



Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—April 2019

Lincoln Day 2019 Another Huge Success

REC member Linda Stoch’s reputation as an organizational genius for Lincoln Day, the Palm Beach County Republican Party’s most important annual fundraiser is growing and seems to be nothing short of miraculous. Every year this indefatigable lady and her team set new records for the local Party’s bottom line and 2019 was no different. Profits from this year’s dinner were astounding, leaving the County GOP’s coffers overflowing with resources!

Once again, the event was held at Mar-a-Lago, President Trump’s Winter White House, and was attended by around 750 people. Though they didn’t know it upon arrival, those attendees were in for a treat that took all by surprise. Joining them for dinner was none other than President Trump himself, in town for scheduled meetings with foreign dignitaries and perhaps a little golf on his magnificent course in West Palm Beach. His eldest son, Don Jr., escorting Kimberly Guilfoyle, attended too. Also sitting at the President’s table for the evening was First Lady Melania Trump, GOP favorite, former Congressman Trey Goudy of South Carolina, and Senator Lindsey Graham, who served as keynote speaker and got a rousing response of approval from the partisan crowd when he suggested during his address that Mr. Goudy may very well become a Supreme Court justice in the years to come if a seat becomes available—a distinct possibility given the reported fragile health of justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Emceeding the event was former Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Lt. Governor Jeanette Nuñez gave the invocation. Additional guests included Mick Mulvaney, OMB Director and acting White House Chief of Staff, Proj-

ect Veritas’s James O’Keefe, and RPOF Vice Chair Christian Ziegler.

The Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Honor Guard and the Pipes and Drums Corps opened the event, Cong. Brian Mast led the Pledge of Allegiance, and 12-year-old Sofia McKee Sinco performed the National Anthem. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to former Palm Beach County GOP Sid Dinerstein, and Paula Prudente and David Shiner won the Jean Pipes Awards.

One Saturday after Lincoln Day when news outlets reported that a Chinese citizen, Yujing Zhang, “carrying a thumb drive containing malicious software,” was caught trying to enter Mar-a-Lago, telling a “club receptionist she was [there] for a United Nations Chinese American Association event later that evening—a nonexistent event,” it reminded me of an incident at the President’s house. At one point I was approached by a friendly Chinese man, who introduced himself and then handed me his business card. I’d tell you what the card said but it was written entirely in Chinese and I haven’t a clue.

Understandably with the President attending the event, security procedures for this year’s Lincoln Day were draconian and it took much longer to get into the venue than ever before. Security personnel checked cars, trunks, undercarriages and people’s possessions with bomb-sniffing dogs, mirrors, and a variety of sophisticated sensing devices that few if any of those in attendance minded.

Lincoln Day 2019—continued on next page



Lincoln Day 2019—continued from previous page

What was minded and turned out to be an aggravating capstone to an otherwise enchanting evening for those who attended the event was the apparent lack of organization when they tried to get their vehicles as they left Mar-a-Lago. My guess is that this was due to the fact that the location where people got their cars was changed this year, perhaps for security reasons, and the new location, unlike the old one which funneled people to their cars in an orderly, single-file manner, did not.

But that aside, it was a wonderful event, and truly a night to be remembered!



Sid Dinerstein, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, with Event Chair Linda Stoch and GOP Chair Michael Barnett. Photos by Marisol's Photography.



President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump sitting with keynote speaker Senator Lindsey Graham.



Palm Beach Co. GOP Vice Chair Tami Donnally with Sen. Lindsey Graham and GOP Chair Michael Barnett.



Left to right: Last year's Jean Pipes Award recipient Jane Pike with GOP Chair Michael Barnett and this year's Jean Pipes Award recipients Paula Prudente and David Shiner.



Left to right: Former South Carolina Congressman Trey Gowdy, Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney, REC Board Member Marion Frank, and Dr. David Frank.



Left to right: Kimberly Guilfoyle, Donald Trump Jr., Pam Bondi, and John Wakefield.



Lt. Governor Jeanette Nuñez with Pam Bondi.

Thank You, Palm Beach County Republican Party

By Sid Dinerstein

March 22, 2019, Palm Beach, Florida—We're at President Trump's Winter White House, the famous and fabulous Mar-a-Lago Club. There are seven hundred of us here tonight. That includes President and Mrs. Trump, Senator Lindsey Graham, Congressman Brian Mast, former Congressman Trey Gowdy, former Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi, first family member Donald Trump, Jr. and his girlfriend Kimberly Guilfoyle.

It is the annual Lincoln Day Dinner of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, always a fabulous event. Ms. Bondi is the emcee and Senator Graham is the keynote speaker. But for me the night is extra special. I'm being honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing twenty-four years of volunteer service to the county party, ten years as its Chairman.

People think that the only way to affect change is to get elected to public office. This Lifetime Achievement Award is the counter argument.

Join me as we look back at ways I've tried to make a difference: I sought out the Republican Party of Palm Beach County in March, 1995. I showed up with a check for \$500, hoping that somebody would remember my name. Surprise. I was instantly one of their largest donors. Within a year I had organized our biggest GOTV (Get Out the Vote) campaign in our history. I had a few hundred thousand "palm cards" to distribute on Election Day 1996, the Bob Dole election. These palm cards were precinct specific and covered the whole ballot. No, we didn't deliver Florida to Bob Dole. But Palm Beach County elected its last Republican Sheriff. I was organizing and learning at the same time.

By 2001 I was honored by our party with the Jean Pipes Award for grassroots organizing over many years. In late 2001 I ran unopposed for party Vice Chairman, filling an unexpired term. In December 2002 I took the plunge and ran for Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, again unopposed. Ultimately, I served five two-year terms, four of which I ran for unopposed.

I was happy. I had access, influence, and media friends who let me fill their column inches or nightly news minutes. The highlights kept coming. November 2004 was the George W. Bush reelection victory party. Close to one thousand people showed up at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, cheering our heads off until we were booted out around midnight.

A few months later about fifteen of us were meeting with President Bush's Chief-of-Staff, Ken Mehlman. We were Palm Beach County's leading Jewish Republicans. Ken asked the magical question: "What can the President of the United States do for you?" We spoke as one: "Move the American Embassy to Jerusalem." President Bush just

couldn't pull the trigger. Next comes the Vice-President Dick Cheney motorcade. How cool was that. We were like little kids, riding up Interstate 95 with just our SUV's and the motorcycle officers protecting us. The poor motorists that somehow found their way on to the highway were immediately pulled over by those officers. They were kept on the shoulder of the road until we were safely well ahead. Then there was the time the White House called to invite me (and four others) to greet President Bush off Air Force One. What an honor. President Bush came down the steps and greeted each of us. I told him I was Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. He said: "Then you have a hard job." He knew. Large county. Heavily Democratic. Yes, a hard job.

I was a floor delegate at three Republican Conventions, 2004 (New York), 2008 (Minneapolis-St. Paul) and 2012 (Tampa). The New York convention was by far the best; nearby hotels, urban transportation, and Madison Square Garden.

My best convention nights were George W. Bush and Sarah Palin. I actually gave speeches on how delegates are chosen. Trust me, if you're not a Chairman or State Committeeperson your chances are quite remote. Over the years I made two key decisions: I moved the annual Lincoln Day Dinner to Mar-a-Lago and converted those old "palm cards" to electronic precinct specific Word documents. We still call them "Sid*s Picks."

The key question is: Was it worth it? Let me quote from my Mar-a-Lago acceptance speech: "I had dinner here at Mar-a-Lago on Election night, November 2016. By the time I left that night I knew that my twenty-four volunteer years; the calls, the emails, the meetings, the checks, the fundraising, the candidate recruitment was all worth it. Because Candidate, now President, Trump would indeed Make America Great Again."

Sid Dinerstein is a former chairman of the Palm Beach County Republican Party. He founded JBS Associates, a 600-person financial service company, and currently combines politics and business with Niger Innis in Inclusive Elections LLC, a firm that brings urban electorate voters to the GOP. He is the author of *Adults Only: For Those Who Love Their Country More Than Their Party*.

This article appeared in *Newsmax* on March 27, 2019.



New House Chairs All Career Pols

By George Blumel

Article I of our Constitution outlines and limits the responsibilities and duties of Congress. Section 8 goes into the details including law-making, regulating commerce, declaring—and paying for—war, borrowing money, ensuring protections for authors and inventors, and much more. Unfortunately, the Congress has ignored its limits as evidenced by a leviathan government consisting of massive unconstitutional departments and agencies, e.g., Education. See the much-ignored [Tenth Amendment](#).

Doesn't it seem that our elected representatives would be kept busy performing their prescribed duties? Oh no! Politics comes first to career pols.

This [article](#) by our friend Larry Horist details the work schedules of the House and Senate. Here are some excerpts:

According to the 2019 Legislative Calendar, the Republican-led Senate will be in session for 158 days of the year. The Democrat-led House has reduced their time in Washington to 122 days. Surprising since the newly-empowered Democrats have been bragging about all the legislative work they must accomplish. . . .

According to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, the reduced time in Washington is out of deference to all the new members . . . next year's schedule is focused on balancing time in Washington with time for Members to conduct work in their districts and spend time with their families.

Of course, he really means fund-raising and campaigning.

Both parties' leadership require time be spent for fund-raising—or they aren't considered for chairmanships. Plus, they spend a lot of time campaigning and going on junkets. Don't forget that getting reelected is **Job #1** for career pols so that is where they spend the bulk of their time.

The serious work in Congress is done in Committees—or, it's supposed to be. Committee chairmanships are earnestly sought-after for the power to raise big bucks from lobbyists as they control which bills will be considered, what investi-

gations to undertake as part of their responsibilities.

Only Republicans have term limits for committee chairs. In the House, members are limited to a total of six years as chair or ranking member. The Democrats still use seniority to determine the chairman, therefore, they appoint "the worst of a bad lot."

You can find write-ups, or "posters," on these veterans on my blog, [Poster Children for Term Limits](#).

Here's the result of the 2018 elections when the Democratic Party won control of the House:

Intelligence Committee—Adam Schiff who, in his 20+ years of elected politics has built a reputation for dishonesty. See his [Poster](#). He wants to use his subpoena power to probe Trump's ties to Russia. "One of the issues that has continued to concern me [is] the persistent allegations that the Trumps, when they couldn't get money from U.S. banks, were laundering Russian money," Schiff said. He also said that he plans to investigate Trump's financial ties to Saudi Arabia. "Is his personal financial interest driving U.S. policy in the Gulf?" he asked. His mission is to destroy the President. And the intelligence purpose is shunted aside.

Judiciary Committee—Jerry Nadler This is the committee where the impeachment process would start. See [Nadler's Poster](#) Nadler revealed plans to impeach Justice Brett Kavanaugh for alleged perjury and impeach President Trump for collusion with Russia. There was no mention of those who did collude with Russia—the DNC, Hillary, et al.

Financial Services—Maxine Waters See her [Poster Mad Max](#). She said she intends to follow the "Trump money trail," starting with Deutsche Bank—that lends money to Trump and also does business with his son-in-law Jared Kushner—and "suspicious activity reports" filed with financial crimes officials.

