

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

Do Gubernatorial Primary Results in Florida Reveal Party Strategy in 2020 Presidential Contest?

By Tom Mullings

As expected, on Tuesday, August 28, Governor Rick Scott succeeded with little trouble in his quest to secure his party's nomination to run for the Senate seat of long-time incumbent, Bill Nelson in November's interim elections. But the real intrigue occurred in the race for the outgoing governor's seat where the two parties' chosen candidates may reveal much about strategy in the 2020 presidential contest.

In the GOP primary for governor, both candidates—Ron DeSantis and Adam Putnam—were highly regarded conservatives among Republican voters here in Florida, and many thought the race for the nomination would be a close-run thing, but it wasn't. I've always thought highly of both men and was confident either would do an excellent job in Tallahassee. So what happened and why were most of the pundits wrong?

My own view is that it was the power of Trump that made the difference. DeSantis was the President's man, and most voters followed his suggestion to vote for him. In the final tally the congressman won by a whopping 20 percentage points, and how much the candidates spent on their campaigns had nothing to do with his victory since Putnam outspent him by a margin of more than two to one—\$36.2 million to \$16.2 million.

Both Republican candidates opted for different strategies here in Palm Beach County. Rep. DeSantis was here often, but Commissioner Putnam stayed away for the most part. As a board member of the Judeo/Christian Republican Club, I personally invited the Commissioner to speak at one of our meetings as well as write something for this newsletter, but never heard back from his campaign. Frankly, though, I don't believe either candidate's statewide strategy mattered much. In the end, it was the President's coveted endorsement that was really the telling factor in the primary's outcome.

Gubernatorial Primary—continued on next page



Adapted from cartoons by Dave Granlund and Summers@2018Tribunecontentagency

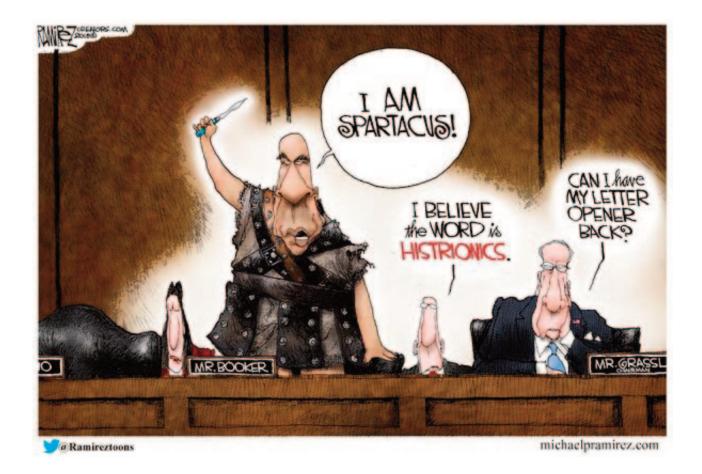
Gubernatorial Primary—continued from previous page

Another statistic from the state's primary voting was very encouraging for Republicans. Turnout for Republicans was greater than for the Dems, casting doubt on all the talk about a "blue wave" in November. "Ron will be a fantastic governor. On to November!" tweeted Mr. Trump, after learning voters had delivered on his choice for the top job in Florida.

In the donkey's race on the other side of the aisle, farleft heart-throb Andrew Gillum got the nod from the voters in a race against first-term Democratic Rep. Gwen Graham. If he wins in November, Mr. Gillum will be Florida's first black governor. In my judgment, this race is shaping up as one of the most intriguing in the country, and if successful, may represent a template for the 2020 presidential election as well. Mr. Gillum's sudden rise reminds me of Barack Obama's own meteoric assendency in 2008, so I'm interested to see if he takes the same trajectory. Senator "Spartacus" Cory Booker, grandstander-in-chief at the Kavahaugh hearings, is widely believed to have presidential aspirations also, and backing him nationally and Gillum in Florida could represent a widely-held fear among Dems that they can't afford not to energize the vote among their black supporters, where approval of Trump appears to be increasing. Philosophically, Gillum seems to be the nearest thing to Socialist Bernie Sanders this side of Washington, as does Senator Spartacus, and Republicans are licking their chops at the prospect of running against both men, but they felt the same way about Obama in 2008, so they might want to be careful what they wish for.

One avenue of attack for Mr. DeSantis is to highlight Gillum's criticism of Trump's decision to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, which might pry loose some of the Jewish voters in Florida, who represent 5 percent of the state's electorate. Recently, when Israeli troops killed a number of Palestinians trying to cross the border from Gaza, Gillum was asked for a comment and blamed both sides, which won't sit well with Jewish Americans, most of whom, like Republicans, place the blame squarely on the part of the Palestinians.

Are the Dems revealing their strategy for opposing President Trump's reelection bid in two years with the meteoric rise of black candidates such as Andrew Gillum and Cory Booker? Only time will tell for certain, but it worked once against John McCain with the candidacy of Barak Obama in 2008, and they quite plausably may have calculated that it will work again both at a state level here in Florida in November against Ron DeSantis and on the national stage in 2020 against Donald Trump.



Lobsterfest 2018 a Huge Success

This year's Lobsterfest was held on Thursday, August 9, at the Polo Club in Boca Raton. A sell-out crowd of 475 was treated to an evening that featured Dr. Gina Loudon as emcee, and keynote speaker Hon. Ben Carson. Also speaking were former Secret Service agent Dan Bongino and Rep. Ron DeSantis, a candidate for Florida's governor. Thanks to event chair Linda Stoch and her committee for their hard work in making the event once again a huge success. Photos by Carol Porter.



Dr. Ben Carson



Rep. Ron DeSantis



Left to right: Cindy Yang, Michele Merrill, Andrew Pollack, Xiaoqi Wang



Left to riht: GOP Chair Mike Barnett with Dr. Carson and David Shiner



Mary Jude Smith (left) and Ruth Field Beck



Sue Snowden and Steven Ledewitz



GOP Exec. Director Scott Maxwell with Chair Michael Barnett



Dan Bongino

Race

By Sid Dinerstein August 28, 2018

True story. I'm in the Baltimore airport this past May, waiting for my connecting flight back to South Florida. I get into a friendly conversation with this Black man standing next to me. What do we have in common? His daughter and my younger granddaughter are competitive athletes and around the same early teen age. I spoke of B's track experience. I said: "B was a walk-on at her local track club. She was an instant star. She ran first in the hundred and second in the 200 in her age (and gender) group." He had a similar experience. "M loves to swim. Before we knew it she was winning ribbons and making a strong contribution to her team." My turn: "But eventually the track meets took in a larger geographic area. And we learned: B could run faster than the little White girls but not as fast as the little Black girls." His turn: "But eventually the swim meets took in a larger geographic area. And we learned: M could swim faster than the little Black girls but not as fast as the little White girls." No hate. No bigotry. No excuses. Just two proud family members sharing a common experience.

Every "opinion" writer should cover "race" on occasion. It keeps you humble. You're guaranteed to annoy someone. And speaking of being annoyed. . . . True story number two. My elder daughter and I are at the Indianapolis Fair Chevrolet Free Stage. The performer: Anthony Hamilton, a pop/ blues singer. Not exactly my music (rock and country) but pleasant enough. My daughter, S, and I were two of about ten white audience members in a total house of about one thousand. The crowd was mature, happy and very friendly. Halfway through the concert Anthony Hamilton stopped singing long enough to lecture the audience on "respect." Uh-oh. He concluded his brief rant with: "And if they don't show you respect, you show them the fist." And he raised his right hand with a clenched fist in the air. A smattering of audience members followed suit. I just thought: "Why?" S and I didn't make it to the end of the concert. Something changed.

My point? No point. We're all individuals going through life collecting experiences and observations, often different than what the media tells us to feel and see.

It's political season in America. As the Buffalo Springfield sang in the '60's: "Battle lines being drawn. Nobody's right if everybody's wrong." The Black Democrats are currently led by celebrities like LeBron James, Michael Jordan, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Stephen Curry and Colin Kaepernick. The new Black insurgents find favor with Kanye West, Candace Owens, Jim Brown, Charles Barkley and Star Parker. It's 5 on 5 for the November 2018 political sweepstakes. The United States House of Representative and Senate are the prizes. Who do you like? Before you answer you should ask a very important question: "What's the betting line?" You see, in 2016 Hilary beat President Trump by 88 percent to 8 percent in the Black communication.



nity—and she still lost. That's the line. The insurgents get 80 points. Now who do you like?

Rasmussen says as many as 36 percent of the Black community has a favorable opinion of President Trump. Should we believe it? Will the 36 percent vote that way? The NAACP poll is at 21 percent. Black unemployment is at an all-time low. Does anybody really care? (I also saw Chicago in Indianapolis.) As I have written before: The geopolitical tectonic plates are shifting; even in Black America. Are they?

