t want to “militarize” our schools, but why not? When gunmen started threatening airlines didn’t we deter them by “militarizing” our airports and commercial airliners with armed security personnel and sky marshals? So when Democrat congressmen go to work every day they are protected by armed security guards, and when they board an airliner they are again protected by people with guns, but they are adamantly opposed to doing the same for our nation’s kids in their classrooms?

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We would not have to arm every single faculty member in every school in America, of course, just a limited number of them, properly trained and secretly equipped. To beef up such armed presence, off duty police officers should be hired as well. “Professional school shooters” all have one thing in common—they are cowards and it is not a coincidence that they refrain from attacking police stations. If they come to realize that our country’s institutions of learning are no longer “gun-free zones,” much like professional sky jackers in past years, they will shy away from attacking our schools.



In a recent *Science News* article I read the following: “Nothing keeps it real like a [small] child merrily swinging around a sharp knife as adults go about their business. That’s cause for alarm in Western households, but in many foraging communities children play with knives and even machetes with their parents’ blessings,” says anthropologist David Lancy of Utah State University. “In these hunter-gatherer societies, parents believe it’s wrong to impose one’s will on anyone including children.” But whatever you do, please don’t tell the liberal Dems about these attitudes among the hunter-gatherers cause it’s just the kind of mindless reasoning that would appeal to them. If the word gets out in progressive circles, I can just see their next contribution to our national conversation about school violence coming: “*Let’s take away all the guns from law-abiding adult citizens and arm every toddler with a machete [!]*”

My 98-year-old mother-in-law lives in the city of Parkland, and every Sunday my wife and I take her out to dinner. The last two Sundays after our meal and the sun has set, I’ve driven in the dark to the nearby Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, the site of America’s latest school massacre. The place looks like a shrine, with hundreds of people reverently gazing at the building where the senseless mayhem occurred, while hundreds of bouquets of flowers and signs adorning the chain-link fence surrounding the property stand as testament to the sorrow people feel for the victims and their grieving families. As we all know, we can’t stop the monsters among us from doing this kind of thing in the midst of an endless sea of potential soft targets, but as a people we can stop them from attacking our kids in their classrooms by sending them a deadly-serious message backed up by trained, armed citizens—NOT THIS SOFT TARGET!

—Tom Mullings

Mr. Barnett Goes to Washington

On February 13, Palm Beach County GOP Chair Michael Barnett was invited to the White House in honor of Black History Month. Here are some photos of the event (left to right): Michael with Alveda King, niece of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.; President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump enjoying the event; and Energy Secretary Rick Perry, talk-show host Armstrong Williams, and HUD Secretary Ben Carson.



For Such a Time As This

Remarks Delivered to the Praise and Worship Gathering at the Summer Meeting of the RNC, Thursday, August 24, 2017

By Peter Feaman, National Committeeman, Florida

The Bible verse for this time, this period in U.S. history, is:

Esther 4:14

“For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance may arise for the Jews from another place, but your and your father’s house will perish. **YET, WHO KNOWS BUT THAT YOU HAVE COME TO YOUR ROYAL POSITION FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?**”

The context for this verse—It was learned that there was a plan that the Jews in Persia were going to be annihilated by the Persian King. In this verse, Mordecai is urging Esther, the Queen (who had kept her Jewish heritage hidden), risking death, to approach the King and save God’s people, the Jews, from the wrath of the Haman who had the King’s ear and had convinced the King to sign a proclamation that all Jews should be killed.

Esther, reluctant at first but showing courage, answered God’s call on her life. She fasted, requested prayer and support from her people, and, risking rejection and death, approached the King, eventually undoing the plan hatched by Haman to destroy the Jews. Esther saved her people for that time.

What message does this verse have for us today?

The early settlers of New England viewed themselves as establishing a New Jerusalem. It is from this vision, this view, that the concept of America as “a city on a hill,” a “beacon of hope” for the world, took root.

As John Winthrop led the Puritans out of England in the 17th century, on board the ship, he delivered this message:

“The eyes of the world will be upon us. We are as a city upon a hill, raised up. You may think you’re in the howling wilderness. You may think we’re out beyond the farthest beyond. But in fact, God’s providence is such that, as the latter days begin to unfold, this may indeed be the city, **THE NEW JERUSALEM, that’s unfolding before, not only our eyes, but the eyes of THE WORLD.**”

These are astounding and prophetic words. John Winthrop did not live to see them fulfilled, but his words became prophesy.

After the establishment of the colonies, some of that vision was lost, as the settlers just tried to survive. But in the decades leading up to the American Revolution, a great spiritual revival took place. “The Great Awakening” historians have called it.

The Great Awakening gives birth to a sense of, not just spiritual freedom, but **political freedom.**

Something was about to spring forth which the world had never seen. A new young nation in North America is going to show the world the way to the New Jerusalem.

And so, the Declaration of Independence, among other great writings, was penned, including this crucial phrase, “. . . We are all endowed by our **CREATOR** with certain unalienable rights. . . .”

For the first time in history, a government is established based upon the proposition that our rights come from **GOD** . . . not from a Pharaoh, a King, a monarch, a dictator, or any form of government. And what **GOD** endows, no man can take away. So, for the first time in history, a government is constructed to **protect** God-given rights, not to dispense them.

This was indeed revolutionary.

As the song “America, the Beautiful” says, “America, America, God shed His grace on thee.” I believe God honored that. America prospered in the 19th century beyond what those early settlers ever could have imagined.

In the 20th century, in World War II America literally saved the world **and** God’s chosen people from, just as in Esther’s time, annihilation. Thereafter, a time of great prosperity came about in the late ’40’s–’50’s, as recovery from the Great Depression ensued.

But America lost its way in the ’60’s–’70’s. The decade between 1963 and 1974 was one of the most tumultuous times in our history. Beginning with the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963, the race riots between 1965 and 1970, the anti-war riots during the same period, the assassination of Robert Kennedy, the assassination of Martin Luther King, the attempted assassination of George Wallace, (though his life was spared, he was rendered paralyzed from the waist down), the crazy 1968 Democrat National Convention in Chicago, the Watergate scandal and the attempted impeachment and resignation of Richard Nixon in August of 1974. Those years changed and scarred this nation forever.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan was elected and brought forth a new revival of the American spirit. Regan revived the talk



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of America as “a city on a hill, a light to the world.” A period of great prosperity followed.

But now, in the last 10 years or so, American has lost its way once more.

Obama and his acolytes pulled us away from that vision of America as a light to the world, a city on a hill, a **New Jerusalem**, if you will. The secular version of this is called “American Exceptionalism.”

And so, here we are, on the 250th day of the Trump presidency.

“But for such a time as this” has God called Mr. Trump to his royal position to help America restore her vision? The Bible says a nation without vision will perish.

I believe that America was and is anointed by God as a New Jerusalem.

I believe that America has lost its way.

But I also believe that because of us in this room and millions of prayer warriors just like us throughout this country, through our prayers, God is not done with us yet.

He hasn’t given up on America yet.

Could it be that Trump, and all of **us**, “have come to our royal positions for such a time as this?”

If you believe the answer is yes as I do, what are we called to do?

The answer is to do what Esther did . . . pray . . . fast . . . gather God’s people, and, just like Esther did, restore this great country . . . for such a time as this.

Fran Hancock and Michele Merrell Honored at February 20 Statesperson Dinner

The 2018 Statesperson Award Dinner was held on February 20 at the Boca Raton Marriott. Organized by America Connected, the event was billed as “a dynamic event honoring the work and countless volunteers that helped to change our nation’s course and keep America great.” Statesperson of the Year Awards were given to **Fran Hancock** of Palm Beach County and **Michele Merrell** of Broward County.

The keynote speaker for the event was **Congressman Ron DeSantis**, a candidate for Florida’s governor. He was introduced by **Bill Diamond**, a past member of the Palm Beach Town Council and a cabinet member of former New



2018 Statesperson Awards were presented to Fran Hancock (left) of Palm Beach County and Michele Merrell of Broward County.



Congressman Ron DeSantis was the keynote speaker for the Statesperson Dinner.

York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani. Cong. DeSantis noted that the tax cut bill recently passed by Congress is already helping more than was expected to this point. He also addressed the Valentine’s Day shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, commenting that the bureaucracy failed us in this instance and needs to accept its share of the blame. He also suggested tightening background checks and making the schools more secure.

Also addressing the more than 300 attendees were **Stanley Tate**, founder of Florida’s Prepaid College Fund, and **Laurie Cardoza Moore**, founder and President of Proclaiming Justice to the Nations.

Bitcoin

By Sid Dinerstein
February 26, 2018

It's break time. Time to take a breather from Russia, FISA, the NRA, DACA and taxes and look at the lighter side of life: Bitcoin. Everyone has heard about Bitcoin. We've seen the wild price swings. We've read about fortunes made, lost, and made again in relatively short time periods. We harken back to the dot.com mania and see Bitcoin as an opportunity to make the money now that we should have made then. If only it were that easy.

