



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

The Horowitz Report: The Dems Spin and Lie about Its Findings

Finally, it's out! The long-awaited Horowitz Report by the Inspector General has been released and it is both enlightening and amusing all at the same time. The enlightening part comes from what the IG actually concluded, while the comedy predictably resides in the Dems and their mainstream media allies' spin and lies in response. Perhaps the most comical and dishonest response, came from one of the central figures in the cast of villains in this sordid abuse of power, former FBI Director James Comey, who immediately went public with ridiculous claims that the report concluded he "did nothing wrong." At his Senate Committee Hearing, when Mr. Horowitz was informed of Comey's claims of vindication, he said that his report "doesn't vindicate anyone at the FBI who touched this, including the leadership."

First, the report's facts, fairly reported, in my opinion, by the Obama-appointed Inspector General, Michael Horowitz, despite suspicions to the contrary by conservatives, including this one, whose pre-release doubts about the man's unbiased reputation as a straight shooter proved unfounded. As Sen. Lindsey Graham told the IG when he testified before his Senate committee, "I have no problem with you investigating somebody, because you know the

difference between getting somebody and trying to find the truth." Here are some of those truths he discovered in his thorough investigations as reported by media outlets.

But first, this from Daniel Henninger of the *Wall Street Journal*, who regularly appears on FOX NEWS, and it addresses the mainstream media's take on the report:

"Within minutes of the report's release, the media headline was that it 'debunks' the idea that the FBI was guilty of political bias against Mr. Trump, as well as 'conservative theories' that there was a deep-state effort to get Mr. Trump.

"Whatever the [434-page] investigation did or did not 'debunk,' the report is shocking. It is page after page—detailing gross errors of judgment and violations of FBI investigation protocols. Everyone with an opinion about what has been going on in the U.S. the past 3½ years should at least read the report's detailed executive summary and draw their own conclusions.

"True, Mr. Horowitz asserted no 'documentary or testimonial evidence' of anti-Trump bias inside the borders of this investigation. But one has to be obtuse to read this

Horowitz Report—continued on next page



Win McNamee/Getty Images

Horowitz Report—continued from previous page

report and not see its authors are incredulous at the idea that the only explanation possible is incompetence and misjudgment on an unimaginable scale by trained FBI professionals. As Mr. Horowitz puts it with almost bemused understatement, ‘We did not receive satisfactory explanations for the errors or problems we identified.’

“As it did with the Mueller report, the media is abandoning the actual content to push the public’s attention toward Attorney General Barr’s ‘disagreements’ with Mr. Horowitz. This is a sham issue, a red herring.”

- Christopher Steele’s infamous dossier contained significant amounts of material that former FBI Director Comey reported was “salacious and unverified,” yet it still played a “central and essential role” in the Bureau’s decision to seek a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant on former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page.
- The FBI did not inform the Justice Department of “significant [exculpatory] information that was available” and “was inconsistent with, or undercut,” claims that Mr. Page was “an agent of a foreign power.”
- The FBI ignored warnings about Steele’s political bias and took him at his word when he falsely told agents he wasn’t the source for a Yahoo News article the FBI cited in its application to the court.
- The report identified “at least 17 significant errors or omissions in the Carter Page FISA [Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act] applications”—for which investigators received no satisfactory answers.”
- The FBI didn’t inform the FISA court that Mr. Page had served as a Central Intelligence Agency source and received a “positive assessment” for candor from the agency.
- An FBI lawyer altered an email he’d received confirming Mr. Page had been a CIA source. After he changed it to read “not a source,” the email was then used to help renew the FISA warrant on Mr. Page. [So even if Mr. Page was speaking to Russians, what’s wrong with that? He was working for the CIA! And the FBI changed that to make it look like he wasn’t working for them in order to renew the FISA warrant on him and I guess we’re to believe that was an honest mistake in keyboarding? Yeah, sure!]
- Mr. Comey pushed to include Mr. Steele’s dossier in the Intelligence Community Assessment, even though the CIA “expressed concern about the lack of vetting.”
- Mr. Horowitz pulled no punches about blaming the upper echelons of the FBI when he stated in the report: “We are deeply concerned that so many basic and fundamental errors were made by three separate, hand-picked investigative teams; on one of the most sensitive FBI investigations; after the matter had been briefed to the highest level within the FBI; even though the information sought through FISA authority related so closely to an ongoing presidential campaign; and even though those involved with the investigation knew that their actions were likely to be subjected to close scrutiny. We believe this circumstance reflects a failure not just by those who prepared the FISA applications, but also by the managers and supervisors in the [investigation’s]

chain of command, including FBI senior officials who were briefed as the investigation progressed.”