This essay is intentionally more about the questions than the answers. Will this be the year of the Black Republican? Or will it be same old, same old? We'll all find out together this November. And that will officially start the race for 2020. The Trump reelection. On your marks. Get set. Go.

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.

Supremes Deny Parents a Vote on Education Reforms

By George Blumel

UPDATE: Just before press time, it was announced the Florida Supreme Court in a 4–3 decision has removed Amendment 8 from the ballot.

our November ballot will be complicated by 12 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution. We must read and understand them to vote intelligently. Fortunately, Florida has The James Madison Institute, whose mission is to inform and educate citizens in making Florida an even better place. JMI has made a special project of providing the critical guidance on these amendments so we can cast an informed ballot.

The "2018 Florida Amendment Guide" can be accessed at: https://www.jamesmadison.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/2018_Amendment_Guide_v06_web.pdf. This guide gives the exact ballot language, tells what a yes and no vote means and gives the pros and cons of the vote. It does <u>not</u> tell you how to vote.

Given the poor state of our educational system, the reforms proposed in Amendment 8 are necessary for the future of student learning by modernizing Florida's public education system and making it more responsive to the needs of students and parents. It was one of the eight amendments voted on the ballot by the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) which meets every 20 years to attempt to keep the state constitution up-to-date. It does three things:

- Limits the Terms of School Board Members to eight consecutive years, which will allow more people an opportunity to serve and bring in fresh ideas and experiences as new members come onto the board.
- 2. Gives the State of Florida the flexibility to establish new education opportunities—charters, magnets, collegiate high schools and new alternatives to keep pace with a fast-moving world—so that our system of free public education can be more innovative and adaptive as we head through the 21st century.
- 3. It prioritizes the teaching of civic literacy in our public schools so that Florida students understand our form of government and *their* role—rights and responsibilities—in it.

Naturally, the teachers' unions would oppose any rule that might limit union membership, plus term limits on school board members would lessen union power in board elections. As they would expect voters to approve it, a lawsuit has been filed to throw Amendment 8 off the ballot.

Left-wing groups including the Florida League of Women Voters, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and a Tallahassee law firm persuaded a judge to rule that the proposal should not go before the voters using "misleading wording" as they often do to get questions tossed off the ballot when it is really to disagree with the policy being proposed. The state appealed that ruling which was passed to the Supreme Court where arguments were heard on Sept. 5 in W. Palm Beach. Two days later, the Supremes upheld the lower court decision.



"Four people in black robes just disenfranchised 13 million voters. The Florida Supreme Court majority is a group of radical political activists. They are players pretending to be referees." Nick Tomboulides, executive director of U.S. Term Limits, said in understandable frustration.

This is a blow to the future of education in our state. It emphasizes the importance of electing Ron DeSantis as Governor so conservative judges can be named to replace some of the four who deprived us of our vote on the amendment.

Staunch friend Ron DeSantis agrees, saying "I support eight-year term limits for all school board members... this proposal would bring new energy and ideas to school boards, which too often suffer from the same untamed incumbency that paralyzes Congress."

Among the leaders and supporters of 8isGREAT.org, a non-profit organization created to promote the education amendment, are Indian River School Board Chair Shawn Frost and Collier County School Board Member Erika Donalds, the main sponsor of the proposed Amendment on the CRC.

Other important supporters include former state Senate president Don Gaetz, the Republican Party of Florida, Chairman Howie Rich of U.S. Term Limits and the Urban Leagues of Miami and Central Florida. As Rich put it, "I am proud to support the work taking place in Florida to make sure education in our rapidly changing world is served by fresh ideas from citizen legislators."

In their Amicus Brief in support of Amendment 8, the Urban Leagues stated: "All of Florida's citizens deserve the opportunity to vote on whether Florida will be a state where children of color have better, more robust educational options or whether the local school districts should keep their virtually unfettered power to stifle competition to the detriment of the State and its most needy students." We know where the majority of SCOFLA stands.

A Florida Chamber of Commerce poll suggested that 75% of voters supported the measure and 11% opposed it. It would have passed. Our kids are the big losers.

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

Other State Voters Are Voting in Florida

By William J. Skinner

As part of our monitoring the voting in Florida for voter fraud, we can report on more details concerning the trouble we can expect with close elections. We now have data about the voting history of voters in Ohio and New York. Almost 1500 voters from these two states voted in the November 2016 Presidential election in both states. It is a multi-party, multi-sex, and multi-age affair the data shows.

In 206s (FL and NY) in the three counties of Broward, Dade and Palm Beach. Only Palm Beach acknowledged receipt of the data we sent them showing it had 15,947 dual state registrants. Broward and Dade Supervisors ignored our Email communications for the rest of 2016 and never acknowledged receipt of files showing 14,780 and 11,944 dual registrations, respectively. Only 948 dual voters cast ballots in Florida and New York.

That is 948 people who had the privilege and pleasure to vote for President twice in one election. These are very special people. Some of the Florida voters did not vote once.

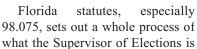
So we checked the results again in 2017 and tried to find another way to get attention of the authorities. We could not find a Florida trial attorney to take a case to court if neces-

TABLE A. Same Voters in Florida (11/2016) and Ohio (11/2016) Per Florida County.
Based on First N, MN, Last N and Date of Birth

ALA	6	GUL	0	NAS	5
BAK	2	HAM	0	OKA	4
BAY	7	HAR	0	OKE	2
BRA	0	HEN	0	ORA	36
BRE	24	HER	6	OSC	11
BRO	30	HIG	2	PAL	23
CAL	0	HIL	32	PAS	23
CHA	8	HOL	1	PIN	27
CIT	1	IND	2	POL	18
CLA	6	JAC	3	PUT	3
CLL	13	JEF	0	SAN	4
CLM	2	LAF	0	SAR	19
DAD	19	LAK	0	SEM	12
DES	1	LEE	22	STJ	18
DIX	1	LEO	10	STL	0
DUV	37	LEV	3	SUM	11
ESC	6	LIB	0	SUW	0
FLA	2	MAD	0	TAY	3
FRA	0	MAN	13	UNI	0
GAD	2	MON	3	VOL	19
GIL	1	MRN	4	WAK	1
GLA	1	MRT	3	WAL	1
				WAS	1

The above Table A gives the number of dual voters in Florida Counties and Ohio. The total number of dual registered voters found was 36,826.

sary, so we waited. We checked the voters files in FL and NY a third time in 2018 and found that most of the voters had not been removed, but remained on the voting lists, eligible to vote in November 2018.





supposed to do to keep the voting list clean when they receive "information from sources other than those identified in subsections (2)–(5)," SoEs are supposed to act with seven (7) days to notify these voters they may be ineligible to vote in Florida and are offered ways to confirm where they live and vote. Palm Beach's SoE, Susan Bucher, uses 98.075 a few times during the year, but does not use the data given to her by people like me.

This law does not provide for checking the facts of the information, probably because the statute itself operates to check the facts. So there is no legal justification for SoEs not to take action. It is obvious the SoEs believe they were not elected to obey the law.

In 2016 until 2018 Broward County SoE Brenda Snipes had lawsuits against her by the American Civil Rights Union, Republican Party of Florida, and Debbie Wasserman-Schultz's primary opponent, Tim Canova, a law professor at Nova Southeastern University. The ACRU case was decided in favor of Snipes by Federal Judge Beth Bloom and that case was appealed to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. The RPOF case turned into a "nothing burger," and Canova's case against Snipes over the Wasserman-Schultz ballots destruction resulted in a legal decision on May 17, 2018, when Florida circuit court Judge Raag Singhal ruled Snipes improperly destroyed the ballots from the primary race. This caused Governor Scott to appoint a supervisor for Snipes for the 2018 elections.

With all of this trouble getting proper attention of SoEs to votier list maintenance, we decided to ask the Florida Division of Elections to look at the FL–NY dual registration problem by filing a Florida Voter Fraud Complaint in July 2018. We are still waiting on a response from the Florida Division of Elections. It is now August 25, 2018.

But now we also have data concerning the number of dual registered voters and actual voters in Ohio and Florida. A total of 485 people voted in both Ohio and Florida, giving a total of 1,433 voters getting their vote to count twice. See the Tables A and B on the Ohio/Florida vote data from the November 2016 election. These are different people from the New Yorkers who voted twice.

Other State Voters—continued from previous page

Several Florida counties do not have voters from Ohio. In a similar chart for New York, published in an earlier newsletter, we showed all 67 Florida counties have New York double voters.

There are another 47 states we have not reported on, but you can extrapolate the totals we have to numbers large enough to capture some close races.

The prospect for a vote recount is getting higher with each election. State-wide elections and even congressional races are sometimes close, so we can expect to have delays in counting ballots from now on, unless we can persuade SoEs to use F.S. 98.075 to clean the voter lists.