So here goes. My own excursion into the world of crypto-currencies began about two years ago. A friend asked what I knew about Bitcoin and I honestly answered: "Nothing." So I bought a book. And two hundred pages later I went back to my friend and said: "I read a book and I still don't understand a thing about Bitcoin." I tell you this not so you can feel intellectually superior to me, but so you can respect the difficulty of the Bitcoin dynamic and proceed with utmost caution. As the Bitcoin noise got louder I paid more attention. Eventually I gained a small understanding and a unique perspective. And that's what I'm about to share with you.

First, the small understanding: Crypto-currencies, of which Bitcoin is just one of many, fall into a technology called Blockchain. All crypto-currencies fall into the Blockchain technology but not all Blockchain technologies involve crypto-currencies. Blockchain technology involves decentralized ledgers. Our lives revolve around centralized ledgers. I wish I could easily explain the difference. I can't. The centralized ledgers we live with mean that our information, like medical records or credit card transactions, are kept in somebody's really large computer. A decentralized ledger is dynamic. It means that as more data or transactions are gained the ledger expands at the location of the new data. I told you I couldn't explain this easily. This expansion is in the form of Blockchains, hence a new technology.

That is why you hear that the Bitcoin universe is both growing and capped. Of course, as a non-government-issued currency, Bitcoin is very different from our greenbacks. Bitcoin is private in ways that we are not used to. They're not only private but they're effectively secret. You can only access your own Bitcoin account through your own personal "key" (or password). Forget the key, lose your Bitcoin account. Scared yet?

So why does the world need crypto-currencies? Aren't dollars, euros and yuans enough? Here's my answer. The world GDP is \$77 trillion. And I would guess that the national (fiat) currencies are good enough (if you don't live in Venezuela). But that's because you're good guys. But

what if you were a bad guy? I have no idea of the world Fraudulent GDP. But I guess it's in the fourteen digit range, upwards of \$10,000,000,000,000. What's in it? How about drugs, human trafficking, illegal anti-sanction sales or tax avoidance. Also, how about your neighbors' use of cash-only illegals to cut his lawn or cash-only citizens to do odd job or housekeeping tasks? It adds up. All of these people might consider a "private" currency that no other person, financial institution or government could access or audit? I can see the wheels churning from here. Remember the old numbered Swiss bank accounts. Eventually the governments opened them up. Bitcoin? Not so easy.

So what to do? In or out? If you're in, is it off the high board or just dipping a toe in the kiddie pool? I bought a Bitcoin/Blockchain related security. I read. I Googled. I thought. And then I said "buy." Now I'm somewhat underwater. It's your turn. But I'm not an investment adviser. If you want to get in you must do your own research, make your own trades and assume your own risk. Just don't bet the ranch.

So what's the moral of this story? The moral is that you have a choice. You can enable global fraudsters by supporting the crypto-currency prices with your trades. Or you can invest in new technology with the hope that it plays a positive role in raising the global standard of living, and makes you a few bucks along the way. Your move.



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.

Talking Points: A (Partial) Look at the Tricks of the Biased News

By Larry P. Horist

Will the media ever realize its own bias?

As a regular viewer of all the news outlets, I am reminded of an old saying that, “I am only misinformed because I read newspapers.” This suggests that new credibility, or lack of credibility, is not fundamentally a new issue. I usually write critically about the Big Seven (ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, MSNBC the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*) because I believe they are in the vanguard of misinformation. In terms of President Trump, Republicans and conservatives, the Big Seven are not functioning as news journalists but as prosecutors in the court of public opinion.

The hours upon hours of so-called news coverage is crafted to advance a one-sided case to achieve a specific goal. In a real court, the goal of the prosecutor is to convince the jury that the plaintiff is guilty and should be put away. In the court of public opinion, the goal of the prosecutorial press is to convince the public (jury) that the plaintiffs (Trump, the GOP and conservatives) are guilty and should be defeated in the next election.

The Big Seven and others have abandoned their role as journalists, to become part of the Democratic Party’s liberal strategy to rule over America. That is a perfectly appropriate ambition for the Democratic Party. It is not the proper role of the press. When members of the press proclaim their importance in a free society, they are alluding to a fair, ethical and fact-based news media.

Because a free press is critical to a free society, when the news media become a vehicle of partisan propaganda the damage to the Republic is significant—and that is what we are seeing in America today. Individual news outlets have always leaned to the right or the left, but this was mostly restricted to editorials and columnists—the opinion side of the press. The news side was to tell the story objectively, covering the five basic questions that were once the backbone of reporting—who, what, when, where and how. The “why” question was left to the editorial pages.

Let us take a closer look at the corruption of the media in terms of specifics.

The supremacy of the “why” question

The Big Seven have made the “why” more important than the who, what, when, where and how. A few moments of the latter produce hours of the former. It is most egregious when it comes to CNN and especially MSNBC. I omit FOX News and One American News from this criticism because they can be empirically shown to produce more actual news content. FOX, like CNN and MSNBC, does employ panelists and contributors but is much more likely to present legitimate opposing views. AON provides straightforward hard news during its newscasts, and restricts their conservative opinions to personality programs—the equivalence of newspaper columnists.

I date the beginning of the corruption of news to the 1960s, when the radical left began infusing news stories

with partisan spin. As is often the case when the left corrupts an institution, they first deny the corruption, but once it becomes too obvious to deny, they invent a nice sounding term. (Moving student up from grade to grade without meeting educational standards became “social promotion,” giving special benefits to people became “entitlements” and balancing budgets by declaring large expenditures to be “off budget Items.”) In the case of journalism, the euphemism became known as “advocacy journalism.”



The concept of advocacy journalism was made even more corrupting by the fact that the profession of journalism became very one-sided politically and philosophically. This has been because the nation’s journalism schools teach to the far left—ergo left-wing advocacy. Two other factors exacerbate news corruption—the concentration of the most powerful news outlets in a very small culturally liberal community—the east coast generally and New York/Washington, D.C. specifically—and the introduction of so-called cable news, which provides a 24-hour ability to offer up news and opinion. The problem is that opinion dominates what was once thought of as news. Despite their generic title, CNN and MSNBC are not news channels. CNN’s motto, “the most trusted name in news” is factually wrong. MSNBC leaves open the reply to the view with “this is who we are” as a motto. Even I could agree with that motto, they may not agree with my personal definition of who they are.

The Media Bubble

There are two news practices that demonstrate just how narrowly focused the news business is—one general and one more specific. The first is the tendency of news media to interview each other. One might expect news reporters to dominate the real news—those 4 Ws and an H—but intra-profession personalities now dominate the opinion side and they represent most of the interviewees.

As if cable opinion personalities misrepresenting themselves as news providers and using journalism colleagues of like mind as panelists and interviewees, is not bad enough, the folks who play those roles come from a very exclusive media cabal. CNN and MSNBC rely mostly on *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, with occasional interviews with reporters and editors of a few other New York-based liberal publications. It is not uncommon to see representatives of the *Times* and *Post* on the same program—even with multiple representatives of one or the other.

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I Know Nothing, but can tell you . . .

The affable German Sergeant Schultz on the old Hogan's Heroes comedy show embedded his emphatic "I know nothing" into the thesaurus of American clichés. The difference between the portly Schultz and the news media is that the good sergeant actually knows something but pretends he does not so he does not have to talk about it. The Big Seven readily admit that they truly do not know the facts, but proceed to analyze their ignorance to support a preconceived narrative.

In terms of the investigation by Special Counsel James Mueller, you will hear those television talking heads confirm that they have no idea what Mueller knows, what he is pursuing and what the results will be. They often claim that they can only wait for the Special Counsel's announcements. But, they do not wait. After every confession of we-do-not-know ignorance (and you can count them as I have), they proceed with hours, days . . . nay . . . months of speculation, conjecture, hypothesizing and spin on the very subjects of which . . . they know nothing.

The most flagrant example is the Russian investigation. By intimidation and direct accusation, the press has maintained a narrative that President Trump and others colluded with the Russians to win the election. Whether this is true or not is yet to be determined, but the facts to date have not supported that ongoing narrative emanating from the elitist eastern press.

Opinion as Facts

Since the known facts to now support the opinion, the media elevates their opinion to the level of fact. One means by which they turn fact into opinion is by reporting the opinions of others as a fact. President Trump Example: Some unnamed source said that Secretary of State Rex Tillerson called President Trump a moron. Tillerson refused to respond to the question and his communications officer said it was not true. No one actually knows if he did or not. But for the media, such a comment would fit one of the many established anti-Trump narratives. Hence, it is repeatedly delivered as a fact—and one eagerly embraced by the never-Trump people and even believed by many casual observers—and of course, that is the objective of the misrepresentation.

If you pay attention, you will be amazed that the pertinent FACT is nothing more than the fact that someone said it. Think of all those White House conversations that are supposedly leaked. There is rarely ever any hard evidence offered—just the FACT that someone may have told the reporter. In many cases, this fact is not even from someone in the room, but supposedly from someone who heard from someone else who was supposedly in the room. Such facts would be disallowed in a real court. In other words, what is being reported is . . . for lack of a better word . . . gossip.