- Mr. Horowitz confirmed what the FBI had already leaked to friendly reporters, which is that the Bureau’s alarm in July 2016 was triggered by a conversation that former Trump aide George Papadopoulos had with Australian Alexander Downer. But we learn for the first time that the FBI immediately ramped up its counter-intelligence probe to include four Trump campaign officials: Messrs. Page and Papadopoulos, then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort, and former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency Gen. Michael Flynn.
- Yet the FBI never told anyone in the Trump campaign, or even Donald Trump, whom or what it was investigating so he could reduce the danger or distance himself from those advisors. The FBI was investigating the campaign but wouldn’t tell the candidate, who would soon be elected[!]
- Democrats and the press are making much of Mr. Horowitz’s conclusion that he “did not find political bias or testimonial evidence that political bias or improper motivation” influenced FBI decisions. But his report does show that political bias was conveyed to the FISA court from the Clinton campaign via the Steele dossier [paid for by the Clinton Campaign] through the FBI.
- The dossier was conveyed by Bruce Ohr, a senior Justice Department Official whose wife, Nellie Ohr, worked for Fusion GPS. Mr. Horowitz may not have found a memo with the words “Let’s get Trump,” but his evidence shows that getting Mr. Trump was the goal of Mr. Steele and Fusion GPS. Mr. Ohr met 13 times with the FBI to discuss the Steele findings.

Even if you believe that “no bias” occurred, “it doesn’t remove the fact that this whole sordid affair had major political consequences. Fusion GPS used its media contacts to spread word of the Steele dossier’s accusations, and news of the FBI’s use of that dossier became a media hook to suggest the accusations were credible. This became another part of the false Russia collusion narrative played up by the press and the likes of former CIA director John Brennan.”

President Trump believes that what happened to him “should never again happen to another president,” and he’s right. Despite the Democrats’ false claims about IG Horowitz’s findings, his report is clearly damaging to them and their mainstream media mouthpieces who have tried their best for three years to pin this patently fraudulent label of being an agent of Putin on our duly-elected president. If the United States House of Representatives moves to impeach Mr. Trump, the Republican-controlled Senate should pursue the trial with a vengeance, aggressively seeking to lay bare before the American public what is without a doubt, the greatest political scandal in history. This is no time for Republicans in the Senate to go wobbly on us. In the Kavanaugh confirmation hearings awhile back and the recently concluded impeachment inquiry in the House, Republicans seem to have learned the lessons taught by the president about fighting back, and they need to do so in the upcoming trial, if there is one. The dishonest Dems and their biased media drive-bys have been asking for it with their bald-faced lies for a long time, now let’s give it to them!

—Tom Mullings

☆☆☆ **President Trump Rally in Sunrise, November 26** ☆☆☆



President Trump Wows the Crowd at the RPOF Statesman's Dinner

President Trump headlined the RPOF Statesman's Dinner in Aventura on December 7. Here are comments from some of the attendees.

JOE GRUTERS, RPOF Chair: What a day! We broke all fundraising records at our Florida GOP Statesman Dinner, thanks to Governor Ron DeSantis and his leadership, and then I was able to join President Trump at the IAC conference where he spoke about America's relationship with Israel, and then I was able to join him on Air Force One on the way back to DC with Senate President Bill Galvano, Florida CFO Jimmy Patronis, Dane Eagle, and future Speaker Chris Sprowls. It was a Florida flight and an awesome experience.

KERRY KENSINGTON: All I can say is our President is the most Amazing Man I have ever met. He had us roaring with laughter tonight while being so proud of what he has done for our Military Men. He has righted horrible wrongs and saved lives in doing so. He is fearless and a hero to many. Our Governor and Florida's First Lady hold a Special Place in our Presidents heart. I am proud of our Republican Party for embracing our President unitedly and am sure Florida is going to vote Trump in 2020. Thank you everyone who was there tonight. It was a wonderful event. Great job.

LAUREL BENNETT: President Donald Trump, speaking during a closed-door speech to Republican Party of Florida donors at the state party's annual Statesman's Dinner, was in "rare form" Saturday night.

The dinner, which raised \$3.5 million for the state party, was met with unusual secrecy. The 1,000 attendees were required to check their cell phones into individual locked cases before they entered the unmarked ballroom at the

south end of the resort. Reporters were not allowed to attend. But the secrecy was key to Trump's performance, which attendees called "hilarious."

Riding the high of the successful event turnout—and without the pressure of press or cell phones—Trump transformed into a "total comedian," according to six people who attended the event and spoke afterward to the *Miami Herald*.