Oversight Committee—Elijah Cummings His [Poster](#), along with other chairs without one now, will appear [here](#) shortly. He kicked off his part in the anti-Trump campaign being carried out by House Committee chairmen with the hearing featuring admitted liar, Michael Cohen. He promises to investigate Trump's personal finances including his hotels. The National Legal and Policy Center calls Cummings corrupt, and they have filed a complaint with the IRS—we'll report on that in his [Poster](#).

The Democrats are not taking their committees' responsibilities seriously as they are instead concentrating their resources to destroy the duly-elected president. We'll elaborate on what the other committee chairs are doing in the anti-Trump effort next month.



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



Session Update Week 4

As we near the mid-point of the Legislative Session, more bills have passed their committees and are ready for the House Floor. One bill that is now ready for a vote is HB 7065, relating to Assignment of Benefits. I’m pleased to be a co-sponsor of this good bill, because I know from hearing from many of you that it is an important issue in our state. An assignment of benefits (AOB) is a legal tool that allows a contractor, repair person, or other vendor to “stand in the shoes” of a property owner and receive the benefits under a property insurance policy for repairs to the covered property. For example, when homeowners experience water damage and contact a repair person for assistance, the repair person may have the homeowner execute an AOB so work can begin immediately and the repair person can seek payment directly from the insurance company. Since 2006, the number of lawsuits involving AOBs has skyrocketed, generally resulting in higher payouts and litigation costs. These increased costs are ultimately paid for by consumers as higher insurance premiums. The bill addresses the abuses involving AOBs and aims to protect consumers from the impact of increased litigation costs.

Last week was an exciting week in the Capitol. Children from all over the state sent decorations using their hands, and filled the Capitol Rotunda with colorful garlands. It was really a beautiful sight! Children’s groups came to advocate for their issues, and I was pleased to be able to meet with many of them. Included in the photo below is an amazing group of foster children from Florida Youth Shine. You can reach me on Twitter (@RepMikeCaruso) and Facebook (Representative Mike Caruso)—my staff posts photos during the week of the groups that come to visit. Please follow or like so that you can see more of the great visitors from home and around the state. I also had visits from our Junior League of Boca Raton and Palm Beach County League of Cities, who were here during the Florida League of Cities Days.

Remember, you can always keep up with committee meetings and session by watching www.myfloridahouse.gov. It is my honor to serve you in the Florida House. Please call (561) 750-2396 or email (mike.caruso@myfloridahouse.gov) if ever my staff or I can assist, or if you want to share your thoughts on legislation.



Double Voters in 2018

By William J. Skinner and Kirk Wolak



The “super voters” are still at it by voting in New York and in Florida in November 2018. It has taken some time to obtain and analyze the voting because New York is still a bit slow in responding. Kirk Wolak is the data cruncher who compares the two files each containing about 10 million lines each, so it is not

a snap-your-fingers-its-done type of project. This time Wolak compared a February 2019 New York file with a March 2019 Florida file.

The 2018 election was a mid-term election with lower turnout than the Presidential election. In 2016, we had many more double voters, a few dozen short of 1,000. But we are instead having more elections that have to be recounted because the votes are too close for comfort and the recount laws have to be dusted off. Florida’s legislature is amending the law in areas as this is being written. The table below gives a closer perspective to the “problem.” Keep in mind that both files are changing daily as they should be with new registrations and deletions. No two studies will be the same unless they use the same data and the same methods.

The statewide numbers by party are Democrats—102, No Party Affiliated—48, and Republicans—76. And, do not forget, there are another 48 states from which super voters may be taking advantage of us regular voters.

Depending on the State Attorney in the Judicial District where these people live there can be various crimes charged for voting twice in the same election. For example, if you voted in New York by write-in ballot and by going to the polls in Florida, you may have falsely sworn an oath that may be charged as a crime. In addition, the Federal law has provisions applicable against voting twice in the same election. You can read 344 pages of law violations in *Federal Prosecution of Election Offenses*, Seventh Edition, May 2007 that can be downloaded at: <https://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/criminal/legacy/2013/09/30/electbook-0507.pdf>.

But the biggest deterrent to voting twice is for Supervisors of Election to follow the law on cleaning voter registration laws which will keep most of these double voters out of elections where they are not supposed to be. Unfortunately, some Supervisors of Election have never held a hearing under F.S. 98.075 to determine whether the voter is

eligible to vote when we have given them data to support them taking action.

With the Broward and Palm Beach Supervisors recently being suspended and now retired, they will never get a chance to learn how this law is supposed to be used. Neither county used this Florida law in the past few years. Palm Beach County has not been asked for a hearing in the past two years. However, both Counties have new Supervisors who are lawyers, so they can figure out what the law says and use it. No excuses.

To help the Supervisors get started, here are some questions they should consider asking at a 98.075 hearing:



Sample Questions for Voter Who Voted in Two States in the Same Election

[For use at hearings by SOE under F.S. 98.075.]

[Such hearings will require a court reporter or]

[recording device to preserve the record for any review or appeal granted.]

What is your full name? First? Middle? Last?

What is your date of birth?

Are you aware of any other person having the same name and birthdate?

Do you know anyone who would claim to be you in Florida or (in other state)?

What is your current, complete, Florida address?

When did you register to vote in Florida?

When you registered to vote in Florida were you registered to vote in any other place?

How did you register to vote in Florida on (date when registered)?

What was your complete address in (the other state[s] just named)?

Were you registered to vote in (other state[s] just named) at the time you registered to vote in Florida?

Do you know anyone who lives at (other state address)?

Have you ever lived at the (other state address)?

Did you vote in Florida and in (other state) in the November 2016 federal election?

Double Voters—continued on next page

	County					
	Broward	Dade	Hillsborough	Orange	Palm Beach	All Florida
Total Voted in Nov. 2018	31	26	23	31	22	226

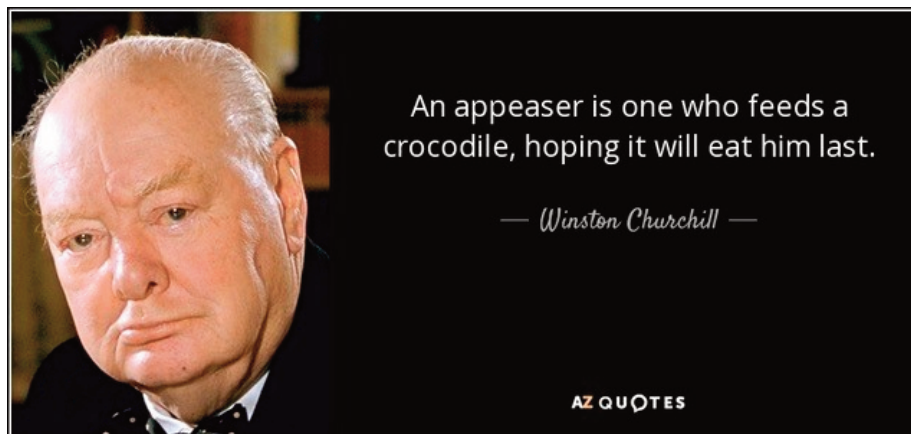
Double Voters—continued from previous page


- Did you vote in Florida and in (other state) in the November 2018 federal election?
- Did you vote in Florida and in (other state) in any other federal election?
- When you registered to vote in Florida, by what manner did you register?
- Do you have any other information that you want to give that indicates you have not voted in Florida and (other state) in the same national election?
- Do you swear and affirm that the answers you have given at this hearing are true and correct under penalty of perjury?

In summary, what needs to happen is that the SOE for each county that receives our information about these super voters is for the SOE to issue a hearing notice and see if anyone wants a hearing. If they do not respond, the law says

the SOE can take them off the voter rolls. If anyone asks for a hearing, the SOE gets them into the office, asks the questions, and makes a decision as to whether they are eligible to vote in Florida. This is not rocket science. The law has been on the books since Susan Bucher was in the Legislature. SOEs should not be intimidated by these hearings. The procedure must be started as soon as possible to be completed before the deadline in the summer of 2020 to meet statutory and court orders.

William J. Skinner is a retired pharmacist and attorney who represented the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in Washington, D.C, and served that client as the Co-chairman of the Coalition for Health Funding (a large group of health professions organizations and disease associations) for several years to help the Congress and Administrations develop the health care budgets during the 1970s. Since retiring in 2003, Skinner has participated as an elected member of the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee.





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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.gov

What a Fly on the Wall in North Korea Observed!

By Arthur DeRuve, Col. (Ret.), USAR

When President Trump walked away from his meeting with NoKo leader Kim recently the Asian ruler nearly exploded. All of his advisers had assured him that this would not happen. He was told that not having gotten everything he wanted at their first round of talks President Trump could not politically suffer a second "failure." Kim, his staff promised, could make any demands of the U.S. and they would be accepted, no matter how outrageous. Why? Because that is the way it has mostly been with American presidents in the past—fearful of repercussions from opposition politicians at home. What a surprise when this POTUS didn't act according to the supposed script.

Of course, our left-wing Speaker of the House did fall into line as our enemy had hoped, by ranting as to how Kim played the president for a fool, but to no avail. President Trump ignored the ranting by saying he would not only leave the talks, but would also increase the sanctions on NoKo. Instead of mimicking the failures of past presidents, President Trump remembered President Reagan's walkout from his talks with USSR Premier Gorbachev. Then too our left-wing Democrat Party screamed about our presi-

dent's incompetence, only to eventually see Reagan's action to be the beginning of the Soviet Union's downfall and eventual dissolution. I wonder about how many of Kim's advisers are now shoveling dirt in one of his "rehabilitation" camps throughout his country.



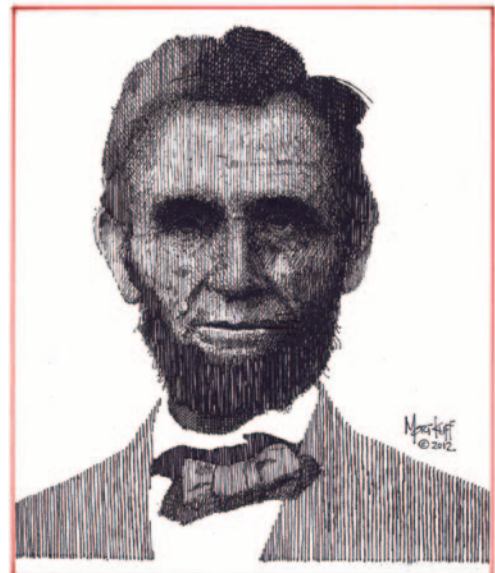
Could you imagine what our left-wing fascists in this country would have said if President Trump had followed the precedent set by the incompetent Obama? If he had, say, given Kim millions or billions of dollars in exchange for mere promises to behave properly in the future—like giving up his nuclear capabilities? Of course they would have, in their own twisted reasoning, claimed that Trump did badly by taking a ruthless dictator by his word, but that Barack Hussein Obama did good by taking the word of the leader of the nation sworn to kill Americans and to wipe Israel off the face of the earth. Thank goodness it was DJT and not BHO doing our negotiating. Thank goodness for us and our future generations. Yes, we had representing us the greatest president in the last 100 years—our protector, America's protector, the protector of all freedom loving people around the world. His message is clear: I will talk to anyone to preserve peace for the world, however if you do not talk with sincerity I will no longer listen.