The Florida legislature enacted a statute this past session to allow Florida to join a state consortium in 2019 to

work on cleaning the voter lists. But that is after the 2018 election. If this law is challenged in court by the usual suspects, we may not start for a couple of years after signing a contract.

These 1,433 dual registered voters are on the voting lists in both states. They have been there for at least two years so far. They are eligible to vote in both states. Will they vote again in both states? We can find out later, but why don't we try to prevent this from happening under F.S. 98.075 now? Do we ant the voters to control the election or will we let the Supervisors decide?

Skinner is the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee Voter Fraud Coalition Chairman. Kirk Wolak is a database and software developer in Broward County who assisted with the data comparisons.

TABLE B. Registered Voters and Nov. 2016 Voters in Florida and Ohio

County	Broward	Dade	Hillsborough	Orange	Palm Beach	All Florida
Total Registered to Vote in FL and OH Total Voted in FL and OH	2,019	1,194	2,592	2,156	1,646	36,826
	30	19	32	36	23	485

Updated August 25, 2018—Tables A and B on Presidential Election November 2016 counted in August 2018 from data received from state election officials in Florida and Ohio. —WJS & KW

Florida's First Lady Visits Fort Lauderdale





On Wednesday, August 23, Florida's First Lady Ann Scott visited Fort Lauderdale. At a breakfast hosted by the Broward Women's Republican Club, Federated, at the Lauderdale Yacht Club, Mrs. Scott spoke about her early years with Rick Scott and her time as Florida's First Lady, and encouraged everyone to get involved in his Senate campaign. The event was attended by members of the Florida Federation of Republican Women and their guests. Pictured above, left to right, are Maricel Cobitz, President of the Republican Federated Women of North Dade; Ann Scott; Michele Merrill, President of the Broward Women's Republican Club, Federated; and Rosemary O'Mara, President of the Republican Federated Women of South Florida.

I Have an Idea!

By Colonel Arthur DeRuve

My idea is for a perfect country, or one as near perfect as humanly possible to attain. To reach this ideal it would have to exceed all previous standards of all previously established governments, as it caters to the hopes, dreams and expectations of its population, in respecting the rights of its citizens. It would be, in fact, a nation in which the citizens control those who are given temporary power to make, and enforce, the rules by which this society would be functioning.

To make sure that this concept is guaranteed, two vital operating building blocks must be included in its master plan: *separation of powers* and *checks and balances*. The former, to ensure that the temporary ruling body does not exceed its authority by intruding on the rights of local populations; the latter to guarantee that no one segment of the ruling body does not encroach on the authority of its permissible duties. Such duties would be granted equally to the unit that creates the rules of governance, the unit that initiates the rules, and the unit that reviews the rules to ensure compliance with the intent of the governed.

To ensure that there be no misinterpretation of the most important underlying guarantees required by the people of this ideal nation, these should be specified and underscored. These vital specified guarantees would include, but not be limited to *freedom of speech, press, and religion*. Also included would be *the right of assembly, voting rights, the*

right of citizenship, and the right to be protected from enemies, foreign and domestic. Would such an institution work? Of course, and it has for 242 years.

Yes, clearly, my idea is neither new nor untried. A group of magnificent, noble individuals, collectively known as our nation's Founding Fathers, conceived such a civilization in 1776. So, why then am I calling



for its creation, if it is already created? Because, my brethren, its enemies are at and even within the gates with the intent of destroying it. Those gates have been tested, yet successfully defended, many times in the past. However, the *Fifth Column*, now so fully cemented within the gates present a danger our Founding Fathers feared so mightily; it calls itself the Democrat Party. On occasion it calls itself *Progressive, Liberal, Socialist, Democrat-Socialist* or even Communist!

But, I remind you of what William S. said, in essence: a Democrat Party by any other name smells equally FACIS-TIC! Hence, I will be more specific in my follow-up to this piece when I write WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE DEMOCRAT PARTY??? EVERYTHING!!!

In Memoriam: Kevin McCarty 1949–2018

Kevin McCarty, a prominent figure in Palm Beach County politics and public finance, passed away on Sunday, August 5, of pancreatic cancer. Kevin, 69, served as Chairman of the South Florida Water Management District and was on the boards of the Delray Beach Housing Authority, the Delray Beach Community Redevelopment Agency and Enterprise Florida. He was also very active in politics, serving as a Palm Beach County Republican State Committeeman for 12 years and a delegate to four Republican national conventions.

Mr. McCarty was born in 1949 in Massachusetts. An Air Force brat, he moved around the world with his parents before attending the University of Florida and settling in South Florida. Mary McCarty, his wife of 40 years, is a former Palm Beach County Commissioner and past Chair of the Palm Beach County Republican Party. She was at her husband's side when he died in their Delray Beach home. An only child, Mr. McCarty was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his wife; a sister, Mary Conklin of Winsted, Connecticut; and cousins Christine and Paul McCarty of Jensen Beach, Marie Stuart of Vernon, Connecticut, and Paul Raymond of Canterbury, New Hampshire.

A memorial Mass was held on August 17 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Boynton Beach. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Suzanne Wright Foundation, Code Purple Now for Pancreatic Cancer Research, www.suzannewrightfoundation.org.



Talking Points: The Case of Hillary and the Chinese Hackers By Larry P. Horist

Imagine! China spying on America—maybe Hillary should have gotten a briefing??

The *Daily Caller* has set off another who-do-you-believe controversy. It AGAIN raises questions about emails and other classified information on former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's server—or is it servers?

Just when the elitist east coast media had me convinced that the only hacking threat was from the Russians, we now have the Chinese. If you follow their coverage, you might be inclined to believe that the Russians are responsible for the algae bloom off the coast of Florida, the forest fires in California and the hurricane that struck Hawaii.

The *Daily Caller* report opens a frightening possibility—that there may be other naughty nations that are also trying to mess with the United States. What about Iran, North Korea or the principality of Liechtenstein? This time, however, the alleged culprit is the Chinese Government. Actually, the accused is a Chinese company, but in such authoritarian nations, that means the government.

Imagine that! The Chinese spying on us. If you can accept that premise, you might even think Senator Diane Feinstein could have a Chinese chauffeur for 20 YEARS who turns out to be a spy. Oh, she did? Well, you can't blame her. An old white woman having an Asian chauffeur is a status symbol in trendy California. If it was an old southern lady, it would be a black chauffer like the one driving Miss Daisy in the movie. But, I digress.

According to the *Daily Caller*, an unnamed company located in Washington inserted a code into the Clinton server that sent electronic copies of all her emails in real time—as opposed to what? Artificial time?

The report said it involved the Secretary of State's "personal server" which, according to the published article, was kept in Clinton's home in New York. Huh? I thought her private server was kept in a bathroom closet in Denver. I also recall reading that Hillary took on the role of a cyber Lizzie Borden and gave that server 40 whacks. She must

have more servers than a five-star restaurant.

According to Congressman Louis Gohmert of Texas, the Intelligence Community Inspector General (ICIG) declared that virtually all of Clinton's email had been forwarded to "a foreign entity." One of those ubiquitous unnamed sources in the *Daily Caller* story is quoted as saying,



"ICIG, investigator Frank Rucker and attorney Janette McMillan, met repeatedly with FBI officials to warn them of the Chinese intrusion."

Even though the server in question was Clinton's private server, we know from sworn testimony that it did contain both sensitive and classified information. And we also know that recipients of her emails had their accounts hacked.

One can only imagine how quickly the FBI sprang into action upon getting the ICIG report. But noooo. Among those briefed on the potential security breach was Clinton fixer Peter Strzok. He was the fellow, if you recall, who was fired from the FBI for his avowed hatred for Donald Trump and his biased loyalty to Hillary. It was a bias so deep that the Justice Department Inspector General determined that it influenced his behavior.

Apart from assuring his FBI colleague and part-time paramour, Lisa Page, that he and others at the FBI had an "insurance policy" that would prevent Trump from becoming President, Strzok was accused of abusing his position to protect Hillary from prosecution.

So now, we have another issue of an alleged security breach of the first order involving Hillary's improper use of secret servers—and it winds up in the hands of Strzok & Company. A "company" that includes the resigned Lisa

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Page, the Trump-fired James Comey (on recommendation of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein), Andrew McCabe fired by Attorney General Sessions, and now we have Bruce Ohr popping up in the controversy.

These guys (and gal) were all operating like a partisan cabal, protecting Clinton and going after Trump. How each of these characters fit into the Chinese spying story is yet to be determined, but they did seem to—if you will pardon the expression—collude with each other over most matters.