He also pulled an unusual move, bringing on stage Army 1st Lt. Clint Lorance and Maj. Mathew Golsteyn, who Trump pardoned last month for cases involving war crimes. Lorance was serving a 19-year sentence for ordering his soldiers to shoot at unarmed men in Afghanistan, and Golsteyn was to stand trial for the 2010 extrajudicial killing of a suspected bomb maker.

The president spoke for over an hour, doing impressions of Democrats like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and joking about the slim physique of Ohio congressman—and former wrestler—Jim Jordan, who was in attendance. He also introduced his son-in-law and senior advisor, Jared Kushner, and North Florida Congressman Mike Waltz.

Trump spent a large part of the speech, attendees told the *Herald*, praising Florida Republicans for their work in the state. At one point he called on stage Attorney General Ashley Moody, Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis and all of the Republican state lawmakers in attendance. He especially praised Gov. Ron DeSantis, who he calls "a good guy."

"DeSantis is always up in Washington bugging me for federal aid and federal money," said Trump, speaking during the Statesman's Dinner, held at the JW Marriott Turnberry Resort and Spa in Aventura. "He is unabashed in making asks for Florida."

Having dinner with our Governor, President, AG Ashley Moody, Ben Carson, Jim Jordan was amazing.



What Can I Do?

By Sid Dinerstein
siddinerstein@yahoo.com
November 27, 2019

I get that question all the time. What can I do? How can an average citizen and supporter of President Trump help? With family/job/school taking up everyone's life, excluding mine and those of my "political junkie" friends, what's a citizen to do? This essay offers a few helpful suggestions to get you "in the game" without upending your life.

First, contribute. No, don't write a check. Just punch your phone. Everyone gets, or can get, small dollar solicitations on their phone. Hit one. Make sure it's for either Trump/Pence or the RNC. Don't spend more than \$100, or five minutes. Twenty-five and up is great. I did \$100—the day Nancy Pelosi and the "Whistleblower" manipulated that first pre-impeachment vote in September. Guess what? My \$100 became \$5 MILLION in 24 hours and \$13 million in a week. How proud am I! It's low dollar, high satisfaction and greatly important. Thank you in advance.

And, if you think about it, your contribution can pay for itself. How? Find that Liberal periodical you've been receiving for decades. Cancel it. I'm talking about the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Palm Beach Post* or any of a hundred others. It's about saving money and feeling good. They're all costing at least \$100 annually. Make them pay for their Presidential abuse.

Buy a book. If you like reading for pleasure, try political non-fiction. Then find an ad that gets you a "drain the swamp" genre book for a political contribution or an extended magazine subscription. Like *Newsmax*. Remember, today's political non-fiction has better plot lines than the biggest fiction best sellers. You can't make this stuff up.

Wear a Trump button. Big enough for everyone to see. Then let people approach you so you can explain to them, calmly, why you're so proud of our President and why you can't wait to vote for him again, or for the first time. If the conversation goes well, reach into your pocket and pull out another Trump button and offer it to your new BFF. One condition: She has to wear it.

My smart phone is smarter than your smart phone. Why? Because I have apps, favorites and emails that keep me ahead of the political news. You're stuck with television and some boring plain vanilla MSM apps (like CNN and NBC). My apps are free and helpful:

- FOX News—It's comprehensive with a center-right slant. It's updated throughout the day. Lots to learn.
- Breitbart—It's further right than Fox. It's direct, incisive and working for our side. It's everything the major networks are not. It's a boatload of ammunition.
- Daily Caller—It's a not quite as good a version of Breitbart but way ahead of the MSM.

- Twitter—I love Twitter. And I never Tweet. I just follow President Trump and the two best investigative journalists in the solar system, Sara Carter and John Solomon. As I like to say, I get the news the same time CNN does, without the whacko left filtering. If you don't know how to set up your FREE account, ask your grandchild.



Not all great sites have apps. Check these out:

- Rasmussen Reports is the only poll you need or want. It does Presidential Approval every day, Monday through Friday. It does Right Direction/Wrong Direction every week. It only uses Likely Voters, not Adults or Registered Voters. And it got 2016 exactly right. Make it a Safari "Favorite."
- Whatfinger is the new, fun site you never heard of. It's center-right, colorful and has click-throughs for large amounts of media. It's what Drudge used to be. Another Safari "Favorite."
- And, finally, there's Pam Geller, Warrior Princess. You need to find her (Geller Report) and get on her daily email. She has the best site in the world for the clash of civilizations. Most of her articles can't be easily found elsewhere. Pam does it all with a Fatwa on her head. Enough said.