Well, Kim did not do the talk sincerely, so President Trump promptly did the walk. How unpolitician-like. Even the fly on the wall was surprised. For this we salute him!



Mort's Meanderings . . .

Well Folks, here we have at long last, a President who tells us what's on his mind, tweets it, talks about it, does not dodge questions, gives full and complete answers to questions from the working press, says it like it is, uses occasional profanity, salty language, doesn't hold back, calls people names, names names, faces the press and responds to each and every inquiry but, will not be bullied by 'gotcha' reporters, and he is a Chief Executive who will not be trapped into responding to arrogant reporters who display their utter contempt for the President by their ill-mannered behavior. Mort Felt © 2019



“The Backhoe Chronicles”

*By Peter Feaman
Florida National Committeeman*

The RJC Welcomes President Trump

April 6—Greetings from Las Vegas, where the annual meeting of the Republican Jewish Coalition is taking place, and what a meeting it has been!

Last night we heard from our own Governor Ron DeSantis, Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts.

This morning we got in the security line very early to welcome President Donald Trump, preceded by Congressman Lee Zeldin, GOP Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Congressman Billy Long from Missouri, father of slain Stoneman Douglas High School student Andy Pollack and RJC National Chairman, former Minnesota Senator, Norm Coleman.

President Trump was given numerous standing ovations by the largely Jewish crowd as his achievements supporting Israel were recounted, as well as all of his other considerable achievements in only 2 and 1/4 years of the Trump Administration.

This afternoon did not disappoint, as we heard from Vice-President Mike Pence, Senator Lindsay Graham and Senator David Perdue from Georgia, among others.

The focus is on November 3rd, 2020. All hands on deck . . . our ship of state must keep sailing in the right direction!

Chaos Reigns on Our Southern Border

April 2—While delusional Democrats continue to live in denial and put politics ahead of national sovereignty, even

CNN’s Chris Cuomo finally admits there is a crisis on the border.

CNN host Chris Cuomo last night said there WAS a border crisis, acknowledging that there have been more border crossings in the last month than there have been during any month in the last decade!

Cuomo hosted his show, “Cuomo Prime Time,” from the U.S.–Mexico border in Hidalgo, Texas, where he talked about how U.S. immigration law was negatively affecting the role of border agents and forcing them to free apprehended illegal aliens into American communities.

“The numbers tell you the story. There are believed to be more crossings in just the last month here than any month in over a decade,” Cuomo said. “As I said, here in Hidalgo, Texas, in the Rio Grande Valley, this is the hot spot. Right behind us is Mexico. It’s actually this weird area where Mexico is actually north of Texas, the way the land bends around. The authorities say they have never faced the combination of threats, challenges, and federal inaction that they are facing right now.”

Democrats . . . please . . . just for once . . . put aside your anger and resentment that you LOST the election . . . and DO YOUR JOB . . . protect the American people, your children and your grandchildren. Build the wall!!!

Peter Feaman is Florida’s National Committeeman, representing the State of Florida on the Republican National Committee. His “Backhoe Chronicles,” a commentary on draining the swamp, appears on Facebook.



Talking Points:**Shifty Schiff Needs To Do Some 'splaining*****Two years, more than 40 agents, \$35 million, and he still doesn't believe Trump is innocent*****By Larry P. Horist**

President Trump, and a number of Republicans in Congress, have called Congressman Adam Schiff to resign for lying. Lying, however, may be second only to hypocrisy as the top two characteristics of the political class. If every member of Congress had to resign for lying, the House and Senate would look like it does during summer recess.

But, on the other hand, there are lies, and there are LIES.

As the one-time ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee and now the chairman of that Committee Schiff has had a powerful platform from which to espouse his opinions—and he has done so frequently. In fact, he is one of the favorite congressional spokespersons for the liberal media.

No one—not even Judiciary Committee Chairmen Jerry Nadler—can surpass Schiff for the vehemence of his attacks on President Trump. He has not only proffered his dubious opinions about Trump's involvement in criminal collusion, obstruction of justice and shooting up the mosque in New Zealand, but he said he saw the proof. He had, in his possession the proof—excluding the Mosque shooting, of course.

No one has more egg flung in their face than Schiff when it was reported by Attorney General Robert Barr that Special Counsel Robert Mueller concluded that there was no evidence that Trump, his campaign or any American had colluded with Russia. That was a VERY broad exoneration, indeed.

One can only imagine what Schiff thought when he first heard the report. Personally, I see Schiff speechless—his eyes wide open in an otherwise emotionless face. His mind immediately racing to seek a credible exit ramp for his months of mendacious statements, his bogus claims and now provably false accusations.

Whether Schiff realizes it or not, when he claimed that he had seen evidence of collusion and obstruction, he was putting his reputation on the line with everyone—Trump supporters, independents and even those Democrats who still had not lost all integrity and objectivity.

Schiff's were lies of monumental proportions because of his position and the gravity of the claims. He was saying

that HE, Adam Schiff, had seen proof that the President of the United States had been guilty of colluding with a hostile foreign government against the best interests of the people of America. He had the evidence, he said.

Apparently, it was evidence that Mueller could not find despite spending the better part of two years and some \$35 million of taxpayer money in search of. Schiff would have us believe that with such evidence in hand he did not turn it over to the Special Counsel?

Well, just based on what we do know, we can be pretty confident in saying that Jussie Smollett was guilty has Hell of setting up his own mugging and Adam Schiff was politically prevaricating to the extreme when he claimed to have the goods on Trump.

Should he resign? I really do not have an opinion on that. I do not care.

First of all, he is not going to resign. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will not even ask him to resign his seat in Congress. She could remove him from the chairmanship of the Intelligence Committee. That would certainly seem appropriate. But even that is unlikely.

After all, she did not even remove Congresswoman Ilhan Omar from the Foreign Affairs Committee after her disparaging anti-Semitic remarks regarding Israel and Jews. Senator Richard Blumenthal did not even get criticized for his valor-stealing lie about fighting for America in Vietnam.

Even if Schiff does not resign, he should be questioned by the media to explain himself—to explain all those false accusations and claims. But in all probability, FOX News is the only outfit that would ask the tough questions and he is



Talking Points—continued on next page

Citizens for National Security Seminar— The Iran Threat: How Grave Is It?

Once again on March 24, 2019, I attended yet another superb seminar sponsored by the Citizens for National Security at the Broken Sound Country Club in Boca Raton. This month's presenter was Fred Fleitz, President and CEO of the Center for Security Policy, who was Deputy Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to National Security Adviser John Bolton. He has served in U.S. national security positions for 25 years with the CIA, DIA, Department of State, and the House Intelligence Committee staff. Fleitz is the author of *Peacekeeping Fiascos of the 1990s* (2002), *Obamabomb: A Dangerous and Growing National Security Fraud* (2016), and *The Coming North Korea Nuclear Nightmare* (2018). He has discussed international security issues on FOX News, MSMBC, BBC, Sky News, al-Hurra, and The Blaze. His op-eds and articles have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *National Review*, *Investor's Business Daily*, the *Jerusalem Post*, and the *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*.

Despite promises that the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran (the JCPOA) would bring Iran into the community of nations and end its malign behavior, not only did this not happen, but Iran's behavior worsened. Calling the JCPOA "the worst deal ever," President Trump withdrew from the JCPOA after he installed John Bolton as his National Security Adviser. Ten months after the U.S. withdrawal, the major flaws of the nuclear deal, and Iranian cheating on it, became obvious and vindicated the president's decision. The Administration is now pursuing a better approach to deal with the broad set of threats posed by Iran, in concert with America's Mideast allies. During the seminar, Mr. Fleitz provided an overview of the threat from Iran in light of Administration policy and its goals.

Basically, there are two views on Iran that are competing for public approval in the United States today. On the one hand, there are those who think it best to live with a nuclear Iran and want to allow them to get the bomb. This view has been around for quite some time. It springs from the belief

that Iran can be deterred from using nuclear weapons by the presence of American and Israeli nuclear arsenals. I remember former Secretary of State Alexander Haig expressing just such a view during a keynote speech at a Republican Party Lincoln Day dinner here in Palm Beach County about 15 years ago. Opposing this point of view is President Trump's national Security Adviser John Bolton, who called for the United States to bomb Iran's nuclear facilities in 2013. President Trump obviously favors the Bolton approach, although he is determined to exhaust efforts to persuade Iran to renegotiate the flawed nuclear deal first.

To get our European allies on board with his approach to dealing with Iran, President Trump is significantly increasing financial pressure on them, giving them the stark choice of either terminating business with Iran or us. As Mr. Fleitz says, "Despite howls of protests by the Left, foreign policy establishment, and European leaders, it is now clear that President Trump's decision last May to withdraw the United States from the controversial 2015 nuclear deal with Iran was the right call and is a huge policy success. Trump's JCPOA withdrawal did not lead to war, as many critics predicted. Instead Iran is much more isolated than it was when President Trump assumed office. The United States has worked successfully to unite Middle East allies, especially Israel and Saudi Arabia, against Iran. Also, Iran's economy is under unprecedented pressure, thanks to reimposed U.S. sanctions, especially oil sanctions, with negative 1.5 percent growth in 2018 and an expected negative growth of 3.6 percent in 2019. Iran's current year-on-year inflation rate throughout January 2019 was 40 percent."

Rounding out the gloomy picture for Iranian prospects in the future, a full 70 percent of Iran's population is young. The youth in Iran hate the clerics and the draconian Islamism system of government that has been imposed on them. They want freedom and are determined to get it. They are also adamantly opposed to propping up the regime as the Obama deal did.

Talking Points—continued from previous page

not about to show up in their studio in the foreseeable future.

Because we believe in the importance of the voters when it comes to who represents us, Congress has always been a sanctuary for reprobates. Perhaps the nation is better served by allowing Schiff to be a visible bad example of how badly we the people are disserved by such dishonest political hacks as Adam Schiff.

So, there 'tis.

Larry Horist writes Tuesday and Friday commentaries for the Punching Bag Post . . . punchingbagpost.com. This article was posted on March 28, 2019, by Larry Horist, Feature Commem-

tator: 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.

S-300 Missiles in Venezuela

By Steve Leonard



Yes—things are starting to get serious in Venezuela, and I'm not just talking about the power outages which continue but are rarely reported in newspapers here.

These are pictures of S-300 rockets in their transport cases moving up the hill from the port of La Guaira in front of Caracas.

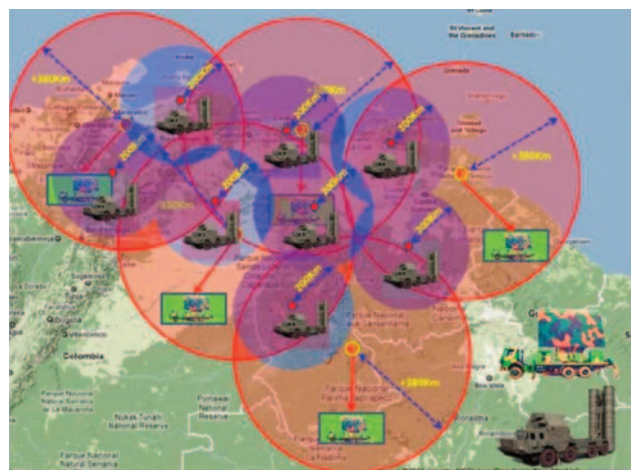
The launching platforms are already in country. These are just additional supplies of rockets. These launching platforms are located around the country with several around Caracas.