Unnamed Sources

That brings up the issue of "unnamed sources." This means the person passing along the gossip to the reporter has no fear of being challenged. Over the years, the use of unnamed sources has greatly increased. Back a generation

or two, it was considered improper to use unnamed sources except in the most extreme cases—and even then, there had to be a second credible source.

As unnamed sources became increasingly used—often more than named sources—the quality of the sources diminished. Many reports are based on single sources and the credibility greatly diminished—often stretching the source further down the gossip chain.

One-Sided Panels

Journalism ethics are based on fair and balanced reporting. Nowhere do you see the corruption of the media more than in the selection of panelists and contributors—with MSNBC the most egregious. Shows like Morning Joe will feature half a dozen or more panelists sitting around the big table or piped in from distant locations and every one of them will reflect the same biased opinion. In a display of faux credibility, they will feature folks with conservative or Republican pasts who proffer the same biased opinions as the liberal Democrat majority.

Out of Context

The out-of-context quotes have been a violation of journalistic ethics forever, but it is used regularly today to create false impressions that reinforce the preconceived narrative. A recent example involves one of President Trump's statements after the Parkland shooting. In support of the narrative that Trump is braggadocious and boorish, MSNBC and CNN repeatedly reported that Trump had said "I'd run in there even if I didn't have a weapon" . . . period. To drive the narrative home, the panelists discussed his comment in the most negative terms. The late-night show hosts used the reports to mock the President. Those who actually heard the President's statement had quite a different impression. Addressing those in the audience, Trump said, "I really believe I'd run in there even if I didn't have a weapon, and I think all of you would have, too."

The List goes on . . .

This is merely a sampling of the techniques deployed by a corrupted news media. More of the list of shameful abuses will be addressed in some future Part Two commentary—maybe even requiring a Part Three or Four.

*Larry Horist writes Tuesday and Friday commentaries for the Punching Bag Post . . . punchingbagpost.com. This article was posted on Friday, March 2, 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.*

Donald J. Trump Got Tired of Winning . . .

By George Blumel

Remember when candidate Trump said that we're going to be winning so much with his policies that we'll tire of winning?

As the *Wall Street Journal* put it, Trump made “. . . the biggest policy blunder of his presidency. . . .” It was to “impose tariffs of 25% on imported steel and 10% on aluminum. This tax increase will punish American workers, invite retaliation that will harm U.S. exports, divide his political coalition at home, anger allies abroad, and undermine his tax and regulatory reforms.”

After a year of winning—GDP growth hit 3%, increased manufacturing production, and both business and consumer confidence up smartly—the president, against the best advice of his top economic advisor Gary Cohn and economists Steve Moore, Larry Kudlow, et al., decided to impose the tariffs. That takes care of the winning streak, for sure. Mr. Cohn guided Trump's signature accomplishment, a major revamp of the U.S. tax code and a significant rewrite of the financial rules but couldn't abide the tariffs and resigned.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told lawmakers that the administration wasn't looking to get into a trade war. But Trump said, “trade wars aren't so bad.” Apparently, Mr. Trump can't stand all this winning. His tariffs will benefit a handful of companies, at least for a while, but they will harm many more.

See: <https://www.heritage.org/taxes/commentary/trumps-tariffs-would-be-massive-self-inflicted-wound>

As I wrote in the August 2017 issue of the GOP Newsletter:

Frederic Bastiat explained that in the economic sphere an act or a law produces not only one effect, but a series of effects. Of these effects, the first one is immediate—it is seen. The other effects emerge only subsequently.

*President Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on steel imports and if he does, jobs will be added in that industry. You see that and say “great!” What you don't see—unless you look—is that everything made of steel goes up in price. We **all** pay for the relatively few jobs created compared to the cost. Worse, we invite retaliatory tariffs on our exports which cost our economy jobs and further costs to **all** of us. And in which industries would the money have been spent if not on the higher priced steel?*

These tariffs will benefit a few companies, at least for a while, but they will harm many more. Steel-consuming manufacturers that would be harmed by the proposed tariffs employed roughly 6.9 million Americans and the construction industry that uses these metals supported another 10.1 million jobs. That compares to just 140,000 directly employed by the steel industry who might benefit because of the rise in the price of steel.

Simply stated, a tariff is a tax. Tariffs are imposed on foreign competitors to protect certain domestic industries. In the extant case, steel and aluminum. Domestic consumers of the end products are the ones who pay the tax. Competition protects consumers so less competition plus the tax (tariff) causes higher prices on all the products that use steel and aluminum, and therefore, lowers of our standard of living.



How can the president dictate the new tariffs? Where is Congress on this issue? Absent, as usual—probably too busy running for reelection. Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution states that “. . . Congress shall have power . . . to regulate Commerce with foreign nations.” Congress has delegated its authority on trade to the executive branch.

For example, the Department of Commerce released a report on the effects of steel imports on U.S. national security with recommendations to restrict imports of steel products under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962.

Tori Whiting, trade economist at the Heritage Foundation, is skeptical. “The current Section 232 investigation has shed light on the flaws of the law and the plain lack of congressional oversight during the investigation process. Section 232 does not define ‘national security,’ leaving the term up for interpretation by bureaucrats at the Department of Commerce. The law also does not require a cost-benefit analysis of recommended tariffs or non-tariff barriers, allowing the Department to ignore industries or consumers that could be harmed by the trade restrictions. Restricting steel imports under the guise of protecting U.S. national security is not warranted in this case.”

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, a billionaire, made a fortune in 2002 by buying bankrupt steel companies on the same day the Bush administration imposed tariffs on steel imports. Ross and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer are committed protectionists and staunch supporters of tariffs in the Trump administration.

The U.S. has trade pacts with 20 countries individually; two other countries with NAFTA; six with CAFTA; and 164 with the World Trade Organization. These tariffs are, no doubt, in violation of most of them. The head of the WTO issued a stark warning against “tipping the first dominos” in a trade war that could trigger a deep recession.

The president should heed his warning.

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

A New Look at Super Voters

By William J. Skinner

New data gives us a chance to determine what we are dealing with in our attempts to get the voter registration rolls cleaned up. We are still waiting on Judge Beth Bloom to decide what the evidence in the Broward County case will allow her to do with regard to enforcing federal laws on this subject. That case was first started by a required notice sent to Brenda Snipes in January 2016. The trial was held in July and August 2017. The attorneys in the case filed their responses to the Court’s requests in October 2017 and we are patiently waiting for a decision.

Data base expert, Kirk Wolak, who is helping us look at millions of lines of data, recently did some very good comparisons and sorts of the voter lists for Florida and New York again for our use to see what is going on. The Florida data was obtain in February 2018 and the New York data is from October 2017. The data changes weekly and monthly, so this is just a snapshot. This set of data was carefully inspected for fonts, word order and date number order because of the fact that New York places many years of voting history in a single cell of its data base. New York has 62 counties and does not have a uniform method or format for collecting its data in Albany.

Overall the data confirms we still have super voters. These include special voters like judges and political office holders whose personal data is exempt from Florida Sunshine Laws disclosure requirements. The new tally indicates there are still about 12,000 to 16,000 registered voters in each of Broward, Dade, and Palm Beach Counties who are also registered to vote in various counties in New York State. These dually registered voters in the two states were legally cleared to vote in the Presidential Primary and the General Election in both states if they had showed up. There are still some persistent double voters who voted in the November 2016 presidential election in both states. It is doubtful they cancelled their first vote with their second vote.

Registered Voters and Nov. 2016 Voters in Florida and New York
Based on NY data from Oct. 2017 and FL data from Feb. 2018

County	Broward	Dade	Palm Beach	All Florida
Total Registered to Vote in FL and NY	14,780	11,944	15,947	122,280
Total Voted in Nov. 2016 in FL and NY	92	110	96	948

The data shows voter rolls are not clean up yet in these 3 of Florida’s 67 counties. The Supervisors of Election were notified in August 2016 that the election was in peril if these folks decided to vote in both states in November 2016 as many of them believe they are allowed to do. But Broward and Dade SOEs did nothing. Palm Beach’s SOE delayed and delayed and waited until 2017 rolled around. They ignored the Florida law that says they must act in seven (7) days.

In Broward where the federal case is pending, it is like Broward officials are doing nothing for fear of making

admissions of guilt if they do what the Florida law requires them to do. Someone must be advising them to not act yet because they might make things worse than they are already.

The Florida legislature has noticed the need to again tighten up the loop holes. Under F.S. 98.075 (7) the SOEs are obligated to use:

(7) PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL.—

(a) If the supervisor receives notice or information pursuant to subsections (4)-(6), the supervisor of the county in which the voter is registered shall:

1. Notify the registered voter of his or her potential ineligibility by mail within **7 days** after receipt of notice or information. The notice shall include:
 - a. A statement of the basis for the registered voter’s potential ineligibility and a copy of any documentation upon which the potential ineligibility is based.
 - b. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days after receipt of the notice may result in a determination of ineligibility and in removal of the registered voter’s name from the statewide voter registration system.
 - c. A return form that requires the registered voter to admit or deny the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility for purposes of a final determination by the supervisor.
 - d. A statement that, if the voter is denying the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of determining eligibility.
 - e. Instructions for the registered voter to contact the supervisor of elections of the county in which the voter is registered if assistance is needed in resolving the matter.
 - f. Instructions for seeking restoration of civil rights following a felony conviction, if applicable.