And last, but not least, wear an American flag lapel pin, or brooch for the ladies. Why? Because it's a statement that you love our country and are thankful for the great life it has given you. Say no more.

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



November Recap

November was a very busy month, both in Tallahassee and in the District. We had two weeks of committee meetings where we began to hear many bills in anticipation of the 2020 Legislative Session. I had the pleasure of filing my first two bills, HB 649 Substance Abuse Services and HB 653 Municipal Electric Utilities.

HB 649: Substance Abuse Services—This bill will continue the good work the legislature has done relating to substance use and the sober home industry over the last several years. After attending last week’s Statewide Opioid Task Force meeting with Attorney General Moody as Speaker Oliva’s appointee, I am particularly interested in one facet of this bill that relates to Peer Specialists. Last year, through a bill I sponsored that the Legislature passed, we created language for Peer Specialists to work with in the substance use industry. Experts are finding the language extremely useful, but that the positions are unfortunately difficult to fill. HB 649 seeks to work with the Department of Children and Families to license Peer Specialists in an accelerated manner.

HB 653: Municipal Electric Utilities—This bill will prohibit municipal electric utility companies from using their profits to finance their general governmental functions. The purpose is to have them use their profits exclusively for electric utility operations and for building, maintaining, renovating, or improving the infrastructure of their utility facilities.

I was also able to present several of the budget requests I filed for the coming session, all of which I’m pleased to say passed their respective committees unanimously. You can read more about these by following the link to their Appropriation Request. It’s still early in the budget process but having them heard in committee is the first step in a project being eligible for the budget.

- HB 2103: Learning for Life (Boy Scouts)
- HB 2159: Highland Beach Drainage Improvements
- HB 2183: JARC Community Works
- HB 2185: Highland Beach Crosswalks
- HB 2227: Alzheimer’s Community Care Association—Critical Support Initiative
- HB 2403: Palm Beach County—Singer Island Submerged Lands Acquisition
- HB 2407: Palm Beach County—Lake Worth Lagoon Monitoring Program
- HB 2411: Hypoluxo Septic to Sewer Conversion

The final committee week begins on December 9th and I expect it will be very busy. I will certainly keep you updated as we move forward towards the 2020 Session. For more up-to-date information please follow me on Facebook or Twitter.

As always it is my honor to serve you in the Florida House. If ever I may be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office number is (561) 750-2396.



Kelvin Williams, Boy Scouts Regional Director



Student Government Leaders from FIU, FAMU, University of West Florida, and FGCU

“The Backhoe Chronicles”

*By Peter Feaman
Florida National Committeeman*

A Message from Ronna McDaniel, Chairwoman of the RNC:

DECEMBER 5—“House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced Thursday what her radical far-left base has longed to hear: Democrats will proceed with articles of impeachment against President Trump.

“But while this might come as a present to Democrats who have dreamed of impeaching President Trump since the day he took office, Pelosi and her Democratic colleagues should be careful what they wish for.

“It is already apparent that Wednesday’s impeachment hearing before the House Judiciary Committee was a disaster for Democrats.

“The Democratic desperation was obvious in the witnesses they called to the hearing: three rambling liberal law professors with documented anti-Trump biases who lectured the American people on their hatred for this president, rather than providing a shred of evidence to bolster the Democrats’ case.

“Fortunately for Republicans, the American people can see right through this partisan charade. . . .

“Alexander Hamilton had the foresight to warn us that impeachment would be prone to abuse rather than driven by ‘real demonstrations of innocence or guilt.’

“Unfortunately, we are seeing the founders’ fears realized because Democrats are wielding the constitutional power of impeachment as a political weapon.

“While Democrats in Washington were staging more political theater paid for by your hard-earned tax dollars, President Trump was hard at work at the NATO summit in London, meeting with world leaders about how to modernize and strengthen the transatlantic alliance.

“Thanks to the president’s unprecedented negotiating skills, he was able to secure an unprecedented \$130 billion in additional defense spending by NATO allies by getting them to pony up and pay their fair share.

“The one silver lining to come out of the Democrats’ partisan witch hunt is that it is only serving to motivate voters to support Republicans as we prepare for the 2020 elections. In fact, the Republican National Committee raised over \$25 million in October alone as the impeachment sham was getting underway.

“Combine our financial edge with our strong grassroots ground game and the Republican Party has never been more poised or better positioned for victory heading into an election year than right now.”

NATO

DECEMBER 5—Amidst all the sound and fury of the bogus impeachment hearings, President Trump is putting America first on another front—NATO.

For decades NATO members worked together to confront the world’s toughest challenges. However, during the 8 years of the Obama Administration NATO’s ability to accomplish that mission became severely weakened.