These are the same platform and rockets that downed the Malaysia Air airliner in Ukraine several years ago.

Last Saturday, March 23rd, 99 Russian soldiers and the Commanding General of the Russian Army arrived in Venezuela to assist the Venezuela army to prepare.

Venezuelans are preparing for rounds of electricity failures given that the generating power in Venezuela has been severely damaged and with each additional national power outage the equipment is debilitated even more.

The recovery from this bout of socialism is going to be very difficult and expensive. Americans take heed—when the socialists run out of money created under capitalism, they leave devastation in their wake.



Abortion and Christians Who Lean Left

By *CS Bennett*

There is the divine nature of the Almighty, and there is the earthy nature of man, two spheres that often run into conflict, even collide, when it involves social mores, natural law, politics and man's wicked ways and dark perverse desires. Few of us know the difference, though we profess to being children of the True & Living God. Many of these righteous, and well meaning, people are being duped and have no clue that they are being manipulated and used for a purpose that has nothing to do with goodwill or a higher cause.

Without thinking, or probing, these manipulated Christians align themselves with groups, and organizations, that are anti-American, anti-capitalist, and unpatriotic. They vote for people who's aims are not aligned with the principles this great republic was founded on. Why? Because they have been hoodwinked, bamboozled, and straight-up lied to. As children they have been propagandized and indoctrinated within our government-run schools, our universities, the media, Hollywood, and by corrupted and charismatic community leaders.

Yet, these good Christians go to sleep at night believing they are good stewards of the Lord, and most of them are. They believe that they have taken the high road on social issues. After all, these issues are presented in such a way that who could not feel a tugging at their heart strings and not want to get involved. Those on the Left are masters at reaching out to people on an emotional level. And that is how they disguise their true nature, intent and agenda.

But be warned, anyone who professes to love the Father, and the Son, and align themselves with any political party, or group, who value, protects and afford rights to animals more than they do to the unborn human baby, will have a difficult time explaining their cruel and murderous ways to the Almighty. Many of these unborn are slaughtered while they are still alive and breathing and can feel raw, intense and agonizing pain while screaming for help in their little minds.

Sadly, the Black community does not know that Margaret Sanger, a feminist, was the inspiration behind Planned Parenthood. She was also an avowed racist who expressed a desire to kill off the Black race via eugenics (and the abortion process). But this factoid matters not to many Black mothers-to-be for they still make their way into these human chop shops and all in the name of lifestyle convenience. So, what does the Almighty have to say about the value *He* places on the lives of children and the unborn?

Palms 127-3 reads, 'Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.' Sadly, human lives have been so devalued, and spiritually corrupted, by misguided, and sometimes unfit, parents, violent video games, gangsta rap, the media and Hollywood, that aborting a child is no more morally challenging to them than throwing a day-old salami sandwich into the garbage. Spiritually



bankrupted children are killing others because they have had little, or no, spiritual guidance.

Just imagine, for a moment, your own precious little child floating comfortably in its mother's warm and protective womb and an abortion doctor (executioner) enters the room knowing that precious baby's life is about to be snuffed out in the cruelest of ways. If you have a conscience you will feel for the 54 million lives that have been murdered in the United States since *Roe vs Wade*. The Democrat Party supports this slaughter, and they are supported by some who profess to be Christians. Again, this infanticide is being perpetrated by the Democrats not the Republicans. Like the Man of Sorrows, and the angels above, I weep for those loss souls. . .

As for the Black community, they are like Helen Keller, trapped in a world of darkness, stripped of their identities, their dignity, and a belief system. To save them we must remove them mentally, and intellectually, from their overseer's control. We do this by getting them to realize that the Democrat Party is behind many of the things the Black community abhors, such as abortion, same sex marriages, illegal migration, and overreaching government control.

How do we do this? We break it down to them in terms of spirituality and God's Law. We do that and we will see a mass exodus of Blacks from the bondage of progressive/socialist control and influence. And we have to get them to understand that liberals do not care about life, especially those inside the womb. No, it is not easy being a purveyor of truth. Still, we must all become messengers of the truth. And we begin by telling Christians on the left that aborting the unborn is unchristian and ungodly. . .

PS: Want to know the true horrors and cruelty that goes on in these human chop shops, then Google Kermit Gosnell, and if what he did doesn't change your views on abortion, you are a lost cause and a lost soul, I imagine. . .

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

Anti- Semitism on the March Globally

By Caren Besner
March 16, 2019

Albert Einstein once observed, “If my theory of relativity is proven correct, Germany will claim me as a German and France will declare that I am a citizen of the world. Should my theory prove untrue, France will say that I am a German and Germany will declare that I am a Jew.”

Why are Einstein’s words uttered some ninety years ago so relevant today? Because anti-Semitism, like some ancient bacillus frozen in Arctic permafrost and defrosted, has again reared its ugly head; not just in Europe but around the world. This “new form” of anti-Semitism claims to be different from the traditional racial and religious images. Its adherents say that they are anti-Zionist, NOT anti-Semites. But listen very carefully to what they are saying and you will hear accusations that could easily come right out of the pages of “The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.”

Just recently, in the Belgium city of Aalst, a parade took place which featured a float whose ludicrous depictions of Jews were virtually the same as those seen in the pages of *Der Sturmer*. The float featured grotesque distortions of several Jews in religious garb complete with sidelocks sitting atop bags of money with a rat perched atop one’s shoulder. It was anti-Semitism of the most virulent obscene kind that Julius Streicher himself would have been proud of. What makes this sickening display even more alarming is the official sanction given to it by the Mayor of Aalst; Christoph D’Haese, who stated that “It’s not up to the mayor to forbid such displays,” and that the carnival participants had “no sinister intentions.” No sinister intentions? I suppose one could say that Adolf Eichmann had no sinister intentions either. After all, he himself had no part in the actual killing process; he merely organized the transports to the death camps. He was just a man doing his job; no different from Mayor D’Haese of Aalst.

Here in the U.S. we have our own anti-Semitic scandal. Newly-elected Democrat Congresswoman Ilhan Omar, a Muslim immigrant from Somalia, has been tweeting a series of anti-Semitic tropes, which she has refused to apologize for or retract, and which has caused a great deal of controversy. What is extremely alarming is the inability of the Democrat Party and its leadership to in any way try to condemn, censure, or remove her from her position on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Indeed, just the opposite has occurred with Democrats from around the country, and even a number of Jews themselves, rushing to her defense. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi herself stated that “Her words were not based on any anti-Semitic attitude.” Really! Not too long ago, Nation of Islam Minister Louis Farrakhan declared, “People call me an anti-Semite. Please. I’m not an anti-Semite; I’m anti-*termite*.” One cannot help but wonder if Speaker Pelosi would say that Minister Farrakhan’s statement “was not based on any anti-Semitic attitude.”

In refusing to repudiate Omar, Pelosi and the leadership of the Democrat Party has unofficially endorsed her anti-Semitic

tweets. Their silence is deafening. Defenders of the party will point out that Congress did pass a resolution condemning anti-Semitism . . . as well as condemning Islamophobia . . . and ALL forms of hate against Hindus, Seikhs, LGBTQ’s and all people of color. But there have been

no reported statements by any member of Congress against any of the aforementioned groups, except ONE . . . Ilhan Omar’s tweets concerning Jews. What would normally in the past have been a “no-brainer” for any Democrat, is suddenly taboo in this new age of political correctness, identity politics, and radical ideology. This is an indication of how far to the left the Democrat Party has moved and attests to the nexus that exists between the radical left and Islamists.

As the Democrat Party continues its lurch to the left, and all indications are that it will—invariably becoming even more anti-Zionist and by extension anti-Semitic—inevitably it will embrace the policies of organizations such as the Boycott Divestment Sanctions (BDS) Movement. To add insult to injury, there is a motion in the UN that was introduced in January 2019 by the Palestinian Authority to reinstate UN Resolution 3379, first adopted in 1975 and later revoked in 1991. That resolution declared that “Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.” There are no other people anywhere in the world, at any time in history that has this dubious distinction. When South Sudan gained its independence in 2011, after years of bloodshed, did anyone at the UN propose calling the national aspiration of the South Sudanese to their own homeland racist? The Kurds, an ethnic group indigenous to the Middle East whose population is scattered among Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Turkey also aspire to their own national homeland, and no one has called them racist. Only Israel and the Jews have that distinction. Make no mistake: Anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism. The two terms have become conflated together. If you agree that Israel is as evil and repugnant as they say, then the only possible remedy for such a racist apartheid fascist state is its total destruction; its Jewish population either exterminated or exiled.

This is how it begins. Slowly, surely, irrevocably, methodically, step by step, removing the constraints away from what was previously thought of as unacceptable. Get the population used to seeing and hearing various forms of anti-Semitism from parade floats to rhetoric on an almost daily basis. This normalization of Jew-hatred coupled with the refusal of politicians both here and abroad to seriously



Anti-Semitism—continued on next page

Anti-Semitism—continued from previous page

address the issue and choosing to defend the perpetrators, along with a left-wing media's reluctance to adequately report on these events, makes the acceptance of anti-Semitism by the general public inevitable. Anti-Semitism has now gone mainstream. Look at what is happening in Europe today. In France, home to the third largest Jewish population in the world, Jews are leaving in ever-increasing numbers in response to a new wave of anti-Semitic incidents. In Britain, the openly anti-Semitic Jeremy Corbyn, head of the left-wing Labour party, is eagerly anticipating his own accession to power while Prime Minister Teresa May laments on how sad it is that British Jews feel they no longer have a future in Great Britain.

American Jews, for their part, seem almost blissfully unaware of the tsunami of anti-Semitism that is engulfing Europe and will sooner or later make its way here with the same intensity we see in Europe. "We are safe here," is a commonly heard refrain. "We are a civilized and cultured country with laws that protect us," they claim. So are Britain and France. So was Germany between the two world wars. Germany, during the 1920's and early 1930's was generally regarded by many as the most advanced country on the planet—scientifically, culturally, and artistically. This was the country of Beethoven, Bach, Goethe, and Heine. German Jews considered themselves to be patriotic Germans. More than 100,000 of them had served in the German army during the first world war; some 30,000 of whom were decorated for bravery; yet, when their time came they walked into the gas chamber along with all the others.

Many American Jews are almost totally ignorant of this fact. They continue to cling to their ancestral ideology; a combination of Progressivism, ultra-Liberalism, neo-Marxism, and the Jewish concept of "tikkun olam." They ardently believe that the main threat to Jews today comes from the neo-Nazis and the KKK. While it is true that these groups do exist, they comprise only a small percentage of the population. Of course, there are both leftist Jewish and non-Jewish groups who would disagree with these statistics. They choose to lump all Republican Conservatives and anyone who disagrees with them into the category of neo-Nazis and right-wing hate-mongers. They ignore the real threat today that comes not from a numerically inferior neo-Nazi and KKK Movement, but from an unholy alliance of convenience between the radical left and Islamists; a fact most American Jews cannot and will not accept.