The Florida legislature is working on a bill to add another source of information for SOEs to use. That would be that when Circuit Court Clerks make jury duty inquiries that determine jury duty was excused to non-citizens, this must be reported to SOEs. The SOEs would be required to contract with the Court Clerks to get the data on these ineligible voters periodically and take them off the voters list. If this does not pass this year, it will be because other citizenship-qualified voters are not taking part.

Voters should realize that the 67 SOEs in Florida have an association that hires lobbyists to look after their interests during the legislative session. Who is taking care of monitoring your interests? What is your Florida Representative and Senator doing about this? Why are we allowing SOEs to ignore the voter registration laws? Why do we have to sue to enforce the laws we elected the SOEs to administer?

Read the entire F.S. 98.075 and you will see other office holders have some responsibility to use the data if SOEs do not. Why are we also excusing these other public servants? Do we have too many laws to read or are legislators using the wrong words? Does anybody still know the meaning of “public trust?” Who is going to clean the rolls in all 67 counties?

The Battle for Israel's Life

By Alan Bergstein, February 14, 2018

How can this be . . . a few months short of being a 70-year-old nation, the State of Israel is still fighting a day-to-day battle for existence. Is it in any way, shape or manner a totalitarian state such as Cuba? Does it hang gays from street posts as is done in Iran? Does it have its citizens roam through dumpsters for their daily sources of nutrition as they must do in Venezuela? Or does it ban others whose religions are considered “unholy” from living, entering or earning a living within its borders as do the Muslim states of Arabia, Kuwait and Somalia to Jews? Of course not.

But this past week, with Israel keeping out of the carnage in the neighboring country of Syria, only reacting to provocations from the north, an Iranian military controlled drone and launched from Syria, was shot down. Sadly, in its follow-up destruction of the possible explosive laden drone, Israel lost one fighter jet, shot down by ground to air missiles supplied by and possibly manned by Russians. We may never find out who controlled the craft but the launching bases together with its operators were totally destroyed by Israel's swift retaliatory air attacks. So now Israel is facing threats by both Iran and Russia who are taking over an area that will surely become a base for more anti-Israel attacks. These threats to Israel's citizens and their lives appear to have no end in sight. Israel is now in the battle for its life.

It is no longer facing threats from mere troops, tanks and artillery. The Russians will supply its ally in Syria with

whatever modern arms are available, from superior anti-aircraft and ground-to-ground-rockets to nuclear weapons. Prime Minister Netanyahu, on Saturday stated that Israel would “defend itself against any aggression and any attempt to violate its sovereignty.” In a fake-out statement of pure hypocritical concern, the Russian Foreign Ministry urged “all sides to exercise restraint and to avoid any actions that could lead to an even greater complication of the situation.”

So, according to the Russkies who invaded and are responsible for hundreds of thousands of fatalities in Syria, Israel is somehow complicating the situation by counterattacking its enemy who initiated the conflict and is threatening the Jewish State's destruction? How can a nation, a victim of armed aggression by another state not respond and protect its citizens from being annihilated? Did Russia not respond to Nazi Germany with a fierce military force in 1941 to destroy its enemy? Again, we hear the same old mantra from Israel haters for it to appease its enemies, to stand with hands at sides and beg for mercy. Six and one half million of our people did that in Europe. Meanwhile the Allies were destroying Germany not with pleas for restraint, but with deadly and punishing force. Our suggestion to our Israeli cousins is to treat their enemies like we did in WWII. Enough with playing defense. Without a strong offense, a team is a loser.



Israeli forces examine the remains of an F-16 fighter jet

Active Shooter Solution

By *CS Bennett*

In my day, the threat of a nuclear attack from the Soviet Union was enough of a scare, and crisis, for the Philadelphia School system to embark upon what they called retention drills, within the schools, even at the elementary school level. Duck-and-cover drills, another name for the exercise at the schools, were the norm for the short period of time until the crisis ended.

At my school, we were led into the corridor within the interior of the school where we were instructed to sit on the floor, our backs up against the wall and our heads tucked down in our laps. Is there anyone who believe this was going to save children from a nuclear bomb attack? But they drilled us, nevertheless.

Today there is a far more greater threat to our children in the school environment and its name is the active shooter scenario. This threat is more real than a nuclear bomb being dropped on our children, yet we cannot seem to come to terms on what we should do to protect our children. No consensus means we keep doing things the way we have been doing them. And our precious children continue to die. It is crazy.

Look, there are armed guards to protect our money at the bank, armed guards at our airports to protect people and property, and some of us have armed guards to protect our own person, meaning bodyguards. Yet, the thought of having designated teachers who are trained, much like those in Israel, to defend our precious treasures, is abhorrent to some. There are arguments that teachers do not want to pack heat. Obviously, someone out there seems to think they are talking for all teachers.

Look, we either defend our children, or teach them how to defend themselves. The alternative is to place their bullet riddled bodies in body bags and send them packing to the morgue. Guns are not the problem. Teachers with guns there to protect the children are not the problem. Cold blooded killers and ignorant people, and policies of the left, are the problem. There have been numerous mass killings with pistols and knives, and I am talking more than sixteen killed. And most of the killers were over 21 years old, so raising the age to buy guns will make no difference.

In truth, it is not the weapon that is dangerous but rather the person whose hand holds the weapon. I say let those teachers who want to carry and protect our children, get the training they need and let them do it. We trained children in the forties, fifties and sixties on gun safety, and inside of our schools. They were known as gun clubs. What happened since then? Liberalism.

Still, there are some who say that training teachers, who want to be trained to carry heat, can never be as good a defense as a police officer in uniform. Well, we witnessed how much good that police officer was who never went inside of that school. On top of that, I just witnessed on television a mother-daughter team take down a would-be robber and they could do this because both of them had guns at the ready. So much for the trained officer experience over the novice's inexperience.



ence. I'll take that mother-daughter team over that cowardly, and professionally trained, officer any day.

Some claim that the police will arrive on scene and not know who is who in such a situation and mistakenly shoot the teacher. Well, that is not going to happen if we put into place protocols that will distinguish the teacher with a gun from the bad guy (or gal) with a gun. The teacher's gun could be locked up in a lock box until an active shooter alert comes across the PA system. At that time, the teacher can lock the classroom door, have the students shield themselves behind their desks, while the teacher retrieves the gun from the lock box. That teacher would remain in that classroom and only shoot if the attacker tries to gain entrance into the classroom.

My point is this, the way things are now, our so-called gun-free zones, are killing zones. If our children and our teachers are going to die, give them the dignity of going down with a fighting chance to live. To all those sanctimonious elitists, who can afford to have armed guards 24/7, I say let our children have the same protections you afford yourselves with. A piece of legislation you hold up to the shooter saying, "Yo, mon, you cannot kill us because the law on this paper says you cannot," is not going to mean a thing to a crazed killer.

Listen, no law has ever stopped a person from harming, or killing, another, when that person is committed to doing just that. Let's put the blame where it truly lies and that is with the shooter and law enforcement, when they fail, and with policies such as Obama's Promise Program, a program that paid police not to arrest minorities, and other juveniles, so that their arrest rate could go down. It was all a misdirection effort designed to hide the failure of justice reforms pushed by the last administration.

In all of this, remember that when our government leaders' lives, and their wives and children's lives, are threatened, there are guys at the ready to come to their defense, and they are coming with guns, not a document with an anti-gun law written on it. . . . Are your children just as important and just as precious as those of our leaders?

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.

Ruth Limbaugh Addressed National Review Institute's "A Tribute To William F. Buckley"

By Mary Beth McDonald

On February 6, 2018, Rush Limbaugh left his gold microphone at EIB HQ to make his very first public appearance to honor William F. Buckley at the National Review Institute's "A Tribute To William F. Buckley."

The Colony Hotel held the sold-out event for 100 people who paid \$250.00 each to hear *National Review* Editor, Rich Lowry; National Review Institute's senior fellow John O'Sullivan; WFB biographer, Alvin Felzenberg; and special guest, Rush Limbaugh. Mr. Limbaugh explained his admiration for Mr. Buckley.

"The single greatest motivation I had to learn to read, write, speak the English language the best I could, to expand my vocabulary, came from Bill Buckley.

"Bill Buckley is indescribable. He's irreplaceable. There will not be another one like him. And although that's true of all of us, once you take the time to learn about Buckley and his life and look at what all he did with it, he did not waste a moment, did not waste a moment. He was able to pursue, as he called it, his sybaritic delights, his pleasurable delights, such as sailing around the world numerous times, traveling the world with his work. He was prolific in output, but it was his intellect and it was his good humor that was literally inspiring to me.