In 2017, when President Trump took office, only four of our NATO allies were meeting their defense spending obligations under the treaty. Meanwhile, past U.S. leaders—along with their counterparts overseas—were happy to let Americans foot the bill.

President Trump promised to change all that. And he has.

A hallmark of the Trump Administration foreign policy is making sure America isn’t asked to be the world’s sole policeman. For NATO, that means strengthening the alliance by making clear that ALL members must meet their responsibilities under the agreement, which spells out that 2 percent of GDP be committed to investing in defense.

Once President Trump made his expectations clear, a funny thing happened: Today, nine members have met their targets, adding \$130 billion to total defense budgets. Moreover, two-thirds of our NATO allies are on track to hit the 2 percent goal by 2024.

There’s work left to do, which is why President Trump is keeping the pressure on. The United States still accounts for nearly 70 percent of combined NATO defense spending. But under this Administration, we’ve seen the biggest improvement on that front in a generation.

“We are making real progress, most importantly on the burden sharing,” NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said in London on Tuesday. “And your leadership on defense spending is having a real impact,” he told President Trump.

“This is unprecedented. This is making NATO stronger. And it shows that this Alliance is adapting, responding when the world is changing.” (*Source: The White House*)

Democrat Impeachment 2.0

DECEMBER 4—So today we move from the Schiff Show to the Jerry-rigged Judiciary Hearings.

One of the charges they are alleging against our President is that he tried to use his political office for political gain in the next election.

I had to guffaw at that one.

Why?

Consider this: the House Democrats know that the case against Mr. Trump for impeachment is just about baseless. They also know that should they vote to impeach, the measure in the Senate will go absolutely nowhere.

So why are they going through all these motions?

Obviously, because they want to damage in President in the 2020 election.

So, isn't that using their political office for political gain in the next election?

Just sayin’.



Backhoe Chronicles—continued fom previous page

Impeachment Update, or, for the Democrats, Impeachment Downtate:

NOVEMBER 23—From the Heritage Foundation—Polling initially looked promising for impeachment, with media outlets attempting to claim significant bipartisan support for inquiry and removal, but then the polling moved in the wrong direction for Democrats.

Emerson polling showed that support for impeachment flipped since October from 48 percent support with 44 percent opposing to now 45 percent opposed and 43 percent in support. Among key independents, the switch was even more pronounced. In October, 48 percent supported impeaching President Trump, with 39 percent opposed. Now, 49 percent of independents oppose impeachment, while only 34 percent support it.

A new Marquette University Law School poll found that 40 percent of registered voters in the swing state of Wisconsin think that Trump should be impeached and removed from office, while 53 percent do NOT think so. Another 6 percent weren't sure.

A new Gallup poll shows that Trump's approval has ticked UP two points since the impeachment drama began, with 50 percent of Americans opposed to it and 48 percent in support. Henry Olsen notes that Gallup polls all adults, not just registered voters, meaning that a poll of registered voters would have Trump's job approval even higher and impeachment opposed by closer to a 52–46 margin.

And not only are no Republicans expected to join with Democrats in an eventual impeachment vote, some members expect the bipartisan consensus against it to grow.

Republicans, by contrast, needed to aim for bipartisan opposition to the impeachment proceedings, keep their members in line, make the case that the impeachment proceedings lacked fairness, and that concern about Ukrainian corruption was legitimate. They managed to do all that.

No to Open Primaries

NOVEMBER 22—Making my way up to Liberty County where I am speaking tomorrow night at their Lincoln Day Dinner.

Thank you to Liberty SCM Michael Richter for your help with logistics.

Very much looking forward to firing up the crowd for our great President.

By the way, there is a rumor going around about my position on open primaries.

I do NOT support open primaries in any way shape or form.

Why would we let anyone other than Republicans decide who our candidates should be?

That's crazy.

On the Impeachment front:

The past two weeks were the Democrats' best shot to persuade the American people on impeachment and Adam Schiff failed.

Reminder:

- Schiff set the rules.
- Schiff controlled the witnesses.

- Schiff abolished due process by blocking President Trump's counsel's participation.

And what happened after these two weeks? Democrats LOST ground, big league.

From an Emerson poll out yesterday which showed a 180° swing among independent voters on impeachment to our own internal polling, the Democrats' witch hunt has backfired.

According to RNC internal polling:

- President Trump's approval is the highest it's been since the bogus impeachment charade began.
- Opposition to impeachment is growing.
- And most voters want Biden investigated—including over a third of Democrats.

Bottom Line: Impeachment has backfired for Democrats already. When the Democrats' charade moves to the Senate, where President Trump will be able to defend himself, it will only get worse for Democrats. The American people aren't buying what the Democrats are trying to sell.