All this now comes into play in the Chinese edition of Spygate. The official FBI position remains that they have found no proof that the Chinese had hacked into Clinton's server. That was not the original opinion offered up when things were not so controversial. Way back in 2015, the FBI advised the Department of Justice that classified information on the server may have been obtained by a foreign government.

Also, we should not take too much comfort from the more recent FBI's statement that they found no evidence of hacking of the Clinton server by the Chinese, or any other foreign interest. It was also stated that hacking could take place without leaving a trace—and that the Chinese were adept at doing just that. In his own sworn testimony, former FBI director said that while they did not uncover any "direct evidence" of hacking, he could not rule out the possibility that there was hacking. He said:

Given the nature of the system and of the actors potentially involved, we assess that we would be unlikely to see such direct evidence. We do assess that hostile actors gained access to the private commercial email accounts of people with whom Secretary Clinton was in regular contact from her personal account. . . . She also used her personal email extensively while outside the United States, including sending and receiving work-related emails in the territory of sophisticated adversaries. Given that combination of factors, we assess it is possible that hostile actors gained access to Secretary Clinton's personal email account.

But wait! Back in 2015, it was reported that a forensic examination of the Clinton server did reveal coding that kicked out her emails as "courtesy" copies. And where, pray tell, did they go? According to reports at the time, they went to a Chinese company that was known to gather intelligence for Beijing. The company has not yet been named, but I do not think that they were in the business of making fortune cookies.

So, what do we know for sure? Not much. But, we can read the Chinese tea leaves. China has a very sophisticated intelligence operation directed at the United States—even better than the Russians. There is a reasonable chance that Clinton's server has been hacked and the hackers got a lot of information—including classified stuff.

That possibility should, at least, trigger a series of investigations by Congress and the intelligence community. We cannot just rely on Clinton protestations or the FBI's lone conclusions.

There are those who argue that we should not be going back to the past. It is somehow unseemly. Of course, those are the same people who have been happy to dredge up Paul Manafort's decade-old business relationships, Michael Cohen's past financial dealings and just about everything to do with Trump since he reached puberty.

It is just an opinion, but I am betting the Chinese did it.

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

Mort's Meanderings

We all came from someplace else . . . or at least, our forebears did.

Once the oath of citizenship has been sworn, they, and we, became "Americans." How lucky can we be?

The United States of America is the greatest. Let's each of us do our part to keep it that way.

Remember, "Elections Have Consequences." I think, then vote!

-MORT KUFF



The Dems' Big Problem

By Alan Bergstein

It's Tuesday morning, and I know what my progressive neighbors down here in South Florida are doing this very moment. They're fumbling crazily through the financial section of the paper or logging on to their computers to find out how much more they're worth today than yesterday. With the market at an all-time high, their pensions, IRAs, 401(k)s, and other market-based investments are soaring, but in the backs of their straight-edged, angled brains, they know they're not supposed to be happy. They try as they may to erase the knowledge that it's Trump who has made them paper-rich beyond all dreams. They were warned by such geniuses as Paul Krugman and Robert Reich that a Trump presidency would cause the sky and markets to fall, that our streets would be filled with wretched, smelly homeless, that we would be, by now, experiencing mind-blowing Grapes of Wrath-like poverty. A Trump presidency? Madness and mayhem would occur. So look at the figures as of late August 2018.

The Dem leadership, who still put their tongues to the backs of peel-off postage stamps, geniuses like Hillary, Pocahontas, and Mad Maxine, know what's happening. Their job is to keep touting the horrors facing us if their zombies don't take it to the streets and taunt the hated law enforcement Nazis to mow them down. Remember: blood in the streets equates to more Democrat votes. My neighbors know they are being coaxed, prodded, and pushed to vote into office the new breed of progressive, socialist Democrats. They know deep inside that the likes of the know-nothing new Dem members of Congress, the kid from Queens, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Muslim radical Ashida Tlaib from Michigan, would spell financial disaster for them, but they have the required (D) after their names, and that's all they're supposed to consider. But . . . and it's a big "but". . .

The Dems, who not too many months ago touted Venezuela as the nation to emulate. The Dems, who claimed that Trump's new tax plan only put peanuts in the working man's pockets. The Dems, who claimed that Trump's taunting of North Korea's baby-faced leader would result in nuclear carnage. The Dems, who prophesied that Trump's tariffs would doom our economy. The Dems who put all their marbles on outing Trump's collusion with Russia. What have they accomplished? They are batting .000.

The crushing prosperity that followed Trump into office is killing the communist-Marxist-Progressive movement. The new dominance of the USA over the rest of the world is making us great again. These accomplishments of Trump (fool, liar, idiot, traitor) are dooming the Democrats. They are running helter-skelter in all directions in hopes of toppling our president. They openly call for his assassination. They appear, at this time, to be drifting in the wind. They are leaderless. Who knows who calls the shots? They are a wild pack of dogs without a leader to pull the sled.

My neighbors, way in the backs of their heads, know this. They see the rainbow of prosperity for them and their kids. They realize they've been led by the nose for too long. They understand the black and white arithmetic of their investment balance sheets. Will they continue to vote against their own interests, their grandkids' futures, sacrifice the safety, security, peace of mind, and confidence in which they are now basking? Who knows? Stupidity runs deep. All we can do is hope for them to recognize the miracle taking place before their very eyes.

Alan Bergstein is president of the Judeo/Christian Republican Club of Palm Beach County. This article was picked up by the American Thinker Blog on August 29.

Lost in Space

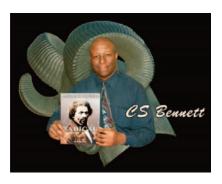
By CS Bennett

First Man is a movie that will debut soon, and with its showing has come controversy. The movie is about man's quest to go to the moon. It focuses on Neil Armstrong, the American who is the subject of the movie. He will forever be known as the first man to step foot on the surface of the moon. The decision to ignore the planting of the American flag on the surface of the moon in the film shows the obvious disdain globalists have for the United States

Though this achievement is clearly an American achievement, the movie has decided to portray this historic event as a human endeavor and achievement, rather than any one country's achievement. As always with the left, America's dominant role in science and engineering has to be downplayed, and in some cases, totally ignored. Though the producers behind this movie deny that they are dissing America, few Americans are buying it.

One of its actors, named Gosling, who is a native of Canada, defended the decision not to portray the flag-planting scene, saying that the decision was deliberate because the moon landing "transcended countries and borders." Again, we have an non-American redefining an American accomplishment through the eyes of a globalist. Again, America's uniqueness, and exceptionalism, is diminished in the storytelling. Those associated with the film make no bones about their decision not to focus on America's role in this. Truth and reality are lost somewhere in space.

Again, the left has squandered another opportunity to communicate truth, but decided instead to use this opportunity to diminish America's role in history. We are talking about a young country that, in less than two hundred years as a constitutional republic, became an economic, scientific, and military juggernaut. Sure, a lot of our success in space, and advances in rocket engineering, came about after we brought German scientists and engineers to our shores after



WWII, but they became American citizens and worked for the American cause.

In closing, the hatred of America by those who envy it, never seems to end. These are the same people, and the very movement, that says there are no singular winners, that everything should be about the world view they are espousing. Well, that is like celebrating Black History Month and totally ignoring the very party that legalized, and institutionalized, slavery in the South and made it a way of life (that would be the Democrats), and even more so, never giving due credit to the very political party that fought to end slavery inside the halls of Congress and on the bloody battlefield (that would be the Republicans).

I do not know about anyone else, but I have no interest in seeing this film, no matter how much the term "a right to artistic freedom" is bantered about. In my book, no one has the right to bastardize the truth. No one. . . . And as a proud American, I am not standing for it.

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

The Abrams Agenda

Palm Beach County Commissioner Steven Abrams



Dealing with Iguanas

Many residents in South County (including myself) are experiencing ongoing problems with the growing population of iguanas. I recently met with officials at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) to discuss the problem. The bottom line is these pesky creatures are here to stay and we must learn to live with them. Unfortunately, they reproduce in large numbers and can wreak havoc on our property.

There is a lot of helpful information on dealing with these pesky creatures provided by the FFWCC at their website. Here are some recommendations on discouraging Iguanas:

- Never feed iguanas.
- Keep a water hose ready and available to spray basking iguanas on pool decks or boats.
- A startling noise will also create an unwelcome atmosphere for a sunning iguana.
- Hang CDs near seawalls or dangle them like wind chimes from trees or prized plants. Their reflective surfaces often scare away iguanas.
- Protect plants with cages or screen enclosures.
- Use iguana-resistant plants such as citrus, milkweed, pigeon plum, oleanders, coonties, etc., in your landscape.
- Avoid planting iguana favorites such as hibiscus, orchids, impatiens, roses, garden greens, melons, etc.
- Remove protective cover such as dense thickets and piles of landscape timber or rocks.
- · Fill vacant burrows with rocks.