"Even after I went through one year of college and I was having trouble, flunked speech, should have called the course Outline 101. Flunked speech, did every speech, showed up at every class and still flunked it. I said, 'This is not for me.' And one morning I was sitting in the house at

20 years old and I said, 'I'm quitting.' I told my dad, 'I'm quitting. I can't handle this. I'm leaving. I've got a job offer in Pittsburgh, and I'm going. He was very concerned he was a failure as a father, and I remember telling him, 'Well, I want to be like Bill Buckley.' He said, 'What do you mean?' 'Well, I want to be able to sit around and write and think and speak,' and so forth, and my dad blew up at me. 'What are you talking about?' He gave me a two-hour lecture on, 'Where do you think Bill Buckley went to become what he is? Do you think Bill Buckley just sits around and writes and thinks and speaks, and people like you have this reaction to him?' I got a serious lecture on how hard and time-consuming achievement is. When you see the output of someone's work but you don't see what goes into it, you can make the mistake of assuming it comes easy to them, especially those who are great at what they do. They make it look so easy that you think you could do it, too. And you form impressions of how they do it, and you see these people on television and so forth, you really don't see any of the prep or any of the hard work that goes into the final product, and my dad was right about that.

"So it wasn't until I left the formal academic setting at age 20, that I got serious about education above and thought Buckley was so unique and special that when I found out about *National Review*, I thought you had to be invited to read it. I didn't think anybody could. I didn't know he was writing a magazine and publishing one just for profit. I thought there was select group of people that were entitled to be part of that. I'd never seen it on a newsstand. I had never seen it anywhere at anybody's house. But I heard about it and I read about it and so forth.

"So one day I called *National Review* in New York when I was in Sacramento. I was very sheepish, a woman answered the phone and I felt like I was calling God. I didn't ask to speak to Buckley. I said, stammering, 'Can I subscribe to your magazine?' 'Of course, of course. Where can we send it?' I was taken aback. I was in that much awe, is what I'm trying to say. I was as nervous making that phone call as any phone call I can remember making. So I began to subscribe to it, got a hold of more and more, continued to read his column. And, of course, he was one of the formative forces in my worldview, political, conservative view of all things: domestic, cultural, political. My first real understanding of the concept of lowering tax rates to generate revenue came from Bill Buckley. I could cite countless other things of conservative orthodoxy. It's a shame to even attach the term conservatism to this because it's too narrow. It's just right. These are principles by which people live and



Rush Limbaugh and Mary Beth McDonald

Rush Limbaugh—continued on next page

Rush Limbaugh—continued from previous page

order their lives, and they have been shown over the course of human history to work and to be infallible in governing people, in governing one’s own affairs, leading one’s own life, establishing mechanisms by which people, nations, can manage their affairs to the best of society’s purposes.”

Mr. Limbaugh went on to say that later he met, spent time with, and became very close friends with Bill and Pat Buckley. He mentioned he was a father to him after his own father had passed away.

Listening to Rush Limbaugh that afternoon at the Colony Hotel was mesmerizing.

The Palm Beach event was one of several that the NRI will be hosting across the country this Spring and early winter to celebrate the legacy of William F. Buckley whose death happened ten years ago this month.

More about William F. Buckley: William F. Buckley was the Founder and Editor of *The National Review*. Buckley was so prolific that in his nearly 60 years of public life he published 55 fiction and non-fiction books, wrote over 225 obituaries, over 800 editorials, dozens of book reviews and introductions and prefaces to other authors’ books, hundreds of articles, and approximately 5,600 newspaper columns. Buckley hosted 1,429 separate “Firing Line,” television



shows with guests ranging from Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher to Rush Limbaugh, Billy Graham, and Henry Kissinger.

Mary Beth McDonald is a former Mayor for the City of Vero Beach (2004–2006) and was just re-appointed by Governor Scott for the Board of Trustees for Florida Atlantic University.

They say “A picture is worth a thousand words.” Have a look at the paintings on this page and see if you agree. The collage on the right is of official portraits of some of our previous presidents, including Obama sitting on the chair surrounded by green leaves. The painting below of a black woman beheading a white woman was also done by Kehinde Wiley, the same artist that Obama chose for his official portrait.



Parkland: Epic Failure, More Politics

By Paul Spain

Parents, students, teachers, and our community are grieving over the needless loss of life of children, friends and neighbors. As a parent, there can be no greater pain than losing a child to violence.

The Parkland shootings were a grievous human tragedy caused by a troubled and mentally disturbed young man, who, as in every school shooting in the last 20 years, channeled his rage and rejection through a gun. The profile of the gunman is always the same: loner, angry, alienated, depressed and medicated young man.

The knee jerk reaction of Democrats, including South Florida Congressmen Ted Deutch and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, was political: Blame the NRA, attack Republicans and President Trump, and Ban Guns! Once again, Democrats seized upon the school shooting, shamefully exploiting traumatized students and grieving families to advance their anti-gun agenda to disarm all Americans. They support gun-free zones, another failed Democrat policy that denies students and teachers the fundamental right to protect themselves, turning schools into killing fields.

It is more politically expedient to blame guns as the villains than to explore the real reasons for school shootings—broken families, over-medicated teens, mental illness, and banishment of God from our schools and the public square, to name a few.

It is now evident there was an epic failure of government at every level. Those tasked with protecting our communities and schools failed to protect the students and teachers at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, by ignoring clear warning signs that should have prompted action and prevented the shooting or failing to stop it in progress.

Broward County social services abandoned Nikolas Cruz. Broward Sheriff's Office failed to act on more than two dozen calls and contacts. The FBI failed to act on two actionable tips, as recently as January. The Broward County School Board policy of criminal deferral, initiated by Superintendent Robert Runcie, ended arrests of students committing crimes, particularly minorities, by the Broward Sheriff's Office, improving school crime statistics, but also sacrificing the safety and security of students and teachers.

During the shooting, several Broward Sheriff's Deputies, including the school's assigned officer, cowered behind police cars, instead of storming the school to stop the shooter and save lives! Cowardice or incompetence? SWAT teams did not arrive for 90 minutes! First responder EMTs were ordered to stand down and prevented from retrieving



victims and saving lives. This is an unconscionable failure of government at its most basic level and likely cost lives!

Before grabbing guns from law-abiding, responsible gun owners and shredding our Second Amendment, let's hold Broward Sheriff Israel (who oversees a billion-dollar-plus budget) and School Board Superintendent Runcie accountable for their actions and policies that escalated this tragedy. Both the Sheriff and Superintendent should be removed from office.

Our children deserve, and rightfully demand, the right to be SAFE AND SECURE in their schools.

I applaud the common-sense, proactive measures advocated by President Trump and Governor Rick Scott to secure our schools, including raising the minimum age to 21 to purchase a firearm, eliminating gun-free zones at schools, allowing teachers and school administrators to be trained and certified to carry concealed firearms, preventing mentally ill people from purchasing firearms, increased funding for mental health resources, and more police assigned to protect schools.

We must make our schools safe again AND keep our Second Amendment intact, and not fall prey to a false choice between YOUR GUNS or MY SECURITY.

Paul Spain

Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, District 22, Florida

(Broward County, including Parkland, and Boca Raton in Palm Beach County)

PaulSpainforCongress.com

News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County

**Republican Federated Women of South Florida
Met the Candidates on February 21**

On Wednesday, February 21, the Republican Federated Women of South Florida were pleased to present four outstanding local candidates. Meeting at the Boca Country Club, an enthusiastic audience heard from **Alysen Africano-Nila**, candidate for Vice Mayor of Highland Beach; **Derek Schwartz**, candidate for Congressional District 21; and **Nicolas Kimaz** and **Paul Spain**, both candidates for Congressional District 22.

The Republican Federated Women of South Florida have an exciting meeting planned for their next meeting, which will be held on Thursday, March 29. **“Captain” Kirk Wolak**, a software engineer, maintains the state-wide voter database to help detect and prevent voter fraud in Florida, and will discuss the issue of voter fraud. Also on the program will be **Sid Dinerstein**, former Chair of the Palm Beach County Republican Party.

On Saturday, April 21, the RFW of South Florida will proudly visit the West Palm Beach Veterans Administration Medical Center, where we will serve root beer floats to the resident veterans of the Community Living Center and lead them in a round of Bingo. This is something the club does two or three times a year, and is a most rewarding experience for those who attend. If you would like to be part of this, please contact Linda Johnson, ljayll@att.net.

For information about the Republican Federated Women of South Florida, please contact Rosemary O’Mara at rosemaryo625@aol.com.



Candidates for Highland Beach City Council Alysen Africano-Nila (on left) and Peggy Gossett-Seidman.



Speaking at the February 21 meeting were (left to right): Derek Schwartz, Candidate for Congressional District 21, and Nicolas Kimaz and Paul Spain, Candidates for Congressional District 22.

Ladies in Red! Members of the Republican Federated Women of South Florida (left to right): Lori Mugavero (past Treasurer), Linda Johnson (First Vice President), Karen Burke, Lucia Maggiore (Chaplain), Ann Carro (Treasurer), Cheryl Mullings (Second Vice President), Rosemary O’Mara (President), and Peggy Gossett-Seidman (Publicity Chair).