The radical left of today is playing for very high stakes. Ultimately, it is all about power and control. They will continue to spread their message of identity politics, victimhood, social justice, racism, anti-Zionism, and anti-Semitism in order to achieve these goals. They will continue to practice what has become known as the doctrine of intersectionality; which allows them to make common cause with any other group they perceive as "oppressed." This is why you see anti-Israel and anti-Semitic signs displayed by just about every radical left group at demonstrations

throughout the country. It is why a few years ago, activists in Ferguson, Missouri carried placards saying, "From Ferguson to Gaza; the struggle continues." The vast majority of American Jews have gone along with these policies in keeping with the belief system of their forebearers. They are unable or unwilling to comprehend that their Progressive, Liberal, Neo-Marxist ideology has shifted its allegiance to those who seek the destruction of the Jewish state and by extension—the Jewish people.

American Jewry today is at a crossroads. In all probability the vast majority of American Jews will continue to cling to their ancestral belief system. It is what they are familiar with. It is what their parents and grandparents believed in. It is all they know. To change now would be to deny everything their family members and they, themselves, have lived for. But before they bury their heads in the sand once again, they should at least hear these simple truths. When our enemies came for us during the Holocaust, they did not ask if we were Orthodox, Conservative, Reform or secular Jews. Neither were they interested in any past service we may have rendered to the state. We were Jews! That was all that mattered; and if history repeats itself . . . when our enemies come for us once again in the future, they will not ask if we are Israelis or Zionists. They will not care that we marched in the Civil Rights Movement, protested against apartheid in South Africa, supported equal rights for women, advocated for the LBGTQ community, and campaigned for Hillary or Bernie. You will be a Jew—and that is all that will matter!

The anti-Semitism that has been unleashed today by the radical left and their Islamist allies is of a kind that is so visceral, so virulent, so vile, so vicious, and so vitriolic that it can no longer be justified under the guise of anti-Zionism. In form, content, and message, it is exactly the same as that which was seen and heard during the heyday of the Third Reich. It is what made the Holocaust possible. What begins with a parade float in Aalst, Belgium, inevitably ends in the gas chambers of Auschwitz and Treblinka. This is the fate our enemies have in store for us. This is why Grand Ayatollah Khomeini in Tehran rejoices that more Jews are moving to Israel—it will make it easier to find and kill us all when the time comes.

As for the Jews themselves, most of them will continue doing as they have always done, confident in the assurances of their religious and political leadership that "we are safe here." They will continue to vote for, support and finance the party and the ideology that will ultimately lead them down the pathway to their own destruction and that of the state of Israel. Vladimir Jabotinsky was quite correct when he wrote about them decades ago: "The Jew learns not by way of reason, but from catastrophe. He won't buy an umbrella merely because he sees clouds in the sky. He waits until he is drenched and catches pneumonia." History may yet prove that when it comes to the Jews, Jabotinsky, was an optimist.

Caren Besner is a former teacher now living in Boynton Beach, Florida. Her byline has appeared in Jewish publications around the world.

“A Time To Live and a Time To Die”

By Gene Robinson

PEOPLE: The Bible says, “For everything, there is a season, with a time and a purpose under Heaven.” Following that piece of Scripture, there are several examples of “time and purpose,” with one of them being . . . “a time to live and a time to die.”

I went to church on Sunday, and I was reminded of something that was drummed into me from the time of my youth: Most of us are told from an early age, that there are two topics we are not to discuss in public conversation—religion and politics. Well, I am going to discuss both in this message, because I cannot, and will not, divorce my faith from my politics.

For background information, I am heavily involved in Republican politics, but not just here in Broward County. I am going to Ohio at the end of this week for both pleasure and politics, and from there, I will also be going to Kentucky, Tennessee, and Georgia, before ending up back here in South Florida. During last summer, I traveled to not only Ohio, but also Pennsylvania and Minnesota to try and help the GOP’s chances in the 2018 midterm elections.

Let me make one thing abundantly clear from the outset: I am a firm and loyal supporter of Donald Trump, have been from the very beginning, and will be until the end of his Second Term, as **he is going to be re-elected!!**

Now, my support for the man, which I am not afraid to say orally for all to hear, and in my writing, has caused me to lose friends that I have known for decades. And what do I say about losing those individuals? As my grandfather once told me when I was little, “If you are doing what you feel is right, and people criticize you for it, tell them to go to Bithy.” When I asked him where Bithy was, he responded with, “It’s hot down there, boy, you don’t want to know.” So, for those so-called friends who abandoned me for my political beliefs, and my support of Donald Trump . . . **they can go to Bithy!!**

I have worked hard for other Republican candidates, including presidential ones, over the years, but none of them had the heart, the nerve, the fight, and the “I Don’t Care” attitude that he has. So why do I like that kind of attitude? Because **it reminds me of me . . . period.**

Not only have I lost many one-time friends, but I have also alienated members of my own Republican Party, because they cannot stand my approach to politics. Once again . . . **they can go to Bithy!!**

Some in this Party say that my approach is Too Mean, Too Unsophisticated, Too Different, Too Out of the Ordinary, and that we cannot win playing politics that way. Well, to those critics I say that the first priority of the Broward County Republican Party is, and I quote the Rules, Regulations, and By Laws that state . . . **we are to get Republicans elected.**

I have three cities under the umbrella of my GOP club, and they are Tamarac, Margate, and Coconut Creek. I do

not do a lot involved in my “political exercise” out in public, rather I like to do my work “behind the scenes” to get things done. Because, in the long run, as my political mentor, my father, always said to me, “The only thing that counts is the results.” **I would rather get results from my party’s philosophy behind the scenes . . . by winning, because that is the only thing that counts in politics!!**

In the midterms, my Club, along with work from many others, like the Kings Point Republican Club and the Jewish Republican Club, helped Michelle Gomez become the Mayor of Tamarac. And, in another city, we helped 33-year-old Antonio Arserio, a former longtime president of the Florida Atlantic University student Republicans, get elected to the Margate City Commission—**the first person of our political persuasion to get elected in Margate in the over-50-year existence of that city.**

There were no elections in my Club’s third city, Coconut Creek in 2018, and the early 2019 electoral process, we had no Republican running in Creek, but next time around, we will, and that person Will WIN, because the only thing that counts is **the results . . . and we get results!!**

And, I am not finished doing “things political” that are too mean, too unsophisticated, too different, and too out of the ordinary for those in my party who do not like me, or my results-filled ways, and I will point out a couple of examples, without mentioning the names of those who will be with me on this course of action:

There are two constituencies that provide a stable backbone for the Democrat Party—Jews and Blacks. In the near future, others and I have discussed for weeks, and will be planning, a speaking tour of communities in Florida that house these two constituencies to remind them just how much they have been used for their votes, while not supplying them with any of the results of their labor. Our tour will bring these two groups The Truth, sometimes in a “too mean, too unsophisticated, too different, and too out of the ordinary” kind of way. **I love to stand up and tell the truth to those who have been lied to for too long!!**

Remember, I am not just involved in Broward County, as a few weeks ago, I was contacted by a group from outside Florida that have a plan to help President Trump build the Southern Border Wall in a manner that has not been discussed anywhere. I did what I could for the group, and we will see if that plan comes to fruition. You do not always have to be “out front” to get things done in politics, as sometimes working “behind the scenes” gets the necessary results.

As I said earlier, I went to church on this past Sunday, was inspired by the message that was taught, and saw an old friend who was a longtime member of the Tea Party, when that group wielded political influence in this area, and

A Time to Live—continued on next page

A Time to Live—continued from previous page

across America. That person and I, speaking after the service, both felt the same way about the state of politics currently, and why my faith always takes a front seat in what I am doing, in spite of being taught that you do not mix religion and politics.

What that person and I firmly believe is that before the 2020 election season is complete, some people, who feel as we do, are going to die for their efforts to keep this country out of the hands of the Socialist Democrats. What I stated at the outset of this message, and also in the title of it, is that there will be, for some . . . **a time to live, and a time to die!!**

Many will not like some, or all, of the things I have written here, and there will probably be a move to silence me


for not following Party protocol, and there will probably be a move to remove me from the presidency of my club for doing things outside the scope of the County Party. If so, let it come, as I have been running this club for nearly a decade, and we **get results!!**

If they want to remove me, they are not paying me to do what I do in **getting results** for the Republican Party, so whatever the “powers that be” may do, my attitude is, much like Donald Trump . . . **I don’t care, because I will get what God shows me to do . . . with, or without, the Broward County Republican Party!!**

God Bless.

Gene Robinson is President of the Tamarac/Margate/Coconut Creek GOP Club.

KEEP TARIFFS FOCUSED ON CHINA



MR. PRESIDENT

Please focus on the U.S. trade deficit and forced technology transfers with Communist China.

Trillions of dollars in Chinese exports to the U.S. over the last 30 years have built new Chinese factories using our state-of-the-art technology.

WE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF CHINA'S ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE ... WORLD DOMINATION.

In 1940, FDR referred to America's factories as an "Arsenal of Democracy" that enabled us and our allies to defeat fascism and enable DEMOCRACY to prevail.

Now China is committed to defeating democracy enabling COMMUNISM to prevail.

COMMUNIST CHINA IS OUR TRADE RIVAL AND POTENTIAL MILITARY ADVERSARY.

KEEP TARIFFS FOCUSED ON CHINA, NOT ON OUR DEMOCRATIC TRADING PARTNERS

NO TARIFFS ON AUTOS FROM OUR LONG-TIME ALLIES IN EUROPE, JAPAN, KOREA AND CANADA.

PAID FOR BY HAROLD F. OBERKOTTER, JR.
hfojrvir@aol.com

Club News

The Republican Federated Women of South Florida See Red in Tallahassee

On March 10–12, Linda Johnson (our club President), Second Vice President Tracy Caruso, and I as First Vice President were delighted to represent the Republican Federated Women of South Florida at the Florida Federation of Republican Women's (FFRW) Spring Conference in Tallahassee. Tracy, the wife of Mike Caruso, freshman State Representative from District 89, was already in Tallahassee for the Legislative Session, which had opened the previous week.

The Conference included a number of interesting and informative speakers, including Eric Eggers, who was the researcher for Peter Schweizer's book *Clinton Cash* and is the author of *Fraud: How the Left Plans to Steal the Next Election*. His talk was a real eye-opener, noting that there were approximately 3 million double voters in the 2016 election, with 2,196 in Florida and 1.5 million in California. He pointed out that as many as five electoral votes could be attributed to illegal immigrants, as electoral votes are allotted by population, not citizens, and that is why the Democrats are so against the Census question asking about citizenship. He said that 850 people move to Florida each day, which amounts to the population of Orlando every year.

Another keynote speaker was Brett Doster, founder of Front Line Strategies, a well-known and highly-respected political consulting firm based in Tallahassee. He said that there are several Florida congressional seats that will be of interest in 2020: Ted Yoho (R-CD3) will be retiring and Stephanie Murphy's seat (D-CD7) should be vulnerable, as are two congressional seats in Miami that were just taken by Democrats. Brett pointed out that having Trump on the ballot in 2020 will help bring out the vote for some of our down-ballot races.