This FFWCC link provides additional information on removal, deterrents and prevention of iguanas. Also, online are the following links for local trappers:

www.animalrangers.com/palm-beach-county/iguana-removal.html

www.wildliferemovalservicesofflorida.com/ www.iguanacatchers.com/service.html www.iguanacontrol.com/ www.nuisancewildliferangers.com/ www.trutechinc.com/

Please feel free to contact the FWCC Regional office at 561-625-5122 to speak with a wildlife assistance biologist or an exotic species biologist.

Getting Ready for the November Ballot

The November ballot will feature a total of 13 Constitutional Amendments. Eight of the amendments were approved by the state's Constitution Revision Commission, which meets every 20 years, and combines several issues

in each ballot question. The remaining five other measures include three approved by the Legislature and two approved in petition drives.

The amendments proposed by the Legislature include an expansion of the homestead property-tax exemption and a requirement for two-thirds votes by future legislatures when raising taxes or fees.

The County projects passage of the increased homestead exemption will result in a \$27 million hole in the budget with similar losses to the city budgets.

To be approved, each amendment must receive 60% of the vote.

Amendment 1—Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption

To increase the current homestead exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000. This exemption applies to the portion of home's value between \$100,000 and \$125,000 and would exclude schools district taxes.

The amendment could save property owners a few hundred dollars a year, but will have a substantial adverse effect on local government budgets including the county, cities, and other entities such as libraries and fire rescue. Consequently, local taxes may be increased to offset the loss of revenue.

Amendment 2—Limitations on Property Tax Assessments

Creates a permanent 10% cap on annual non-home-steaded parcel (both residential and non-residential properties) assessments which was set to expire on 1/1/19.

Supported by the Florida Association of Realtors. According to the Property Appraiser, if the amendment fails, approximately \$28 million in unrealized tax revenue for Palm Beach County would be added.

Amendment 3—Voter Control of Gambling in Florida

This citizen-initiated amendment, gives Florida voters the exclusive right to authorize casino gambling. Currently, the authority rests with both the Legislature and voters through constitutional amendments. Over the years, gambling bills have failed repeatedly trying to make their way through the state senate and house. It also defines casino gambling (i.e., card games, casino games and slot machines) and clarifies that this amendment does not conflict with federal law regarding state/tribal compacts.

Supported by Voters in Charge, whose contributors include the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Disney, Inc.

Amendment 4—Voting Restoration Amendment

To restore the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not

Abrams Agenda—continued on next page

Abrams Agenda—continued from previous page

apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis.

This petition-driven amendment is the subject of an ongoing legal battle that is in the process of an appeal in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Reportedly, it will probably remain unresolved before the vote in November.

Amendment 5—Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees

Prohibits the legislature from imposing, authorizing, or raising a state tax or fee except through legislation which must be approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature. The bill may not contain any other subject. This proposal does not authorize a state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and does not apply to fees or taxes imposed or authorized to be imposed by a county, municipality, school board, or special district.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce and other business groups support this amendment.

Amendment 6—Rights of Crime Victims; Judges

Creates constitutional rights for victims of crime, requires courts to provide victims, their families and lawful representatives with specific rights including due process, right to be treated with fairness and respect, right to have their welfare considered when setting bail and right to be free of unreasonable delays in proceedings. It also requires judges and hearing officers to independently interpret statutes and rules rather than deferring to a government agency's interpretation.

Additionally, it also raises the mandatory retirement age of state judges from 70 to 75 years; deletes authorization for judges to complete term if one-half of term has been served by retirement age.

Amendment 7—First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits and Public Colleges and Universities

This will pull together three proposals, providing college tuition for the survivors of first responders and military members killed on duty, requiring university trustees to agree by a two-thirds super majority to raise college fees (not including tuition) and establishing the state college system in the Florida Constitution. Universities are in the state Constitution but state colleges are not.

Amendment 9—Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Also, bans the use of vapor-generating electronic devices in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions such as private residences, retail tobacco and vaping shops, smoking-permitted guest rooms in hotels; and stand-alone bars.

The oil and gas industry opposes this amendment.

Amendment 10—State and Local Government Structure and Operation

This links four proposals. It would require establishing a state Department of Veterans Affairs and create Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within Department of Law Enforcement. It would also prohibit counties from abolishing local offices such as the sheriff, property appraiser, supervisor of election, tax collector, and clerk of court. Lastly, the amendment requires the state's legislative session to start in January rather than March in even-numbered years.

Local governments are opposed because they believe the local office provision undermines the principles of home rule.

Amendment 11—Property Rights, Removal of Obsolete Provision and Criminal Statues

Removes discriminatory language related to real property rights and obsolete language repealed by voters. Deletes a provision that an amendment of a criminal statute will not affect prosecution or penalties for a crime committed before the amendment. It will retain the current provision allowing prosecution of a crime committed before the repeal of a criminal statute.

Amendment 12—Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

Expands current restrictions on lobbying for compensation by former public officers to six years after leaving office. It creates restrictions on lobbying for compensation by public officers currently in office and prohibits certain abuses of public office for personal benefit.

Amendment 13—Ends Dog Racing

Phases out commercial dog racing in connection with wagering by 2020. Other gaming activities are not affected.

There are about a dozen dog tracks in Florida and the practice has drawn criticism from animal rights advocates who assert that the practice is inhumane. The Florida Greyhound Association has sued seeking to remove the amendment from the ballot. (A Leon County judge ruled August 1 that it should be removed from the ballot, saying it misled voters. The state has appealed the decision.).

Since Palm Beach County is home to the Palm Beach Kennel Club which features dog racing, this would have an adverse economic effect on the local economy such as job loss.

New Boca Raton Offshore Reef

The county's Environmental Resources Management Department recently created a new artificial reef offshore north of the Boca Inlet in about 35 feet of water. The Boca Step Reef consists of 530 tons of limestone rock and will attract juvenile fish and marine species moving from inshore waters to offshore natural reefs. The reef was placed offshore to assist in reestablishing lost nearshore habitat.

We Must Argue as Simply as Liberals (Part 2)

By Alan J. Huber, CFP Director, Freedom From ObamaCare

Last month we discussed arguing with liberals "SIMPLY." We covered: Gay wedding cakes, separating children at border, and taxes. (*email if you would like a copy*)

The best way to win an argument or discussion is: "ASK QUESTIONS" and MAKE IT PERSONAL (about them).

Today we'll discuss arguing with Democratic Socialists (whatever that is).

THEM: We need FREE healthcare. . . . It is a human right. YOU: I agree. How much do you want to reduce YOUR paycheck so everyone receives free healthcare?

[Their eyes open wide. They will stammer something incoherently and then you answer:]

YOU: "Every country that offers free healthcare reduces paychecks to pay for it. How much of YOUR paycheck do YOU want to give up, so everyone has free healthcare whether they work or not?

DO NOT use the word "TAXES," only SMALLER PAYCHECKS.

THEM: I believe in open borders.... No one is illegal. YOU: Sounds good. What if YOUR boss wants to hire someone that just crossed over the border for \$6 an hour to do YOUR job? [KEEP QUIET. This is fun.]

Finally....

THEM: The rich need to pay their fair share. The Trump tax cuts only help the rich.

YOU: Sounds good. What percent of federal income taxes should the top 5% pay?

THEM: [They usually say 25%–35%]

YOU: That's a problem. The top 5% pay 60% of all income taxes. To be fair, YOU will need to receive a smaller paycheck.

Stop arguing and start asking questions. IT'S FUN! (tax link if challenged: https://taxfoundation.org/summary-latest-federal-income-tax-data-2016-update/

Email me with YOUR questions and I will send you an answer. I promise.

Alan J. Huber is a Certified Financial Planner™ and Director of Freedom From Obamacare, which advocates for more options for those hurt by Obamacare as well as offering alternatives to Obamacare policies. Call 855-561-0500 or Alan@FreedomFromObamaCare.com.

facebook.com/groups/FreedomFromObamaCare/

Mort's Meanderings . . .

Joined the Navy on December 12, 1944 and was in special Combat Aircrewman training to take my place as an aerial gunner in the top turret of a Navy aircraft. Fortunately for me, I had already completed Aviation Ordnance and Radar schools and was just two weeks from graduating 'Gunnery' and receiving my Aircrew wings, when the B-29s from Tinian Island dropped the two atomic bombs over Japan—ending the War in the Pacific. WWII was over. The program in which I was in training was closed and I was re-assigned until being honorably discharged in May, 1946.