News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County

Kings Point Republican Club Met on February 7

Our February 7th meeting was a big success. **Colonel Arthur DeRuve** (Ret.) led us in the Pledge of Allegiance; **Paul Koppelman** gave a wonderful rendition of our National Anthem. **Taniel Shant** spoke on behalf of congressional candidate **Kurt Jetta**. **Derek Schwartz**, our other congressional candidate, gave a very interesting talk about the issues and his qualifications. Both want to succeed the incumbent Democrat in our Florida 21st Congressional District. Our good friend **Alan Bergstein**, President of the Judeo-Christian Republican Club, spoke about the issues of the day. His club regularly meets at the Civic Center on Jog Rd near Kings Point. Then **Bill Petraglia**, Vice President of the Judeo-Christian Republican Club and President of the Italian American Heritage Club of South Florida, introduced our guest speaker, **Colonel Mike McCalister** (Ret.), who outlined his vision for the future of America, touching on immigration, the federal budget, taxes, the economy,

monuments, and others. He stressed the importance of supporting President Trump. His talk was dynamic and inspiring and he is being encouraged to run for Florida Agriculture Commissioner. There were many questions from the audience. **Peter Cavanagh** conducted the raffle for the \$25 Publix gift card and three books titled *The Electoral College*, donated by Ira Geiger. A good time was had by all.

We hope to see you all at our next meeting on Wednesday, March 7th at 7pm in the "Social Room" of 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 don't charge dues and there is no admission charge. We do accept donations. Please remember that we meet the first Wednesday of every month.

Paul Tocker, President, 561-235-0840
Jonathan Winson, Vice President, 561-600-0416

The Federated Republican Women of North Dade Welcomed Peter Feaman at Their February 21 Meeting

On Wednesday, February 21, the newly-formed Federated Republican Women of North Dade held their third meeting at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant in Miami. Florida's National Committeeman, Palm Beach County's own **Peter Feaman** was the keynote speaker, and he spoke on the topic of "For Love of Country: How Trump's Political Incorrectness Will Save America." He assured the enthusiastic audience that the RNC is totally in sync with President Trump in terms of moving his agenda forward, and heralded the RNC's successful fundraising efforts compared with the Democrats. He recalled three things he had articulated during the 2016 campaign that he believed needed to happen for Trump to be successful: First, he needed to win the Republican nomination. Second, he needed to win the general election. And third, once elected he needed to govern as a conservative. Peter pointed out that Trump has been successful in all three, at times governing more conservatively than even Ronald Reagan. Peter spoke about his visit to the Vice President's residence and the White House over the Christmas holidays, and remarked at



Florida's National Committeeman Peter Feaman with FRW of North Dade President Maricel Cobitz.

how gratifying it was to be able to say "Merry Christmas" again, thanks largely to President Trump. Peter closed by saying: "Every generation is called in defense of freedom. Our time is no different. The struggle for freedom has been the struggle of all mankind for 5,000 years, first chronicled in the Book of Exodus, as the Israelites fled the tyranny of the Pharaoh. It is now up to us. Our present struggle may not be by force of arms and the opposing sides may not be wearing uniforms, but the struggle is no less real. The U.S. is a light to the world. A city on a hill. We must not let that light grow dim on our watch!"

Other speakers to address the meeting's full house were **Spencer Sullivan** from the Leadership Institute, and **Driena Sixto** of Turning Point USA, who spoke about their efforts to get young people involved.

Also in attendance at the meeting were Miami-Dade State Committeewoman **Liliana Ros**, Hialeah City Councilwoman **Lourdes Lozano**, Miami-Dade REC Vice Chair **Corey Breier**, and several candidates. Kudos to club President **Maricel Cobitz**, Vice President **Inez Yimoc**, and the board and club members.

News from the Republican Clubs of Palm Beach County

Los Tres Amigos 2018

Posted by Fred Scheibl on February 20, 2018

Los Tres Amigos, for the third year running, were the highlights of our February meeting at Grande Bella Cocina.

Michael Barnett, PBCGOP Chair and vice chair of RPOF, was fresh from his recent Oval Office visit for the Black History Month event, where he rubbed elbows with Herman Cain, Alveda King and others.

The county GOP is in great shape he reported, raising lots of money. Lincoln Day was sold out in December, even without announced speakers, but it will be a great lineup. Sarah Palin will be the headliner, with guests Diamond and Silk, James O’Keefe, and Charlie Kirk of Turning Point USA.

Michael gave us an update on outreach activities and reported that the local Haitian community is still supporting the President, in spite of media attempts to drive a wedge over alleged comments, because he keeps his promises. The Puerto Rican evacuees—estimated at over 300,000 and settling around the I4 corridor from Osceola to Hillsborough counties, are a toss-up. About 90% are expected to settle permanently and many have registered to vote—but there are more Independent registrations than either Democrat or Republican. The African American community is harder, but Trump carried a larger percentage of that group than a typical Republican and the Economy will help in the 2018 election cycle.

Next up was attorney **James D’Loughy**, who (with Sid as plaintiff) is suing Palm Beach Gardens over the misleading ballot questions for the March election. James was a city council candidate in 2013, jumping into the race to speak out about dirty politics, and one of the driving forces that put term limits on the ballot in 2014. That measure passed with 80% of the vote and all 5 current council members were able to run and win because of it. Now that same council has decided that they really want more terms than permitted, and want to be able to run again when their limits are up—a measure that they have placed on the March ballot to “let the voters decide.” The city is using large amounts of taxpayer money to promote a YES vote on the four questions in a misleading way—part of the reason for the lawsuit. James suggests you vote NO on all four questions.

The third “Amigo” was former County GOP Chairman **Sid Dinerstein**, whose topic was “Honey, I shrunk the Dems!” Invoking the “Gretsky Rule” (go to where the puck will be. . .), Sid was very upbeat about the 2018 and 2020 elections. “I’d run with a 4% GDP growth anytime.” He believes that 80% of the 2020 votes are already “cast”—they were locked in with the Carrier Deal in December 2016, especially in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio. Dems have become the “no jobs” party and have shown they will not stand up for the working man in those states.

In 2018, he thinks Brian Mast will win by 20 points. The national Democrats listed CD18 as a target race, but only because it is a closely divided district (by registration) and he does not think they will pour money into it as there are other districts where the pickings are better. He then listed many of the things which have made the Democrats weak and shrinking:

- **Voter Fraud**—a foundation of their strategy, will be less effective because we are talking about it and the fraudsters will keep their heads down.
- **Good Help**—the association with Black Lives Matters, Antifa and other groups of paid, professional thugs
- **MS-13 and Sanctuary Cities**—Trump is leading on these issues and Obama was absent
- **The NFL**—stupidity on many levels
- **Political correctness**—New York has renamed Columbus Day, “Indigenous People’s Day”—angering Italians everywhere
- **Doubling Down on the tax bill**—the Dems still call a widely successful and popular program “Armageddon”
- **DACA**—Trump has the high ground on this and the Dems will abandon the Dreamers in favor of an “issue”

With all of these Democrat negatives, Sid thinks Trump will win in 2020 easily.

To wrap it up, Sid described the State of the Union as “Trump hearts America,” and paraphrased the best line of the speech: “Americans are Dreamers too—AGAIN.”

The Three Amigos: Michael Barnett, James D’Loughy, and Sid Dinerstein



To the Editor

FELLOW REPUBLICANS:

The horrific shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, in northern Broward County on Valentines Day, hit much too close to home for me. I had children who graduated from Douglas, and I helped raise the money for the school's football stadium.

It was during that time, when I had a son, Chris, who played wide receiver on the Eagles football team, and a daughter, Lisa Alexis, who was a cheerleader at Douglas, that I met Aaron Feis. The man was a member of the football coaching staff and was a security guard at the school, which housed close to 3,200 students from Coral Springs and Parkland.

He and I became very good, and close, friends who talked all the time, and when my children were students at Douglas during their respective times, it was Aaron Feis who kept me abreast of everything "good and bad" that they were doing. He was their Guardian Angel during those days, in more ways than you could ever know, or that I will ever reveal.

So, it is through a lot of tears that I write this in memory of all those who lost their lives on last Wednesday, but especially for Aaron Feis, who was among those killed during what has become an all-too-familiar scene in America.

Not only was Aaron a friend, but whenever he needed advice about a career move in the Broward School system, he would call me. However, no matter how many openings he applied for within the District, he always ended up back at Douglas, so I told him in one of our final conversations that I thought The LORD wanted him to be at that school.

Why??

Because, Aaron graduated from Douglas, which opened in 1990, and he played football at the school, as both an offensive and defensive lineman. Aaron Feis WAS DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH AND THROUGH!!

He was always there for students, either to help them, encourage them, or to discipline them, as only he could :-).

And, for that reason, I believed completely the first reports that came out of the situation on Wednesday. It was reported early on that a member of the school staff threw himself in front of several students to shield them from the gunman's bullets.

When I heard that . . . I INSTANTLY KNEW THAT THE PERSON WHO SELFLESSLY GAVE UP HIS LIFE TO SAVE OTHERS, BEFORE A NAME OF THAT PERSON WAS EVER RELEASED, WAS THE SAME GUARDIAN ANGEL WHO WAS THERE MANY TIMES FOR MY CHILDREN IN THE PAST.