Being in Tallahassee, we also heard from several political figures, including Attorney General Ashley Moody, Senate President Bill Galvano, and James Grant, Chair of the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

On Monday, we all donned our red jackets for our visit to the Capitol, where we met with a number of legislators, including Palm Beach County Representatives Rick Roth



The FFRW ladies resplendent in our red jackets on the steps of the Old Capitol.

(District 85) and Mike Caruso (District 89). We were also fortunate to sit in on a Cabinet meeting, and watched Gov. Ron DeSantis, AG Ashley Moody, and CFO Jimmy Patronis in action.

One of the highlights of our time in Tallahassee came on Tuesday morning, when we were able to watch Rep. Mike Caruso introduce HB 741 on Anti-Semitism at the Criminal Justice Subcommittee meeting. Several members of the public spoke on behalf of the legislation, including an orthodox rabbi and students from Florida State University, and the bill passed out of committee with a unanimous bipartisan vote. A companion bill is being considered by the Senate. We also saw Rep. Chip LaMarca, freshman Representative from Broward County, introduce HB 727 on Hazing, which passed out of committee by unanimous bipartisan vote as well.

Our time in Tallahassee was too short, but we packed a lot into the time we had. Many thanks to the FFRW Board of Directors, and to everyone who participated, for such a successful meeting. It was wonderful to meet like-minded women from all over the state, and to know that we have President Trump's back as we head into 2020.

—Cheryl Mullings



Cheryl Mullings (left) and Linda Johnson with District 85 Representative Rick Roth.



Reps. Randy Fine (left) and Mike Caruso jointly introducing their Anti-Semitism Bill (HB 741), which advanced unanimously through the Criminal Justice Committee with bipartisan support.

Club News

**Republican Club of North Palm Beach March Brunch:
“Los Tres Amigos”—2019**

*By Fred Scheibl
March 18, 2019*

In what has become an annual event, the March meeting of the RCNPB featured “Los Tres Amigos.” This year’s lineup consisted of Palm Beach Gardens Councilman Matthew Lane, CD21 likely candidate Christian Acosta, and the perennial favorite, former PBCGOP Chairman Sid Dinerstein. Florida Representative Rick Roth also made an appearance.



Matt Lane, who took this opportunity to announce his bid for re-election next March, described his view of the responsibilities of a city official. First up is public safety and security, and the Gardens is now providing city police resources to patrol the local schools. With increased demands following the Parkland shootings, the school system

was grateful to accept the help and is paying the city for the effort. After the Pittsburgh synagogue shootings, the city is also stepping up security activities surrounding the Jewish centers around Hood Road.

Other priorities include fiscal restraint with the public purse and transparency of government operations. As we have witnessed on multiple occasions, Matt will frequently pull large dollar items from the consent agenda for public discussion, particularly when it is not clear that an open bidding process was used. In Matt’s view, understanding the way contracts are adopted is the way to keep tabs on public spending.

Lastly he mentioned term limits, pointing out that he was the lone vote against placing the ballot questions in 2018 that sought to weaken the charter provisions that had only recently passed. Fortunately, the voters soundly rejected this attempt and the 2 terms of 3 years is still in effect.

The second amigo to speak was Christian Acosta, who has announced his exploratory quest to unseat CD21 Congresswoman Lois Frankel in 2020. This D+17 seat was uncontested in 2018, allowing the incumbent to remain in office without campaigning for the privilege. Stretching along the coast from Singer Island through Delray Beach and encompassing most of the county south of Southern Boulevard, including Wellington, it deserves a Republican challenger.



Christian is a resident of Boynton Beach and teaches Electric Power Engineering at Palm Beach State. A nuclear

engineer and Pittsburgh transplant, Christian has been making the rounds of the Republican clubs and plans to introduce himself at the Trump 45 Club next month. He claims that he is no relation to that “other Acosta” who is known for his rude behavior in the White House press corps.

Although not billed as one of the “tres amigos,” FH85 Representative Rick Roth spoke briefly about some bills of interest that are moving through Tallahassee. The Republican controlled legislature did not always work smoothly with Rick Scott, but so far they are in a honeymoon period with Ron DeSantis. The allowance for smokable medical marijuana is moving through the process at the Governor’s request, and they appear willing to embrace his initiatives in education, the environment and water policy, and health care reform. The Legislature also may be able to place a ballot question next year that would end the constitutional revision commissions that work their mischief every 20 years. The onerous multiple-issue questions that last year’s commission placed on the ballot may have been enough to spur action.



Keynoting the meeting was Sid Dinerstein. With a couple of pages of handwritten notes, he took the audience on a tour of all the hopeful things that have happened since the last election, and why the loss of the House was a two-edged sword.

Arguing that following the 2016 election (which was a peak year for the GOP), we are now in a sweet spot, Sid explained that yes, the Democrats run the House, but the GOP didn’t do much with their majority when they were in charge. This led to the shutdown which we lost, because to win you need to have the media on your side. Consider that a “bottom.”



The Democrats can always be counted on to overplay their hand. For example, by delaying the State of the Union for a week, Pelosi didn’t realize that she moved it just past the greatest jobs report ever, completely strengthening the Pres-

“Los Tres Amigos”—continued on next page

“Los Tres Amigos”—continued from previous page

ident’s hand. Putting on a great show, which was a masterfully done tribute to America, Trump was able to “hold the cross up to the vampires” by declaring “America will never be a Socialist Nation!” Thus begins the 2020 campaign.

One of the President’s most valuable skills is to get his enemies to actually tell the truth. In the past few months we have seen them reveal what they really think:

- How great is Venezuela
- How they will not rebuke their anti-semites—Farrakhan, Sharpton, Omar
- How abortion is not enough—we need nothing less than infanticide

- That their signature transportation project—the California “train to nowhere” is a failure
- How they will not deal with their three “friends in Virginia”
- Jesse Smollett
- Green new deal (“kill all the cows”)—is outlawing volcanos next?
- We don’t want your stinking jobs (Amazon in NY)
- Dem PACs pulling out of Ohio
- Reuters sitting on the Beto hacking story

Making the case that Trump will likely win 44 states, Sid ended on a note of optimism. Hugging the flag at the beginning of the CPAC speech says it all—that is the entire campaign.

Everglades Foundation’s Erik Eikenberg Discusses Water Projects with the Republican Club of the Palm Beaches

By Fred Scheibl
March 28, 2019

A design element of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), authorized by Congress in 2000, is a reservoir south of Lake Okeechobee referred to as the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) reservoir. Currently a key feature of proposed solutions to the toxic algae problems plaguing the estuaries on both coasts, it would allow the diversion of Lake outflows away from the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie Rivers, and help restore the flow of fresh water through the Everglades to Florida Bay.



Erik Eikenberg, who heads the influential Everglades Foundation, presented a hopeful outlook for the project as we now have in Governor DeSantis someone who can potentially make it happen.

A Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School graduate, he recalled the influence of that school’s namesake on him. (Douglas, the author of *River of Grass* in 1947, helped redefine the popular conception of the Everglades as a treasured river instead of a worthless swamp.) Long a player in Florida Republican politics, he was an intern for Congressman Clay Shaw, who authored the CERP, and saw the introduction of the snout beetle into the ecosystem to manage the proliferation of the invasive Australian Melaleuca. Chief of staff for Governor Charlie Crist, he also worked for former Governor Bob Martinez.

Water is a “unifying issue,” he said, as many of us depend on the Everglades for our water supply. West Palm Beach, for example, depends on the Grassy Waters Preserve. The toxic blue-green algae (also known as cyanobacteria), is a health issue, and threatens the use of our waterways and hence the tourism economy of the state.

Governor DeSantis campaigned on fixing the problem, and is supported by Congressman Brian Mast (who is the Governor’s point man on the issue). The Governor’s recently released state budget includes \$625M for the project in addition to expected federal funds. One significant roadblock, of course, is the decision by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) to extend the Florida Crystals lease on the EAA land for another 8 years. This was done without public notice and several days before the Governor’s inauguration, in spite of an impassioned plea by Brian Mast to delay it. In an unprecedented move, DeSantis then demanded (and got) the resignation of the entire SFWMD board.

Time will tell how this plays out, but it is a hopeful sign that President Trump will be visiting the Lake to review related projects (such as dike repairs) on Friday of this week. The Governor’s good relationship with the President should be helpful in moving this project along.

Also at the meeting was CD21 candidate **Christian Acosta** who has announced his exploratory quest to unseat Congresswoman Lois Frankel in 2020. This D+17 seat was uncontested in 2018, allowing the incumbent to remain in office without campaigning for the privilege. Stretching along the coast from Singer Island through Delray Beach and encompassing most of the county south of Southern Boulevard, including Wellington, it deserves a Republican challenger.

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Next month, please join us on April 24 for **Sal Faso**, President of the North County Neighborhood Coalition.



SOE Wendy Link Highlights Abacoa Meeting

By Fred Scheibl
April 2, 2019

Appointed by Governor DeSantis to replace former SOE Susan Bucher who he removed from office after the embarrassing spectacle that was the 2018 election in PBC, **Wendy Sartory Link** is a breath of fresh air.

Having never held elective office, nor planning to run for the job permanently, Wendy comes from a successful career in business and civic leadership, and is interested in solving problems. And problems are what she faces at the SOE.



In her six-year tenure, Susan Bucher so politicized the office, that Democrat poll workers in south county have quit en masse, telling Wendy that they are “loyal to Susan Bucher, not you.” Unfortunately, many of the remaining management in the organization may also be loyal to her predecessor, a real impediment to change.

The morale in the organization was poor when Wendy took over, and staff did not trust each other and in some cases felt that advantage could only come at others expense. After the 2018 recount circus, the reputation of the organization is on a par with the days of the butterfly ballot, and Wendy has inherited outdated and failing equipment, a voter registration system incompatible with the rest of the state and dependent on a single questionable vendor, and a mandate to roll out new technology in time for the Presidential Primary in March 2020.

In her short time in office, Wendy has successfully lobbied the county for more money for the equipment rollout, started the move to a new registration system, and completed a successful March Municipal election with a suspect staff and essentially no experience of her own in running elections. A very good start indeed.

Unfortunately, the demographics of the county being what they are, the 2020 election will likely bring us back a Susan Bucher clone (if not Susan herself). We can only hope that Wendy can transform the office sufficiently in two years to not only run a fair and open 2020 election, but implement the processes, procedures and staffing to keep it professional and impartial for many years to come in spite of what her successor brings to the job.

Part of insuring open and fair elections is the makeup of the pollworker workforce. About 1000 new workers are needed for next year, so if you ever thought about working the polls, now is the time to step up. You can apply for the job at the SOE website

The second speaker of the evening was pundit **Loren Spivack**. Using his quirky humor to good effect, he attacked Progressives on the fault lines of their inconsistencies.

Why do they oppose a border wall, he asks. With their unshakable faith in the death and destruction being caused by carbon emissions, why would you want to import people from third world countries where their carbon footprint is tiny, to an industrial country where they would spew carbon prodigiously? Why it could even shorten the 12-year outlook to the end of days!

He deftly explained how socialism is about control, not ideology, and pointed out the the only war in which we have engaged that had no anti-war movement was World War II. The reason? We were on the same side as Stalin, one of their “good guys.”