On December 5,1998 having just moved to Florida, I attended a Stamp Collectors Show in Boca Raton. At that show, Col. Paul Tibbets (pilot of Enola Gay, the B-29 that dropped the first bomb over Hiroshima) and Major Tom Ferrebee (the bombardier who actually dropped the bomb) were signing their new book, *Return of the Enola Gay*. I bought copy No.401/1500 that already was signed by Col. Tibbets (pilot), Major Tom Ferrebee, (bombardier), Captain

Dutch Van Kirk (navigator) and PFC. Richard H. Nelson (radio operator) of the B-29 that dropped the A-Bomb.

I asked Col. Tibbets and Maj. Ferrebee if they would be kind enough to sign my book, again. Col. Tibbets said, "Of course." He asked my name and he signed, "For Mort—best wishes 12-5-1998." Then Major Ferrebee signed his name. I was wearing my NAVY baseball cap and Col. Tibbets asked, "What did you do in the Navy, Mort?" I told him that I was in training as a Navy aerial gunner Combat Aircrewman and would have been sent to the Pacific for the invasion of Japan—and I was grateful to him for ending the War. He thanked me for my service and then, both he and Tom Ferrebee saluted me.

I returned the salute and damned near fainted on the spot. As long as I live, I shall never forget that unexpected encounter with these two icons of World War II, American history.

—MORT KUFF, S 1/c USNR V6 veteran of WWII

News from the Palm Beach County Republican Clubs

Republican Club of the Palm Beaches August Lunch Features Array of Primary Candidates

By Fred Scheibl August 24, 2018

Six days before the election, our candidate roundup had a pretty good lineup, including four who are running in state-wide races.

Matt Caldwell. For the position of Agriculture Commissioner, Fort Myers resident Matt Caldwell made his pitch. Currently the State Representative for District 79 (Lee County), Matt spoke of his priorities of "Jobs, water and the second amendment," and his NRA endorsement. The club has hosted competing candidates Denise Grimsley and Baxter Troutman over the last couple of months.

Frank White. For Attorney General, Panhandle resident Frank White spoke of his promise to "defend the Constitution." Protecting the Second Amendment, prosecuting fraud, and using the Tenth Amendment to fight back against federal programs like Obamacare are his priorities. Frank's campaign against Judge Ashley Moody (who many of us met at the Jamboree) has turned nasty, with an increasingly strident level of negative ads.

Gene Badger. Representing the Adam Putnam campaign for Governor, we heard from Florida Agricultural Hall of Famer Gene Badger, who made the case for Adam as a businessman for Governor. This was surprising since Adam Putnam has spent most of his adult life as an elected official (eight years as Ag Commissioner, ten years in Congress, four years in the Florida House). Adam was the youngest Florida House member in 1996 at the age of 22, and the youngest member of Congress at 26.

Other Governor candidates were in attendance, including Miami resident John Mercadante and Melbourne resident Bob White.

John Mercadante. Mr. Mercadante, who describes himself as "quite a piece of work," believes the Second Amendment is "chiseled in stone." Regarding the Parkland shooting, he believes the answer lies in bomb-sniffing dogs and banning children's backpacks.

Bob White. Mr. White, who calls himself the "outsider candidate," is the chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus of Florida (RLCFL). His issues are Second Amendment related (open carry, campus carry), and he opposed the MSDHS Public Safety Act.

Dave Cummings. The only federal office candidate we had was Dave Cummings for Congressional District 18. With the theme "All is Vanity," Dave spoke philosophy rather than policy. Challenging incumbent Brian Mast, he believes he has better answers than Brian on the algae issues and the Second Amendment.

Belinda Keiser. For the Florida Senate district 25, Belinda Keiser spoke of "faith, family, and the love of country." She is interested in implementing e-verify in Florida and outlawing sanctuary cities. Belinda is facing Gayle Harrell to fill the seat vacated by Joe Negron.

Farther south in House District 89 to replace term limited Bill Hager, we heard from Matt Spritz and Mike Caruso.

Matt Spritz spoke of his extensive public policy experience as legislative aid to representative Bob Rommel (Naples). He described a long list of endorsements by public officials.

Mike Caruso. Mr. Caruso, a CPA, is focused on education ("stop testing so much"), and ending sanctuary cities.

Rick Roth. Also speaking was one candidate on the November ballot but not in the primary—HD85 Representative Rick Roth. Describing President Trump as an "Evangelical Populist," he speculated on a possible "red wave" in the fall. For that to happen, though, we need to get out there and talk to the NPAs, convincing them to vote for Republicans.

Sid Dinerstein. Finally, we heard from Sid Dinerstein on the Palm Beach Gardens ballot questions. Sid, a key player in getting term limits passed in 2014, spoke of the attempts by the current Council to weaken them. "The good news is that all five on the Council in 2014 are now gone; the bad news is the people on the Council that replaced them. . . ." The city was sued (by Sid and others) to invalidate the four charter questions on the March ballot, and two were thrown out. A third is being challenged on appeal. On the August ballot, the two that were thrown out have come back with different wording, but the city is running a campaign designed to mislead the voters. Sid urges Gardens residents to vote NO, NO, NO on the three questions.

Letters

Lack of Respect a National Disgrace

Dear Friends,

What is this mysterious potent virus that has contaminated the minds of ordinary Americans to make them turn into mindless haters of all things revolving around their own America, their nation? Sitting, kneeling, doing everything but show respect for the National Anthem and our flag. Schools teaching our kids that America has a shameful history. Major politicians representing the Left Half of our citizenry knowingly putting down our nation. Andy-Boy Cuomo, the governor of the great state of New York, demeaning our nation by stating to the world that our country is not and never was great. Why then did his grandfather come to this country as a legal, documented immigrant and have both his son and grandson rise to be national figures, and even Andy-Boy himself, to have a good shot at running for president? Obama, who started this whole "Hate America" madness had a visiting African student studying in this country as his father. What other country could stand up and say that their leaders do not have to be blue-blooded, royalty, of great wealth and prominence? Only in America, buddy!

Stalin and Josef Goebels must be doing a joyful dance together in the fires of Hell right now seeing that their dreams of defeating American democracy is coming to fulfillment decades after their own failed attempts at fascism. And this is happening without the use of guns or poison gas. Its modern architecture is American made, right in the heartlands of America. We have black hooded, masked young thugs throughout the country attacking peaceful citizens who have different political beliefs. They burn universities, firebomb cops, smash storefronts and intimidate without being called out by their smirking sponsors, the Progressives, Socialists, Marxists, Islamists and fascists who all hunker under the banner of the welcoming, winking and nodding Democrat Party. The mystery person who is leading that Party, be it Bernie Sanders, Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, Valerie Jarrett or Maxine Waters say not a word to put the fire hoses on the conflagration they have caused. They want more of it. Deaths through violence in the streets would hasten our downfall.

Let me end by tossing a fastball at the heads of the Liberal Jewish community. As a Jew, I feel it's my duty to call them to task for acting as useful idiots for the Radical Leftist Democrat Party with whom many so proudly goose step in solidarity. My brothers and sisters, the Party despises you. They use you for funding and votes. All to support the Palestinians who would slit the throats of every Israeli (and you) if they had the chance. The party has ignored you for years. What have they done to protect your kids and grand-kids who have no physical security nor right to speak out in defense of Jewish causes in their colleges because of Leftists who control their institutions. Your future under any Democrat administration is a bleak one. Your continued support of The Party will come back to bite you or your descendants, Guaranteed!!

—Alan Bergstein

Newsletter Editor Should Consider Retirement

8/23/18—Moments ago I received the most recent edition of "The Wire." I was enthused to think at the very least, the link to the "Newsletter" would finally have the revised edition of the REC Application. Yet no. Every time I see the application, brings me back to the time I looked for head-quarters on the 2nd floor when I submitted mine.

It's now been nearly 9 months since Headquarters moved to the 5th Floor. It's also now required on the application that 2 sponsors sign off on it. Yet anybody who prints out the app & signs it, gets it notarized, & mails it in gets rejected.

I'm ok still seeing Melania's Christmas pictures in August. I'm ok still seeing and reading the same articles and Letters To The Editor. I'm even ok that you never appear at REC Meetings, and only have cameo appearances at others. But if your role as Editor has reached it's heyday, maybe it's time for a change.

But not facilitating REC Membership is unacceptable. Get with it.

Respectfully, Tom Vaughn REC Member, Precinct# 4024

cell: 561-374-2069

8/30/18—It may be time for Tom Mullings to consider retirement from the Newsletter. The attachment to "The Wire" keeps providing NEWS from last Christmas. Also, notwithstanding my repeated request to update the Application for REC Membership, it has fallen on deaf ears.

Respectfully, Tom Vaughn REC Member, Precinct# 4024 cell: 561-374-2069

(Editor's note: I first read these two notes from Mr. Vaughn as to changes to be made to the REC Application on Aug. 23, 2018, upon my return to South Florida after attending a wedding in Maryland. The August issue of this newsletter had already been published by the time I received Mr. Vaughn's proposed changes to the application and since any changes to the newsletter can only be incorporated prior to publication, I had no choice but to wait to include said changes in this September issue, which I have done. This is what PBCRP Executive Director suggested I do in an email he sent to me. By the way, since the application I receive, from the office, is a PDF, only they can make any changes to it, and I cannot.