Thanks to the Schiff Show

NOVEMBER 20—Hey Chronicle fans—maybe we should thank Congressman Schiff for his Schiff show—see below.

The Republican National Committee fundraising juggernaut, fueled by a GOP backlash to the House impeachment effort to force President Trump from office, scored another record in October and pushed the bank account past \$61 million.

“The debt-free RNC brought in \$25.3 million in October and has \$61.4 million cash on hand.

For perspective, that is nearly triple what the RNC raised in October 2017, the last election off-year October, and the money on hand is the most since 2012.

The RNC credited support for Trump and anger by many Republicans at impeachment. Its anti-impeachment effort called “Stop the Madness” has brought in 75,000 volunteers!!!

““While Democrats are focused on their sham impeachment charade, Republicans had another record-breaking fundraising month in October—the best off-cycle October in our party's history,” said Ronna McDaniel.

Key numbers for the RNC:

- Receipts for September were \$25.3 million.
- Receipts for 2019–2020 cycle are \$194 million.

Impeachment isn't just playing a role in donors sending checks and online contributions to the Republican Party. The party is also spending that money to target pro-impeachment Democrats for defeat.

The “Stop the Madness” effort has included over 120 events nationwide targeting over 60 Democrats in Senate, House, and gubernatorial races.

Chronicle fans:

Stay the course

Keep the faith

Keep working for the cause

Do not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we shall prevail.

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

Large Field of CD-22 Candidates Take the Stage

By Fred Scheibl
December 7, 2019

On December 5, the extremely large field of Republicans looking to retire Ted Deutch in Congressional District 22 took the stage at the South County Civic Center. The event was sponsored by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County.

This D+15 district is comprised of northern Broward County (413K voters, D+18) and a small part of Palm Beach in Boca Raton east of the turnpike (100K voters, equal number of R and D). Whoever emerges from this field will have a tough road, as Deutch is sitting on a war chest of \$488K, while none of the Republicans have posted any funds.

That said, with many Independents and even Democrats strongly opposed to the partisan impeachment farce which Deutch is supporting, this may be the year to turn CD22 red.

Moderated by **MaryAnna Mancuso**, a moderate Republican strategist who appears on WPTV's "To the Point," the forum gave each of the candidates a chance to stretch their political legs and make an impression.

At the left of the stage was **Kevin Boyle** of Boca Raton. A "law and order" candidate, Kevin would like to close the southern border until it is under control, impose maximum penalties for human trafficking, and curb Iranian aggression through military force if necessary.

Next up was **Jessi Melton** of Delray Beach, who has an interest in health care. She supports health insurance across state lines and reducing the power of the FDA.

Jim Pruden, also from Boca, would push to pass Kate's Law, reduce the national debt, and support the Trump Administration's plans for the Middle East.

To Jim's right was **Christine Scott** of Boynton Beach. She would reduce our trade with China as we "don't really need them," and applauds the "Right to Try" legislation and allowing drug importation from Canada. Seeking to qualify via petition, Christine has been out and about in the district since August, meeting thousands of voters.

Next was **Dr. Joseph Smith**. His interest is criminal justice reform and supporting medical innovation.

To his right was **Darlene Swaffar**. Darlene is known as the "Medicare Lady" (her registered trademark) and runs a large insurance agency in Deerfield Beach. She is interested in stopping the algae blooms in our waterways and revising Obamacare. Noting the Democrat lean to the district, she has already won the support (including endorsements) of some Independents and Democrats in Broward.

At the end of the stage was **Dr. Eddison Walters** of Boca Raton, a financial professional who believes that the 2008 real estate bubble was a hoax. His interesting hypothesis is backed up by a paper he wrote for the *Journal of International Business and Economics*. He believes that concern for the national debt is overblown, and focusing on growth is what we need to do.

With eight months to go before the August primary, it will be interesting to see how this field shakes out. Besides these candidates and Ted Deutch, there is also an NPA candidate in the race, Omar Reyes, and Imtiaz Ahmad Mohammad is challenging Deutch in the Democrat primary.



Left to right: Kevin Boyle, Jessi Melton, Armand Grossman, Mary Anna Mancuso, Jim Pruden, Christine Scott, Dr. Joseph Smith, Darlene Swaffar, and Eddison Walters.

Frankel Foes Weigh in on Healthcare Price Controls

By George Blumel

This month we asked all the GOP primary candidates challenging incumbent Rep. Lois Frankel (D-District 21) to look at Frankel-sponsored bill H.R. 3, the deeply flawed so-called “Lower Drug Costs Now Act.”