There are times in this life, when you just know something. On Wednesday, I JUST KNEW. . . !!

There is a passage in the Bible that says, "The greatest gift anyone can give, is to give his life for a friend." Aaron Feis gave students at Douglas yesterday . . . THE GREATEST GIFT!!

So, it is through heartfelt tears of pain that I say Good Bye, and Thank You, to a Friend, and to say that I will NEVER FORGET YOU.

GOD Bless,

—GENE ROBINSON

President

Tamarac/Margate/Coconut Creek GOP Club

Broward County Sheriff Should Step Down

Broward County elected official Sheriff Scott Israel should immediately step down and retire from law enforcement for the inaction of his deputies who were the first to arrive at the Valentine's Day Massacre. The truth as to whether these deputy sheriffs were told to stand down, or were byproducts of a culture of cowardice is almost irrelevant. The position Sheriff Israel holds is one directly accountable to the citizens who voted for him. Accordingly,

he cannot be fired. After making a national spectacle of himself on CNN attacking the NRA, this is a man who needs to acknowledge his gross negligence and exit the debate.

—Tom Vaughn, Pct. 4024
623 Manatee Bay Drive
Boynton Beach, FL, 33435
561-374-2069

Book Review

***Grant*, by Ron Chernow. New York: Penguin Press, 2017. 1,074 pp.**

I've read biographies of all our presidents, but for some of our most distinguished past leaders, dissatisfaction with the bios I've plowed through have led me to read others in the interest of finding more definitive examinations of the lives of those great men. Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln come to mind in the way of examples, and I can now add the name of Ulysses S. Grant to that list. *Grant* was written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ron Chernow, and, in my opinion, it surpasses the level of achievement accomplished in two of his previous highly-acclaimed works—*Alexander Hamilton* and *Washington*, which I also read and greatly enjoyed.

Great books make you feel great, and this is one of them. At 1,000 pages, it requires considerable time to read, but is well worth the effort. To begin with, in the way of introduction, consider what legendary writer Walt Whitman had to say about Grant the man: "What a man he is! . . . he proves how an average western farmer, mechanic, boatman, carried by tides of circumstances into a position of incredible military or civil responsibilities . . . may steer his way fitly and steadily through them all, carrying the country and himself with credit year after year—command over a million armed men—fight more than fifty pitch'd battles—rule for eight years a land larger than all the kingdoms of Europe combined—and then retiring, quietly (with a cigar in his mouth) make the promenade of the whole world, through its courts and coteries, and kings and czars . . . as phlegmatically as he ever walk'd the portico of a Missouri hotel after dinner. . . . Seems to me it transcends Plutarch. How those old Greeks, indeed, would have seized on him! A mere plain man—no art, no poetry. . . . A common trader, money-maker, tanner, farmer of Illinois—general for the republic . . . in the war of attempted session—President following (a task of peace more difficult than the war itself)—nothing heroic, as the authorities put it—and yet the greatest hero. The gods, the destinies seem to have concentrated on him."

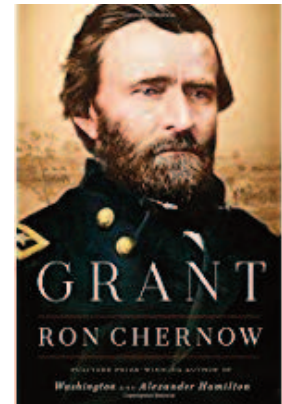
It may be possible to give a more accurate, poignant, brief summation of the life of U. S. Grant than the touching effort I just quoted by Walt Whitman, but I doubt it. In a few brief words, Whitman not only captures the essential greatness of our former president, but more importantly reveals the disservice done to him by history's negative verdict of his life's work, which this wonderful book serves to correct. In that regard, Grant reminds me of George Armstrong Custer, who has also been much maligned by historians who concentrate on his impetuous errors in the legendary Battle of the Little Big Horn, while ignoring his

much more important heroic contributions on the decisive final day at Gettysburg, where his actions represent a crucial contribution to the Union victory. Grant too, has been denied his rightful place among the great men of America by historians who concentrate instead on his alcoholism, failure in business and his contribution to the Jim Crow era that followed his presidency, instead of the things that made him such a great man as outlined above by Whitman.

With regard to history's negative outlook of Grant's views on race in America, one should note that during the Civil War it was he who recommended to Lincoln that blacks should be enlisted in the army to fight, to which Frederick Douglas gave much praise, stating, "Once the black man had a musket on his shoulder, and a bullet in his pocket, no power on earth could deny that he has earned the right of citizenship in the United States." Historians have also ignored the fact that Grant regretted his administration's missteps in post-war race policy, considered it his single greatest failure, and did not wish for things to turn out as they did in the Jim Crow era. Author Chernow does a masterful job in the telling of what happened and how that sheds a more sympathetic light on the president's actions in the postbellum era, which was one of the most challenging times in our country's history.

One of my favorite parts of the book tells the stirring story of the final months of Grant's life, when dying of cancer and in constant pain, he miraculously produced a lucrative autobiography that saved his family from destitution. Unlike virtually all other leading figures in America's Civil War, he had steadfastly refused to make money off of it, but in the end, just as he had done for his country during the war, he rose to the occasion in his darkest hour to provide for his family after he was gone.

A reappraisal of the life and times of Ulysses S. Grant is long overdue, and biographer Ron Chernow delivers it in this book which probably won't win a Pulitzer Prize among those who, perhaps, place more emphasis on the man's failures than they should. But it will go far, I suspect, in rehabilitating the reputation of this former president and commander of the Union Armies in the Civil War, and recasting him in his rightful place among our country's greatest heroes.



—Tom Mullings

Book Review

Culture at Dead End, Unless . . .

Recently, we have been hearing about the decline of the American culture in the United States. Witness four separate venues telling us that the U.S.A. is about done in. Just a few days ago, in February 2018, on the Fox News Channel, Tucker Carlson told us that our American culture had changed so much in recent times that he would be devoting some time on the subject every so often with guests to explain what is happening. About a week later, on February 19, Carlson introduced Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin (R) to explain how the Parkland School shooting and other recent cultural circumstances can be explained by the unhelpful changes to the American family, not in the kind of guns we own.

The next day in the *Wall Street Journal*, Gerald F. Seib opined that “Democracy as we know it is in peril, and potentially in decline.” Then he discussed the recent Freedom House report on worldwide democracy, pointed out that 71 countries suffered net declines in political freedom, and only 35 registered gains. The recent annual report said the U.S. is now a “flawed democracy” because of a polarized political system and a decline in trust in its institutions. Seib wrote that: “Congress has consistently failed in efforts to enact stronger background checks and is currently failing to devise a formula to deal with Dreamers.” Gridlock is at hand and that is what Russia wants, Seib wrote.

NRA Executive Vice President Wayne La Pierre, in the March 2018 issue of *America’s 1st Freedom*, describes the Democrat Party as socialists. He points out that socialists always take your guns. He asked that we take a look at Venezuela as the latest example. La Pierre writes that Soviet Socialism, National Socialism, and Maoist Communism are all on the march in the U.S., backed by an assortment of people like George Soros.

Finally, the fourth venue was hearing Glenn Beck on his radio show at WJNO 1290-AM on February 21, 2018, interviewing a person familiar with some Syrian monsters’ activity that includes enslaving children and adults and collecting body parts from them for sale in various countries where the parts are being implanted into “needy” folks with lots of money. As this discussion continued, the informant pointed out there was much more slavery today in the world than there was during the 400 to 500 years Africans were being enslaved and some were brought to the New World before America’s founding. This helps us understand better that it only took from America’s constitutional founding in 1789 to the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862 for the American way to make a near fatal blow to slavery in those 73 years, while the personal imprisonment conduct still abounds all over the world.

Just when I was feeling the perpetual gloom and doom these four strains of ideas express, I opened my mail to find

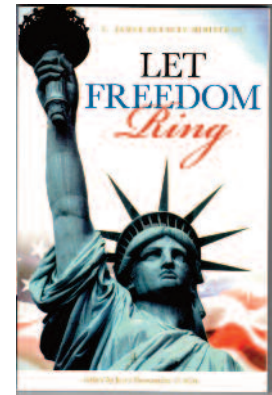
a new book by a group of enthusiastic Christians. As I settled down and read through this 189-page book in the next two days and reflected, I decided that this is a book I want my grandchildren to read so they can protect themselves from the mess my generation and earlier ones had created for them.

This book was not the Bible, or a book about the Bible. But it was about what our Founders believed the Bible and other educated sources taught them when they designed the new nation and wrote the Mayflower Compact, the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, as well as a whole series of prayers, pronouncements, and resolutions establishing local, statewide and national days of thanksgiving.

After ordering a batch of books for the grandkids, I felt good. But then as if to punctuate an ending to these revelations, I learned that America’s Pastor, Billy Graham, had passed away at age 99. Graham spoke to more people in the world about God than any other man since Saul of Tarsus. A part of Graham’s message: “Faith is Powerful” and “Make Your Days Count!”