With regard to Mr. Vaughn's criticisms about my attendance at REC meetings, he is mistaken. I've been a member of the PBCREC for many years and attend most meetings, and it is simply untrue, as Mr. Vaughn states above, that I "never appear at REC meetings." As to his claim that I "only have cameo appearances at others," I have no idea what he is referring to. Furthermore, I work hard on the newsletter every month, feel like I've done a decent job, and have no intention to "consider retirement" as editor, as Mr. Vaughn suggests I do.)

Book Review

The Russia Hoax: The Illicit Scheme to Clear Hillary Clinton and Frame Donald Trump, by Gregg Jarrett. New York: HarperCollins, 2018. 332 pp., hardcover. ISBN 978-0-06-287274-6.

The author of this book, Gregg Jarrett, a legal and political analyst for Fox News, has been reporting on this story for many months on the network, and this is a compilation of the claims he's made on TV backed up by supporting data. A former trial attorney, he's eminently qualified to tell this sordid tale of abuse of power and the rule of law at the highest levels of our government.

To begin with, there is not one iota of evidence to legally support FBI Director Comey's launching of an investigation into Donald J. Trump in the summer of 2016, so he "deceptively labeled it a counterintelligence matter. This clever feint allowed for a covert criminal investigation in search of a crime, reversing and bastardizing the legal process. For the better part of two years, the FBI, U.S. intelligence apparatus, mainstream media, Democrats, and, eventually, Special Counsel Robert Mueller and his team of partisans, peered furiously into every obscure corner for some proof that Trump 'colluded' with Russia to steal the 2016 presidential election." President Trump has called this probe a "Witch hunt" and Mr. Jarrett refers to it as a "hoax." Both men are right.

But first Comey and his band of self-appointed saviors of the nation from the evil that was Trump, had to exculpate "Hillary Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee from the sundry crimes she appeared to have committed by storing copious classified documents on her unauthorized private computer system. Despite a subpoena to preserve her records, tens of thousands of government documents were deleted, her server wiped clean, and numerous devices destroyed." Comey and his gang, along with Clinton allies in the Department of Justice, such as AG Loretta lynch, saw to it that a grand jury was not convened and Clinton was not charged with the "inevitable multicount indictments for everything from obstruction of justice to mishandling of classified documents" she so obviously deserved. In so doing, they took her out of the "dock" where she belonged and into the running for the brass ring of the nation's highest office. "The entire exercise was a preconceived charade with a predetermined outcome."

And here's a fascinating tidbit Mr. Jarrett uncovers in his book about Clinton that I'd never heard before, and explains much about why she got away with all this wrongdoing when she was Secretary of State without the American people becoming aware of it. "There was no one in authority at the State Department to oversee whether [she] was complying with the law. This would have been the duty of an internal inspector general, however DURING THE ENTIRE TIME OF CLINTON'S SERVICE, PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA NEVER NOMINATED ANYONE TO

FILL THE POSITION. THIS WAS LIKELY A DELIBERATE ARRANGEMENT FURTIVE-LY NEGOTIATED BY CLINTON. ANY OTHER EXPLANATION WAS IMPLAUSIBLE" [!] [emphasis mine].

This allowed Comey and his gang to pursue the phony case of "collusion" against Trump and they used as evidence the infamous "dossier" secretly funded by the Clinton campaign, a fact



hidden from the FISA court they took it to, who granted a warrant to spy on the Republican nominee for President of the United States.

As readers of this newsletter know, I've been following this story for many months, and no one does a better job of analyzing what happened than Mr. Jarrett in his fine new book. This is the greatest political scandal of our lives and no one knows that better than the liberal mainstream media who, irresponsibly, won't give it the full-court coverage it richly deserves, because of the damage they fear it will do to the Democratic Party and the left-wing hopes and dreams they all share for America. Consequently, many millions of Democrat voters in the country are oblivious as to the true facts of this scandal and to this day are still off chasing Trump/Russian collusion moonbeams instead. Republicans would do well to absorb Gregg Jarrett's book, The Russia Hoax: The Illicit Scheme to Clear Hillary Clinton and Frame Donald Trump, and educate themselves about what really happened in this the greatest political scandal never told in American history. No one lays out the facts better than Mr. Gregg Jarrett.

—Tom Mullings



Book Review

American Revolutionaries in the Making: Political Practices in Washington's Virginia, by Charles S. Syndor. The First Free Press edition 1965, copyrighted in 1952 by the University of North Carolina. The original was published as Gentlemen Freeholders. No ISBN was assigned in those years.

This 160-page paperback book was cited as a reference in another publication, and I was able to find two copies of the 1965 edition on Amazon.com—one in Texas and one in London. The copy I received from a Texas bookstore has a name stamp inside the front cover.

Syndor was a history professor who started teaching in Mississippi and ended up at Duke University for many years. He wrote several books about Southern History. He said he was concerned that in his day there were not many good statesmen. So, he began to study the methods used in colonial Virginia to see if they would help him find a way to improve the political candidate situation.

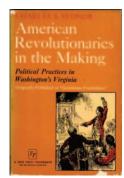
In those days, voting was done by men only, and mostly those who owned land. Syndor saw that many of the men were respected for that ability to operate a farm and manage slaves to make a living. Professional men like lawyers, clergymen, educators, and physicians were also allowed to vote if they lived in town and served the public. The Virginia Constitution mentions that voters who give "sufficient evidence of permanent common interest with, and attachment to, the community" were the kind of people who could vote.

Families that had been around for generations like Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Randolph and others had accumulated hundreds of acres and slaves and became well to do. As such, these families became part of the aristocracy. Nearly every one became a Justice of the Peace by a similar process. Nearly every one with lots of land became an elected member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. Syndor found that it was those two colonial bodies—the Justices and the House Members—that became the training ground for producing statesmen.

You could own a piece of land outside the city, and vote in the city as well as in the county where the land was located. If you taught at the College, you might have a third vote on some issues. By 1851, a man could vote in every county in which he owned land to qualify (p. 39). Williamsburg city had elected officials who operated the town, the College of William & Mary, as well as business people who were gunsmiths, wagon makers, printers, barrel makers, and other categories of workers. A man could live in one county and vote in another (p. 68).

Failure to vote could be fined and you might be reported on by informants or by a grand jury who the Justices would charge with checking the land records against the vote records. An aristocracy developed around those who were Justices and a democratic system of voter participation developed, and these were the two main training programs for statesmen.

The House of Burgesses and the Governor would set the time for voting. The Sheriff would publish notices of the election to the clergy or readers and post notices. In those days the churches participated by



commenting on the candidates when the election announcements were passed on like the weekly news program today. At polling time, the elected Sheriff would conduct the poll and voting was announced orally with the Sheriff determining how long to keep the polls open.

Candidates did not make lots of speeches, but spokesmen were chosen to promote the candidates. Candidates were at the polls on polling day to observe and thank the voters after each person voted. Candidates also had an obligation to buy a few rounds of drink and provide food for the voters, usually on voting day.

George Washington preferred dinner banquets and using the ballroom for dances with a fiddler. The farmer/General was apparently a good dancer and liked to spend time with the ladies on these occasions even though the women could not vote. Washington kept records of these expenses which he called "Sundries &ca" in his books of account. Syndor found that on one occasion when expenses were shared with another candidate, Washington made the following entry into his records: "By Cash paid Captn Dalton for my part of ye Expense at the Election Ball. £ 8, 5. 6" (p. 53).

Ethics were on the minds of the candidates in these times in that "it was said that 'we shall have no polling now" on one occasion. They could say this because it was understood that all attendees were for the "Worthy and Would'be" candidates (p. 54). These are only a few of the examples of entertainment offered at elections in those days.

The aristocracy was noted as families having land and money, but they also paid extra taxes on such things as carriages, while lowly farmers and workers went to church or town on horses or in a plain wagon. The Justices of the Peace part of the system counted about 1600 J.P.s in the 20 years before the Revolution. They all belonged to one of 55 families. There were 300 to 400 families total in what was known as the gentry. Economic and social standing was determined by the amount of property listed in the county tax books.

Syndor gives as examples the political pedigrees of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry which show that their

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fathers and grandfathers held various offices during their lives. Syndor says almost every prominent Virginian rose to prominence on his father's and grandfather's past positions in the local government.

The book contains many interesting bits and pieces of political information about the colonial Virginia time period, but none more interesting than a description of a 1770 play called *The Candidates, or the Humours of a Virginia Election*, by Colonel Robert Munford of Mecklenburg County.