Frankel’s bill is like other government price controls that have decreased the availability of effective and affordable health care. A major negative effect of this type of price setting policy is evident in the six countries from which this bill would be importing those price controls. Heritage Foundation expert Doug Bader [explains](#):

Of new [pharmaceuticals] introduced between 2011 and 2018, 89% are available to Americans, compared with 62% in Germany and 60% in the United Kingdom. One-half or more of these new therapies are unavailable to Australian, Canadian, French, and Japanese patients.

Rep. Frankel has had a free pass in her four elections to Congress—until now. Several Republicans seeing her awful [Career of Reckless Spending](#) decided to do something about it. These are patriotic Americans, not career politicians. Each is a knowledgeable, informed citizen willing to give part of their life to help drain the swamp that Washington D.C. has become. They deserve our wholehearted support. Here are their responses to the Frankel sponsored bill:

Liz Felton <http://electelizabethfelton.com>

In order for health care to be affordable government needs to get out of the way and allow the free market to sort things out. Allow people to join private doctor clubs for expected medical incidents and open trade for crisis insurance across state lines to widen the risk pool and stimulate competitive pricing. Encourage growth of nonprofits across the country to act as a safety net for those who fall between qualifying for Medicare/Medicaid and those who cannot afford to purchase plans.

Victor Garcia da Rosa

<https://victorgarciadarosaforcongress.com/>

H.R. 3 is another Democrat Party socialistic approach to healthcare. Naming H.R. 3 “Lower Drug Costs Now Act of 2019” sounds appealing, but it is deception. It only covers “insulin” and “at least 25 of the 125 single-source brand name drugs that do not have generic competition.”

Pharmaceutical companies invest billions of dollars in R&D creating cutting-edge medications, plus many millions of dollars in patient assistance programs for those unable to pay. With the passage of H.R. 3, investment in R&D will be greatly reduced, as will the patient assistance programs. The debacle of the misnamed Affordable Care Act proved government’s inability to control healthcare costs by force. H.R. 3 will once again promise much, yet deliver nothing. I oppose any attempts to lead our country into socialism.

Christian Acosta

www.voteacosta.com



Prescription drug costs are high mainly because Medicare sets a fixed reimbursement rate for each drug. This has the effect of incentivizing companies to set high initial prices and distorts pricing for the entire drug market. Lois Frankel refuses to admit that the core problem is prices being set by a central authority. Her bill, HR.3, would just set new prices without fixing the broken system. If Medicare controlling drug prices led to the problem, why would Medicare choosing a new price suddenly fix our issues? What we need is a truly market-based system, with flexible Medicare reimbursement rates that create downward price pressure for drug companies. The more we expose the drug market to price competition, the better prices will become for consumers.

Aaron Scanlan

<https://www.facebook.com/scanlanforcongress>

Our healthcare is only as advanced as our research and development is. Price setting like this will only cause this critical aspect of our healthcare to be hindered. With all of the things our federal government are responsible for, we do not need to get into the drug business by being the go-between forcing private companies to sell the government the medications so they can adjust the price to whatever they want. Let us work on the responsibilities already at hand. *One Nation, One Republic, Forever United.*

Laura Loomer lauraloomerforcongress.com/ and **Michael Vilardi** www.vilardi2020.com had not responded by press time but we will try to include any new information they provide in next month’s issue.

As reported in a previous issue, we asked each candidate if they had signed the U.S. Term Limits Congressional pledge. So far, all the candidates had done so with the exception of Laura Loomer. The pledge can be found at www.termlimits.com.

Now we ask our fellow Republicans to let us know what political issues you’d like to have our candidates answer here and/or on their websites in the time leading up to the August primary. We need to learn more about each one’s approach to the issues of the day to make the best choice among them. Send your question for any or all our district 21 candidates [here](#).

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

Ballot Harvesting in Palm Beach County

By William J. Skinner

Harvesting ballots is a common practice in Florida and it is not strictly illegal in each and every instance. I first became aware of the practice of planting and harvesting absentee ballots in Florida while I was researching my book, *South Florida Election Law Handbook*, published in 2014. This article is a refresher to help you understand one section of the laws concerning vote-by-mail ballots and three situations that describe different ways this is done.

Florida law (F.S. 101.62(4)(c)4) provides that individuals may request for absentee ballots for themselves and immediate family, which is defined as a spouse, child, parent, sibling, legal guardian, or grandparent. Florida law also requires that if one is requesting an absentee ballot for someone else, they must provide certain identifying information. A violation of this law (F.S. 104.047) constitutes a third degree felony. Look up Florida Statutes on www.myflorida.com/floridastatutes and read the many voting methods and requirements for requesting ballots and turning them in at the time of an election in Chapter 101.