Be assured that I know that Billy Graham was not a Jewish Rabbi, a Catholic Priest, or a Muslim Imam. I personally do know some Rabbis, Priests, and one Imam. The people who founded the United States were 98 percent or more of some kind of Protestant Christian. There were few Catholics and just a small number of Jews in the land. There were from time to time a Muslim ambassador or two from northern Africa or the Eastern Mediterranean area, but no group of them. These religious labels and percentages are not the same in 2018; these differences are a large part of the change that our culture has endured over the last 250 years. These facts are historical facts that cannot be changed by tearing down monuments to the Founders.

This new 2018 book is written by eleven authors, one a co-author who is deceased, and one author who is female, each writer with an important position in the hierarchy of religion and public affairs. Each one has written many books, pamphlets, sermons, letters, budgets and plans for the future. Edited by Dr. Jerry Newcomb with a Foreword by Dr. Frank Wright and an Introduction by William J. Led-



Culture at Dead End—continued on next page

Culture at Dead End—continued from previous page

erer, these are followed by nine chapters. A paragraph from the Introduction explains the contents well:

Included here are essays by a number of distinguished contributors: John Soronsen, president of Evangelism Explosion International, looks at the source of our hope for America. Peter Lilliback, president of Providence Forum and president of Westminster Theological Seminary, comments on America's Christian roots. Former Congressman John Hostettler, senior executive director of the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship, writes of the genius of the Constitution. I, William J. Federer, writes about the misunderstanding of church and state relations. David Gibbs, III, president of the National Center for Life and Liberty, apprises us on threats to religion in our time. D. James Kennedy [deceased] and co-author Jerry Newcombe, sound the alarm on the major moral crisis of our day—the problem of abortion. Linda W. Smith, president of the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Leadership, comments on another serious problem, that of incarceration. Jerry Newcombe, columnist and senior producer at D. James Kennedy Ministries, shows America's need for God. Frank Wright, president and chief executive officer of D. James Kennedy Ministries, concludes with a hopeful message for a new era of cultural engagement in America.

Sorenson asks if there is any hope for America and he answers that we need to make more effort to live life as if we really believe there is a God who can help us. We are reminded by Lilliback that the first act of the first Congress was to open the Philadelphia meetings with a prayer. I was in awe of the quotations from George Washington over many years about Providence, the Supreme Director, Almighty Ruler of the universe, Almighty being who rules over the universe, the Great Governor of the Universe, and his farewell address which includes: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports"; and this admonition "reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

Hostettler writes that the U.S. Constitution can be truly understood in light of the Framers' understanding of one of

the most fundamental precepts of Holy Writ—the fallen nature of man. Federer's chapter on history covers the religions of the countries of Europe at the time before the crossing and helps explain what the people were looking for as they settled in the New World.

David Gibbs starts off his chapter by telling us the state of religious liberty in the U.S. is in peril, how the new country was organized around the principles found in the Judeo-Christian religion, and ends with a discussion of the 20 religious principles in President Trump's and the Department of Justice's memorandum on religious liberty. [Get your own copy of the Trump DOJ memo at: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-sessions-issues-guidance-federal-law-protections-religious-liberty>].

Kennedy and Newcombe review the problems with the U.S.A.'s present stance on abortion. Linda Smith points out the problems with incarceration. Newcomb analyzes our need for God. Frank Wright challenges us to step up to the plate and make an effort to hit the ball out of the park for God. Become a Christian Statesman.

The book is not a manual for small groups of Christians, but it is a relevant historical treatment of what is wrong in the land and how these things can be fixed. This book can be used by readers of any faith to get your bearings in what to do with your life. It is not the only thing you should ever read, but you should take the time to see if you are inspired by our Founders, our subsequent national history as a country, and the real opportunities to get some help from having a faith that prods you to do more. Restoring that knowledge could help restore our culture. So could a faith like that of Billy Graham.

The paperback book is *Let Freedom Ring*, edited by Jerry Newcombe, 2018, D. James Kennedy Ministries, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 1-800-988-7884, call for the price. ISBN: 978-1-929626-79-3. The book is not available on Amazon.com or DJKM.org at the time of this writing. Make an effort to get this book. You will be glad you did. I received the book and a comprehensive U.S. Congress Handbook for a \$60.00 contribution to this organization. They will sell you the book for much less. Ask. The Handbook will help you with contacting the 115th Congress. Now I have to devise a plan to get the grandkids to read this book and get them started on the Third Great Enlightenment.

—William J. Skinner

Mort's Meanderings . . .**Attention: Patriotic Democrats**

You've got to do something and you've got to do it, quickly!

This President made a ton of promises to the American people during his campaign and since his election, he is systematically working to keep them, one by one.

Unless he is stopped soon, he will keep his promise to "Make America Great Again."

Think. What would Obama do, or Hillary?

Pull out all the stops—lie, cheat, oppose, reject, delay. You can do it—it's what you do.

MORT KUFF © 3-9-2018

Editor’s Postscript

**The Primary Target of Trump’s Tariffs and
THE Bull in the China Shop**

By Tom Mullings

mercantilism—Dictionary Definition: Vocabulary.com
<https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/mercantilism>.
Mercantilism, also called “commercialism,” is a system in which a country attempts to amass wealth through trade with other countries, exporting more than it imports and increasing stores of gold and precious metals. It is often considered an outdated system.

Oh how they howled! On both the left and right as President Trump announced his planned 25% tariffs on steel and 10% on aluminum, aimed at countries with unfair free trade policies. As usual, the President was right and the howlers were wrong. Now when I refer to “howlers” I’m not talking about all those who disagree with Trump’s trade policy. There are those that I respect, including some “free traders” who write for this newsletter. No the crowd I’m talking about are those whose consistent howling over Trump’s prescriptions for what ails America is due to a lack of understanding of the man himself. I know because I felt much like them when I first started investigating Trump as a candidate for President of the United States. There were things he was saying that made me want to pull out what little hair I had left at age 70. Then, as I’ve said in previous issues of this newsletter, I read his book *The Art of the Deal* and quickly joined the ranks of his rapidly growing coalition that had learned to take Trump “seriously” not “literally.”

Now with regard to the President’s tariff proposal let’s get one thing straight about President Trump. Despite the

accusations of his detractors on this issue, he is not a “protectionist.” He’s in favor of “free trade,” but only fair free trade and not the unfair variety that double-talking countries like China are selling. A recent “business climate survey released in January by the American Chamber of Commerce in China, in partnership with Bain & Company, found that 8 in 10 foreign companies feel less welcome than in the past, and more that 60 percent have little or no confidence that China is committed to opening its markets further in the next three years.” [Fair free trade] “doesn’t just mean exporting and buying up foreign assets, but also making sure that Chinese workers, private companies, farmers and consumers benefit from dynamic, open markets for goods and services.”



Now with that in mind, take a look at the above dictionary definition of Mercantilism. If that doesn’t explain what the Chinese Communist Party is all about in terms of their venture into fair free trade, I don’t know what does. They are predatorial mercantilists, which is the very basis of President Trump’s critique of their unfair trade practices, and one needs look no further for proof than the trade deficit we have with

Editor’s Postscript—continued on next page



10/02 2004-084 © John Ditchburn

Editor's Postscript—continued from previous page

them that amounts to many hundreds of billions of dollars. Trump's primary target with his tariffs are the Chinese, as evidenced by his decision to leave the door open for exemptions for friendly countries, such as Canada and Mexico.

Trump is not a protectionist, but the totalitarian leader of China is. As reported recently in the press, "Silicon Valley tech companies have spent billions of dollars trying to break into the lucrative Chinese consumer market. But many have been blocked, forced into joint ventures, faced censorship or ordered to transfer secret technology to China."

Now the President's critics view him as a "bull in a china shop" and there's much truth to their convictions. Their problem is that they are so concerned with everything the bull appears to be breaking and saying that they have not taken the time to notice that he is not just a bull, but THE

baddest bull on the planet, and when I say "baddest" I don't just mean that he can put up a good scrap. So here's a little cheat cheat for all the howlers in America who are focused, laser-like on all the broken china: This formidable President of ours is rapidly getting things done that we desperately need to have done and the latest one is sending an unmistakable shot across the bow of the good ship Communist China, warning them that their take on fair free trade "with Chinese characteristics" may have fooled, Clinton, Obama and numerous others, but it ain't fooling this bull.

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.

More Mort's Meanderings . . .



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- Tami Donnally, Vice Chair**
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**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY**

March 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.

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.gop



Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

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

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

REC Committeeman & Committeewoman Duties and Responsibilities

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

E-mail: _____

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

I am applying for the position of:



Committeeman



Committeewoman

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



Republican Party of Florida Party Loyalty Oath

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

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

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

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

Signature of Member

Signature of Witness

County/Precinct #

Date

Office: _____

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

Address, as it appears on voter registration

Email

City, State, Zip

Phone Number

**CANDIDATE OATH -
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN AND
COMMITTEEWOMEN**

OFFICE USE ONLY

OATH OF CANDIDATE (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

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

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

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

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

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

STATEMENT OF PARTY (Section 99.021, Florida Statutes)

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

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

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

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

Personally Known: _____ or

Produced Identification: _____

Type of Identification Produced:

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