He also touched on how Sweden has moved from a bulwark of feminism to a society where rapes are many and increasing. When surveys suggest that it is the recent immigrant population from cultures where respect for women is lacking, their response was to stop doing the surveys. (Note—that may be changing. See: “Sweden to Release First Report on Migration and Crime since 2005”.)

Other examples include Progressives support for trans-genders competing in women’s sports (throwing women under the bus) and their recent support for anti-semitism (eg Ilhan Omar), doing the same to Jews.

Perhaps his best line of the night sums up socialism nicely: “*Many mice die in mouse traps because they don’t understand why the cheese is free.*”

Loren is the author of several humorous books on the subject, including *The Wizard of Iz*, *The New Democrat*, and *The Gorax*.



Letters

Jewish Political Intelligence Is an Oxymoron

“Jewish political intelligence is an oxymoron.” Sad to start off on such a negative note, but it’s sadly true. History records that in the early years of Adolph Hitler’s rise to power, many in the elite Jewish community of Germany were ardent supporters of his. Their chant, “Ich bin nicht ein Jude, Ich bin ein Deutche!” translates to, “I am not a Jew, I’m a German!” tells the sad tale. Of course, their ashes fertilize the vineyards along with the many innocent millions of other victims of Naziism. Throw in the early Bolsheviks, Communists and Stalinists. Would that modern day American Jews would take heed of history’s warning.

Sadly, no. The flag of the Democrat Party is held aloft by about 70% of American Jews. They should all be aware of the Jew hating of Franklin Delano Roosevelt before and during the Holocaust. Yet he is still an icon to many. Being of an educated, well read class of people, they should have known about Barack Obama’s 20 year history of membership in the Chicago church led by extreme Jew hater, Rev. Jeremiah H. Wright. After all, Wright’s weekly delivered lectures overtly damning Jews, Israel and America to his congregation could not have eluded Obama’s ears and attention. The truth is that Wright, whom Obama held dear to him as his “uncle mentor” and counselor married him to Michelle and Christened their daughters. This home church of Obama crowned Louis Farrakhan with the title of The Man of the Century in 2007, while Barack Obama was a sitting U.S. Senator. And still, in the 2008 presidential elections, the Jewish vote for Obama was 78%. Strangely, after four years, with him bashing Israel from the White House, Jews still supported him with 72% of their votes. Go figure!

Fast forward to the current situation with the Democrat Party openly supporting the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against Israel. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, heavily dependent on the New York vote, siding with her far leftist peers, backed out of supporting an anti-BDS resolution. Newly elected NYC Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is all out against this pro-Israel legislation. Freshmen Congresswomen Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) and Ilhan Omar (D-MN) blatantly spout out venomous Jew/Israel hating rhetoric and no comment from the invisible Jewish Congressional Caucus. Their moistened fingers are up in the air testing the wind. And their silence indicates they are surely lining up with the elected Jew haters in Congress. The recent heralded Democrat sponsored anti-Semitism resolution that would have attempted to whitewash the claim by Omar that Jewish money runs our government has now been accepted and will further stoke the Muslims in Congress to continue their attacks on the Jewish community. Ms. Omar responded arrogantly to the threat of being outed in this legislation not by apologizing and helping out her party, but she rather spouted out that Jews are disloyal by

sharing loyalties between Israel and the United States. She is now more blatant than ever. Some of her brother and sister leftist legislators in her support, jumped in to say that Omar, herself, has been the victim of anti-Muslim hatred. She has now been empowered to continue her hateful, dangerous rants.

It is evident that Democrat Party is sliding into the arms of the combined forces of the Radical Left which has always been anti-Semitic. President Truman was once a KKK member. Toss in long time West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd, praised in eulogy by Hillary Clinton as her, “friend and mentor.” Didn’t she know he was a top Klansman, an Exalted Cyclops? Former Congressman Keith Ellison (D-MN) now is the Attorney General of Minnesota. He still reigns as second in command of the Democratic National Committee. And he was nominated to head that group by none other than New York Senator Chuck Schumer, the top Jewish Senator in that chamber. Was Chuck not aware that Ellison was once a leader in Farrakhan’s, The Nation of Islam (NOI)? And why did the Democrat, Black Congressional Caucus (BCC) hide the photo taken at one of its 2005 sessions of Farrakhan standing beside then Senator Barack Obama until 2018? Just how much in common does Farrakhan have with the BCC?

My concern is that the Democrat Party, together with its growing Muslim influence joining with the Far Left are assembling a bloc that will drive their members away from whatever little support they now have for the Jewish State and for the safety and security of American Jews. We see how Jewish colleges students are under the gun when they hold pro-Israel events by the volatile, vicious, angry campus groups such as the Students for Justice in Palestine joined by Black Lives Matter and the Black Students Union. These outspoken virulently angry groups terrorize Jewish kids and with the support of their schools’ administrations are emboldened to continue their suppression of other students’ rights. And these incidents rarely make it into the Leftist controlled media.

Unless there is a wake up call among the Jewish citizenry of this country, both Republican and Democrat alike, the now smoldering Jew hatred will ignite into a 1930’s type Nazi catastrophe. Just think, of the scenario if Jussie Smollett had claimed that two Jewish guys attacked him and called him the “N” word while pouring bleach on him and beating him up. Al Sharpton-like Crown Heights riots would surely have ensued. Jews are the perfect scapegoats for any group’s grievance. And as history shows, Jews themselves toss in the kindling either by being complacently silent or complicit with the haters.

*Alan Bergstein
President, The Judeo/Christian Republican Club of
Palm Beach County*

Book Review

***Space 2.0. How Private Spaceflight, a Resurgent NASA, and International Partners Are Creating a New Space Age*, by Rod Pyle. Dallas, TX: BenBella Books, Inc., 2019. Softcover, 317 pp.**

We have not transported humans beyond earth orbit since Appollo [Men on the moon program initiated by President Kennedy]. That is simply not good enough.

—Buzz Aldrin, second man to walk on the moon

Truer words have never been said about the American space program, which seems to have been cursed with lack of vision since the Apollo program captured the imagination of all mankind. Finally, all these decades later, help is on the way in the form of Space 2.0, which is the title of this book. But let's start with Space 1.0. According to the author, Space 1.0 is "the era of human spaceflight that began with the early Mercury program and culminated in the Space Transportation System, more commonly known as the space shuttle." Space 2.0, again according to the author is "the new era of spaceflight that started between 2000 and 2002. This span generally refers to the entry of a new generation of private entrepreneurs such as Blue Origin and Space X into large spaceflight activities." What we're talking about here is the privatization of spaceflight which has injected a degree of competition into our space program that is sorely needed and long overdue. Space 2.0 then "while not excluding NASA and other space agencies, is defined by an increasing reliance by NASA on private companies in new partnerships that place increased risk on private entities."

First, let's review a little background history that will probably give most conservatives a bad case of angst. The George W. Bush Administration proposed the Constellation Program which was designed to replace the Shuttle. But President Obama cancelled Constellation, instead preferring to rely on Russia to launch Americans into space! After three famous former astronauts complained about this arrangement, Obama reversed course and responded with a proposal for Space Launch System evolution of Constellation's heavy booster and capsule. Since then, "NASA's funding for private sector efforts has fallen short of its own stated goals," but there are now considerable reasons to be optimistic about the future, thanks to a new initiative undertaken by the Trump Administration. In 2017 the President "reactivated a government oversight group called the National Space Council, which had existed twice before. Its mandate is to tackle long-range policies for American goals in space, reporting directly to the executive branch, with the

plan then being implemented by NASA and other federal departments. It is advised by a selection of aerospace professionals from companies old and new." This should aid greatly in giving the American space program positive, long-term direction that it sorely needs and has lacked since Apollo.

Privatization of America's space program represents an exciting new chapter in which the sky is literally the limit in terms of future discoveries and achievements, in this the last frontier of exploration. Leading the way will be a whole new generation of "steely-eyed missilemen," so let's meet a few of them. According to *Forbes*, there are 2,008 billionaires in the world and 585 of them are from the United States, and no other country comes close to those numbers. Certainly that has something to do with why, so far at least, the U.S. is leading the way in Space 2.0, but it is not the main reason. Unchaining the powers of the "free-market on this vital world-wide competition is what's most responsible for early American dominance. Just a few of the new "steely-eyed missilemen include Elon Musk, founder of Space X; Amazon's Jeff Bezos, founder of Blue Origin; and Tory Bruno, CEO of United Launch Alliance, pioneers in the last frontier.

One area that I would take issue with the author's contention is when he said "Kennedy's proposal for putting a man on the moon was motivated by geopolitics, but the world has moved on from Cold War tensions," but he does not hesitate to voice others concerns along these lines, such as those cited by Scott Pace, Executive Secretary of the National Space Council. "There are rising challenges from Russia and China and their counter-space capabilities," Pace told the author in June of 2017. "Foreign threats are a more sustainable rationale for human spaceflight, and that needs to be tied in to our geopolitical and economic interests. So making sure that human spaceflight is aligned with longer-term US geopolitical goals such as dealing with rising Russian and Chinese threats is a big concern."

Anyway you look at it, it's an exciting new era of space exploration that we are moving into, so anyone who wants to get on the journey should read Rod Pyle's *Space 2.0*, which is guaranteed to fire your imagination.



—Tom Mullings

Book Review

Lincoln's Devotional, Henry Holt and Co., LLC, 1856, New York, NY, originally published in London: The Believer's Daily Treasure, Text of Scripture Arranged for Every Day in the Year, Religious Tract Society, 1852, ISBN:0-8050-5832-5.

Most people have not given a thought to whether or not Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States, was a believer in God or a member of a particular faith group. But now, on February 14, 2019, the *Wall Street Journal* newspaper printed an article about how Lincoln, when he was a circuit-riding railroad lawyer in Illinois in 1852, came across a vest pocket book of Scripture containing snippets for 366 days in the year. The *WSJ* article by John J. Miller, director of the Dow Journalism program at Hillsdale College speculates about how Lincoln obtained the "The Believer's Daily Treasure" that was sold by the Religious Tract Society in London. Lincoln was a believer and I think this can be established.

Miller's article quotes Carl Sandburg, an author and poet, who compiled Lincoln's papers in an eight volume set with a separate 378 page index in the 1950s that was published by The Abraham Lincoln Society with the Rutgers University Press, as saying "How Abraham Lincoln acquired his copy is the devotional, we do not know." Miller suggested Mary Todd Lincoln may have bought it for him.

Miller also says copy of the devotional was found, with the "A. Lincoln" signature in the front, by a Lincoln memorabilia collector, Carl Haverlin. The signature was authenticated by experts at the Library of Congress and at the Chicago Abraham Lincoln Book Shop, whose manuscript expert found the booklet of interest and "a possible clue to the source of some of his references to religion." Miller further uncovered a reference to "John Jay, an antislavery activist who shared his name with his Founding-era grandfather who once recalled seeing Lincoln read a pocket edition of the New Testament.

Miller has more to say about Lincoln and the devotional booklet, but I will leave you to get the full article from the recent newspaper account or from Miller. What I want to add to this quest about Lincoln's religion is what I learned a few years ago from reading the *History of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church* in Washington, D.C. by Frank E. Edgington in 1962. Library of Congress Card Catalog Number 61-11471. 369 pp.