Syndor cites this portion to whet appetites. "In this play one of the former delegates to the Assembly, Worthy by name, has decided not to stand for reelection. The other, Would'be, offers himself once more, 'to the humours of a fickle crowd,' though with reluctance, asking himself: 'Must I again resign my reason, and be nought but what each voter pleases? Must I cajole, fawn, and wheedle, for a place that brings so little profit?' The second candidate, Sir John Toddy, 'an honest blockhead,' with no ability except in consuming liquor, and no political strength except his

readiness to drink freely with the poor man as freely as with the rich, looks for support among the plain people who like him because he 'won't turn his back on a poor man, but will take a cheerful cup with one as well as another.' Scorned by the leading men of the county, the other two candidates, Smallhopes and Strutabout, a vain, showy fellow, are adept in the low arts of winning support of ignorant men."

I highly recommend this book for telling the tale about our early politics in the Colonies and for its insights into what amazing changes that the Founders caused to happen in their lifetimes. We can all be grateful for the gifts of freedom we have received from them.

Reviewed by William J. Skinner, a retired pharmacist/attorney, having practice in both professions for 50 or more years. He has been a member of the PBC REC since 2003 and past officer of the Central Republican Club. Skinner wrote and edited 50 monthly issues of "The Republican Wave" newsletter for this Club long before Red Waves and Blue Waves were defined. He now serves as chairman of the PBC REC Voter Fraud Coalition.



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REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

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Mission Statement

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

www.palmbeach.gop

Editor's Postscript

Tech Social Media Giants and the Conservative Algorithm Blues

By Tom Mullings

I've stopped using Facebook, and evidently I'm not the only one. According to a recent Pew Research Center American Trends Panel survey, 42 percent of users have stopped using Facebook as well "for a period of several weeks or more," and my guess is that most of them are conservatives like myself. Why? Simply put, a growing number of us on the political right suspect that social media tech giants such as Facebook, Google, and Twitter discriminate against conservative opinion, and such suspicions are not without foundation.

President Trump recently weighed in on the controversy by leveling the charge that "the Google search algorithm" is "rigged" against his administration and conservatives in general. "They are controlling what we can and cannot see," he said. "This is a very serious situation [that] will be addressed. We have literally thousands and thousands of complaints coming in. Google and Twitter and Facebook, they're really treading on very, very troubled territory. It's not fair to large portions of the population."

Answering the president's criticism, Google issued the following response: "When users type queries into the Google Search bar, our goal is to make sure they receive the most relevant answers in a matter of seconds. Search is not used to set a political agenda and we don't bias our results toward political ideology." Algorithm, as defined by the dictionary is "a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations, especially by a computer." In a book, *The Master Algorithm*, UCLA's John Villasenor defines it this way: "An algorithm is a sequence of instructions telling a computer what to do."

And therein lies the problem and the basis for conservative suspicions. In response to demands for transparency, these tech giants are refusing to make public their mathematical algorithms, which would demonstrate, one way or another, if there is any validity to charges of political bias.

With regard to right-wing censorship, conservative PJ



Media opined that its research indicated that "96 percent of the results [searches] were from left-leaning sites, with CNN receiving more hits than any other site. The only . . . right-leaning [sites] to appear in the top 100 results were Fox News and the *Wall Street Journal*." [!] Gee, what a surprise—tech social media giants run by card-carrying leftists seem to be trying to suppress conservative thought on the internet. Kinda reminds one of what's going on in the print media, TV, the nation's university campuses, and the entertainment business, where liberal elites are doing everything they can to prevent conservative political views from reaching the American public's ears.

Last July Vox said that "Twitter shadow banned some prominent conservatives by hiding their account in searches and suggestions. Shadow banning as defined in a recent article in *The Washington Times* is a "phenomenon

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in which social-media users find right-leaning content they've shared mysteriously disappearing. "Twitter denied the allegations and said there was an issue with its autosuggestion algorithm." Also recently, Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg said, "I know many consevatives don't trust that our platform surfaces content without a political bias. I want to hear their concerns personally and have a conversation about how we can build trust." OK, Mr. Zuckerberg, so how about showing us your company's algorithms and stop insisting that we take your word for it that there's nothing nefarious going on. Decades of obvious liberal bias in America's left-wing dominated media, schools and entertainment industry have taught us "deplorables" not to take your word for anything.

Twitterer-in-chief, President Trump has tweeted that "Social Media is totally discriminating against Republican/ Conservative voices," and this seems increasingly to be the case. While, trying to remain true to my own conservative political philosophy, I look askance at Larry Kudlow's remedy of additional governmental regulation. But something indeed needs to be done about this latest episode in the never-ending saga of left-wing attempts to silence conservative voices in America.

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.



As we approach the November elections, we have organized sign waving efforts for all of our Palm Beach County Republican candidates! This effort will display to everyone our enthusiasm and commitment to securing a RED WAVE on ELECTION DAY, November 6, 2018!

The Sign Waving Will Occur Every Friday from September 21st through November 2nd.



SIGN WAVING LOCATIONS:

Palm Beach Gardens

Corner PGA Blvd and Military Trail
Park in the Garden Square Shopping Center
Fridays 4:30-6:30 PM
Contact: Linda Stoch
(561) 373-0866

Jupiter/Tequesta

US1 and A1A Jupiter/Tequesta Parking at Lighthouse Park Fridays 4:30-6:30 PM Contact: Lori Layton (561) 537-0888

Lantana Road / Lake Worth

Lantana Road Library, 4020 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth
7:00-9:00 am Friday Mornings
2:00-7:00 PM Friday Afternoons
Contact: Ruth Field Beck
(561) 294-5436
ruthfieldbeck@gmail.com

US 441 & Okeechobee

Location: Corner US 441 and Okeechobee Blvd Fridays 4:30-6:30 PM Contact: Diane Cantone (561) 312-5112

Glades Rd. & St. Andrews Blvd., Boca Raton

SE Corner of Glades and St. Andrews
Park in Town Center Mall parking lot
Fridays 4:30-6:30 PM
Contact: Sue Snowden
(561) 449-3544



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 registered Republicans who live in their precinct and serve as the Party's liaison to the Republicans within that precinct. REC members are expected to maintain contact with Republicans living in their 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/or 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. YOU WILL ALSO NEED THE SIGNATURES BELOW OF TWO CURRENT REC MEMBERS. THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IS 11:00 AM, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REC MEETING.

Name:			
Address:			
City:		Zip Code:	
Home Phone: ()		Cell Phone: ()
E-mail*:			
			matter of public record under Florida law.
Profession:			Precinct #:
I am applying for the position of:	Committeeman	_ Comr	mitteewoman
Two Current REC Members' Sponse	or Signatures:		
1).	REC Precinct #	2)	REC Precinct #

Please return your REC Application to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County Headquarters, 1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 500, West Palm Beach 33401 Phone (561) 686-1616



Republican Party of Florida Party Loyalty Oath

, swear and/or affirm that during my term of

(Name of Member – Please write ch	ically)			
office I will not actively, publicly, or financia against:	ally support the election of any candidate seeking election			
(1) The Republican Party's nomine includes a Republican nominee				
(2) A registered Republican in a no apply to judicial races under Cl	on-partisan election except that this provision does not hapter 105, Florida Statutes.			
nomination of one Republican candidate over Executive Committee member unless the Par provision does not preclude me from support	ntested Republican primary election, I will not support the ranother in my capacity as a Republican County ty has voted to endorse under RPOF Rule 8. This sing in any manner my personal Republican candidate of ection, provided I do not express such support with public ublican Party of Florida.			
Signature of Member	Signature of Witness			
County/Precinct #	Date			
Office:				
Alt. Precinct Committeeman, Alt. Preci	ewoman; Precinct Committeewan, Precinct Committeewoman; inct 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 IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT * NAI					
am a candidate for the office of Prec	inct Committeeman	Committeewoman	Precinct Number,			
I am a qualified elector of	hich I desire to be nominated o	y, Florida; I am qualifi or elected; and I will su	ied under the Constitution and the upport the Constitution of the United			
	Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number (located on your voter information card):					
* Please print name phonetically on the disabilities (see instructions on page 2		e pronounced on the a	audio ballot for persons with			
STA	ATEMENT OF PARTY (Sec	ction 99.021, Florida Statute	es)			
I am a member of the	g of qualifying preceding the ge	eneral election for which				
Signature of Candidate	Telephone Number		Email Address			
Address	City	State	ZIP Code			
STATE OF FLORIDA						
COUNTY OF						
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribe	ed before me thisda	y of	, 20			
Personally Known:or		St. form of Net				
Produced Identification:		Signature of Not Print, Type, or Sta	ary Public amp Commissioned Name of Notary Public			
Type of Identification Produced:						

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