During the period from 1970 to 2003 I was an attorney in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. I started practicing law in the D.C. area as General Counsel and Assistant Executive Director to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in late 1970. Three years later I joined Raymond McMurray and William Pendergast in their boutique Food and Drug law firm on 18th Street, but continued to represent the AACP for another five years. I was chosen by the U.S.

Pharmacopeia Board as its outside counsel during my move to the five-member law firm. The USP was my client for about 25 years. After three more years with McMurray & Pendergast, I established my own office in D.C at 515 15th Street, N.W. across the street from the VA offices and McPherson Park, just a block and a half from the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Thus, I could from time to time stop in the church to see what was happening and as my young family grew older, we visited the church with the Cub Scouts a few times on hiking trails in downtown D.C.

You can learn more about the Church's history from its current (2019) website at <http://www.nyapc.org/history/>, but this source will not be as complete as the Edgington book or other information I will share in this article. But first, let me set the stage by bringing you up to date on how this website connects Lincoln to this church in its brief discussion of the connections between President Lincoln, the church, and President Eisenhower, who was baptized as an adult, with the following section of the web NYAPC history:

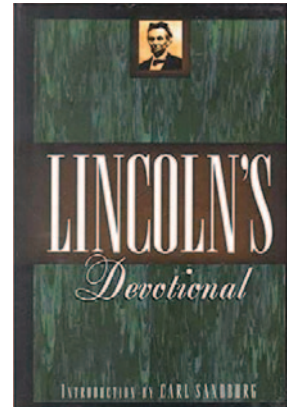
Lincoln and "Under God"

To commemorate the 60th Anniversary of "Under God" sermon by Dr. George M. Docherty on February 7, 1954, the Presbyterian Historical Society will place the article, "Lincoln and Under God," on its blog and in their electronic newsletter.

"Under God" was first added by Lincoln to his Gettysburg Address while at Gettysburg. All of Lincoln's preliminary drafts of the Gettysburg Address contained no mention of "under God," while all newspaper reports and copies of the address thereafter included the words "under God."

Why did Lincoln add "under God" at Gettysburg? Perhaps his reason might be best understood through the words of his minister, Dr. Phineas D. Gurley of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Dr. Gurley noted that ". . . in the latter days of his chastened and weary life, after the death of his son Willie and his visit to the battlefield at Gettysburg, he said to me with tears in his eyes, that he had lost confidence in everything but God. . . ."

Years later, Lincoln's Gettysburg Address inspired the historic "Under God" sermon that was preached on Lin-



Lincoln's Devotional—continued on next page

Lincoln's Devotional—continued from previous page

coln Sunday, February 7, 1954, by Dr. George M. Docherty at Lincoln's Church, The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. Dr. Docherty noted "there was something missing" in our Pledge of Allegiance, and that was "under G." President Eisenhower was in attendance. The President immediately prompted Congress to pass legislation adding the wording "under God" to our Pledge of Allegiance.

So Lincoln's need for God at Gettysburg led to the addition of "under God" to his Gettysburg Address and, later, to our Pledge.

You may be aware in current times (2019) groups raise money for and against the attack against the "Under God" reference in the Pledge. In this battle over the meaning of the First Amendment provisions of the Freedom of Religion other groups claim they are responsible for adding "Under God" to the Pledge. I am not denying that many groups did work very hard to persuade the Congress to enact legislation to add "under God" to the Pledge. No one worked with more powerful persuasion than President Dwight Eisenhower who heard about Lincoln's reasons in a sermon at this church and who had also made a decision to become baptized in this join this Presbyterian Church as an adult after World War II.

I first learned about Lincoln's faith journey from a recorded sermon by Rev. Dr. D. James Kennedy, Pastor of the Coral Gables Presbyterian Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. This was not taught in my high school or college American history classes. Later my interest was roused again and I contacted the Coral Ridge Ministries for more information. Among other suggestions was to check the history of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Lincoln Museum across from Ford's Theatre in D.C. Since then I have read several books about Lincoln, but none cover his becoming a Christian.

Since the early 2000s the Internet has added many more resources from libraries and museums and it has become much easier to research parts of the story.

In the Edgington book there is a chapter titled, *The Lincoln Family and the New York Avenue Church* at pages 231 to 253. The next chapter is titled, *The Lincoln Pew*, from 254 to 256, followed by a chapter, *A Symbol of Freedom*, from page 258 to 265, about the presentation of the original draft of the Emancipation Proclamation to the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church on December 20, 1951, by Barney Balaban, President of Paramount Pictures Corporation. The following chapter is *Dr. Sizoo and the Lincoln Family*, from page 266 to 274.

These 43 pages are the main pages of the book that I want interested readers to have an understanding about to make their own interpretations of what these chapters say or mean. I will summarize the content of the 43 pages in a later blog and will make available facsimile copies on request. The 1962 book was copyrighted by Edgington and when he died a member of the church, he left money to the church in a trust fund to support poor people in D.C.

I discovered in 2019 that another book has been written about the history of this church by a group of people in 2011. All of this is probably more than you want to know, but consult my blog at <http://bill-skinner.blogspot.com>, where I will add more soon.

Lincoln learned about the Bible from his mother, and over his lifetime he joined the Kingdom in Springfield, Illinois, and in Washington, D.C., even if he was not a card-carrying member of a denomination. Why do I say "Kingdom?" After being baptized by John, Jesus became filled with the Holy Spirit and went to Galilee to begin preaching. *Luke 4:14-30* A short time later, when Jesus was asked how to pray he gave an answer quoted in Luke's and in Matthew's versions he says, "your Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven." Luke's version is communicating the same thing just in a shorter form. In other words, Jesus was saying there are two Kingdoms—one in heaven and one in your heart. *Matthew 6:9-13*

My contention is that Lincoln joined the Kingdom in Springfield after his son, Eddie, died at a young age and Lincoln joined the Kingdom in D.C. after Willie died and the Civil War started. In both cities and his family had a place in their heart for the Kingdom where they lived.

In the introduction to the Devotional book, Carl Sandburg describes Lincoln's relationship with his pastor in Springfield. Edgington's book describes the various rolls Lincoln played at the church, how he participated in prayer at the White House with Rev. Dr. Gurley, how Lincoln helped Gurley's daughter get married to a West Point soldier by going out one day in his one horse shay borrowing a wedding dress and other parts of the outfit for the wedding, and many other evidences of the D.C. Kingdom. The second book mentioned above I have not named because you need to first get the Devotional reproduction to see what Lincoln carried on horseback and stage coaches for years riding between Illinois county courthouses. You will begin to see Lincoln was a believer. You will better understand the Gettysburg Address and the Second Inaugural Speech.

If you pause long enough on the Friday before Easter, remember that it was that Friday that Lincoln was assassinated. *Lincoln's Devotional* would be good to have in times like these.

—Reviewed by William J. Skinner

Editor's Postscript

Do We Still Need NATO?

By Tom Mullings

Why should we care to maintain the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) many Americans are asking themselves these days and it's a fair question. After all, the NATO treaty was signed by ten European countries, Canada and the United States in 1949 specifically to contain the growing power of the Soviet Union at the dawn of the Cold War, while avoiding a global thermonuclear war between the two rival superpowers, and the whole enterprise could not have been more successful. Consider the facts. The power of the once mighty Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was not just contained, but broken forever and the Soviet Union is no more, with the Russian population today at 150 million, barely half of what it was during the good old days. Fourteen of the original fifteen republics (misnomer!) left the so called union and are now their own independent countries struggling to make their way in the world under the envious eyes of the remaining Russian Republic that today constitutes the sum total of a once mighty empire, right? Well, yes, but the devil is in the details, as they say, and this whole bit of recent history has indeed left some details of a most devilish nature that requires careful study by we free people and allies of the most successful alliance in history.

Recently NATO, which had swelled from its original 12 member states to 29, celebrated it's 70th anniversary under the cloud of legitimate questions arising about its mission and very existence in the twenty-first century. My guess is that President Trump was one of those asking those questions when he first took office two years ago, but no more. Along the way he chose to emphasize a legitimate concern of our NATO allies' failure to maintain adequate and agreed-upon levels of defense spending in the face of a revanshist-minded Russia under the dictatorship of Vladimir Putin, who looks with ravenous appetite at the newly independent states of their "near abroad" (former republics) and satellite-states (Warsaw Pact, Eastern European countries). The President is still emphasizing that, as he rightfully should, but he is no longer claiming that "NATO is obsolete" as he once did, after two years of viewing things from inside the White House, a vantage point that teaches all presidents lessons during their administrations.



Simply put, Russian strongman Putin views the demise of the Soviet Union as the greatest catastrophe of our time, would like nothing more than to get his empire back, and is causing about as much consternation as he can in NATO circles. As widely reported in the press for years "he has directed disinformation campaigns, cyber attacks, and election interventions against the United States, France, Great Britain and Estonia." He also "invaded Georgia (former Republic), used force to annex Crimea, Ukraine (part of another former republic) and enlisted Russian separatists to seize territory in eastern Ukraine. From the Baltic to the Black Sea" he's "stepped up provocative military exercises, naval interventions and violations of air space."



Our NATO allies have legitimate fears that the strategic challenge to America represented by the rise of Communist China in the Pacific will be accomplished by a corresponding weakening of our commitment to the Atlantic alliance, and the president is doing his best to waylay those fears, but the rest of us here in America need to do our part as well. The fact of the matter is that today in the early years of the twenty-first century the threat of a revanchist Russia under Vladimir Putin and a rising Communist China under Xi are real and genuine threats to we the people of the free world, and both need to be met head on with adequate funding and a renewed sense of purpose for the most successful alliance in human history.

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



Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

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

Members of the Republican Executive Committee represent 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*: _____

* Check here if you DO NOT want your email reported to the Supervisor of Elections thus making it a matter of public record under Florida law. _____

Profession: _____

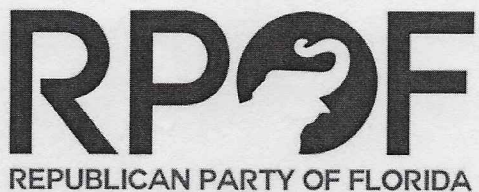
Precinct #: _____

I am applying for the position of: Committeeman _____ Committeewoman _____

Two Current REC Members' Sponsor 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

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 –

Committeemen and Committeewomen

Check applicable one:

- Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman
- District Committeeman or Committeewoman
- State Committeeman or Committeewoman

OFFICE USE ONLY

Candidate Oath

(Sections 99.021(1)(a) and (2), Florida Statutes)

I, _____

(Print name above as you wish it to appear on the ballot. If your last name consists of two or more names but has no hyphen, check box . (See page 2 - Compound Last Names). No change can be made after the end of qualifying.)

am a candidate for the office of **Committeeman** **Committeewoman**

Precinct/District Number _____ (Not applicable to State Committeemen and State Committeewomen),

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.

Statement of Party

(Section 99.021(1)(b), 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.

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

Phonetic spelling for audio ballot: Print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot as may be used by persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form): [Not applicable to write-in candidates.]

X

()

Signature of Candidate

Telephone Number

Email Address

Address

City

State

ZIP Code

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF _____

Signature of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below:

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

Personally Known: _____ or Produced Identification: _____

Type of Identification Produced: _____