Over the years Florida has revised its enforcement of election laws to allow party election workers to handle absentee ballots. There are still several concerns. How many ballots can be picked up from voters by candidates and delivered to the elections office? What if the ballot collection worker represented an opponent of the voter's choice on the ballot? Would these ballots be delivered or tossed in the trash? Has there been uniform enforcement of law and regulations pertaining to the details of handling these ballots? The name of these ballots has been changed to vote-by-mail ballots or mail-in ballots more recently and the word "absentee" is no longer used.

Belle Glade—2009

This situation involved multiple political party workers in Belle Glade ordering ballots for voters and monitoring when these were delivered to the voters in 2009. Then the worker knocked on doors and tried to help the voter prepare the ballot and then take the ballot from the voter to be delivered to the election office or maybe not deliver it anywhere. The five pages of details of the Executive Investigation conducted by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement are reviewed in the book beginning at page 292.

For several days, investigators tracked down voters and witnesses to try to determine what was going on. In the end, there was no reversal of any election. Some people lost their vote because the people who tried to help them vote probably took advantage of them. This episode explains what investigators have to do to document a case.

Loxahatchee Groves—2015

Loxahatchee Groves had a city election on March 10, 2015. On that date 22 voters came to cast ballots at the only

polling place and told the election officials that someone had ordered absentee ballots for them. When Keith Harris lost the city election he sued the city election board members and the Supervisor of Elections on March 26, 2015. The case was active for over four years in the Circuit Court until a voluntary dismissal was entered on May 30, 2019 dismissing the remaining parties, with Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher being dismissed earlier.



During the early days of this case an investigation was conducted. On the date of the election 22 individuals that appeared at the election polls in person to vote complained to an elections poll worker that they received an unsolicited absentee ballot. Their information was documented and a list of these individuals was later provided to Supervisor of Elections Susan Bucher for her review. In an effort to further the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) investigation, Bucher provided Special Agent (SA) Thomas a copy of the list containing the 22 individuals that appeared in person to vote on the day of the election along with copies of 153 absentee ballot request submission forms processed for the March 10th election. These forms memorialized the identity of those for whom absentee ballots were processed during the time period of March 1, 2015 through March 4, 2015. These 153 forms represent a fraction of the 304 total ballots requested for this election.

Following the interviews of several of the persons receiving the absentee ballots, the FDLE investigators concluded: "Steps taken by SA Thomas to unequivocally identify a suspect(s) or target(s) in this investigation yielded negative results, thus preventing the Office of the State Attorney from pursuing any criminal charges. According to ASA Marci Rex, a clear connection between the electronic source (computer type device) of where the request for the absentee ballots originated and its operator(s) would need to be determined in order to file and pursue a criminal conviction. A clear connection was not made in this case."

After this decision an effort was made by the investigators to determine the source of the devices used to request the ballots. This led to the following conclusion in the investigative report: "In furtherance of this investigation, Special Agent (SA) D. Thomas after meeting with Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Susan Marie Bucher, on March 12, 2015, was provided with internet protocol (IP) information for investigative purposes. Bucher requested this information from their (Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections Office) online computer website vender (SOE

Ballot Harvesting—continued on next page

Ballot Harvesting—continued from previous page

Software) in response to SA Thomas' request to query certain computer database logs. The information provided revealed that the identified IP address was linked to over 100 online absentee voter ballot requests for the March 2015 election. The IP address was identified as a "Dynamic Internet Protocol address." SA Thomas learned that such IP addresses were derived from a pool of IP addresses and were assigned and reassigned as individuals' devices (computers, laptops, tablets, cellular telephones, etc.) logged on and off any particular computer network. The IP address identified in this investigation could have randomly been used by any number of internet users using any number of devices during the time period the more than 100 absentee voter ballot requests were made. As such, efforts to track the specific IP address for each of the absentee ballot email requests made became unsuccessful.

On April 9, 2015, at approximately 10:00 a.m., SA Thomas, in further attempts to explore the possibility of identifying the IP address information he was provided, contacted SA W. Hernandez of FDLE's Computer Cyber Technology (Cybertech) Unit. SA Thomas, after explaining the circumstances regarding the IP address in question, requested SA Hernandez to make an additional attempt to obtain any available IP identification information. SA Hernandez, on April 17, 2015, informed SA Thomas via email communication that his efforts were met with negative results and that the IP address provided came back to a 'dead end'" (FDLE Case Number: MI-32-0049, Serial #: 26, 11/25/2015). More information about this case can be obtained from an article "Loxahatchee Groves councilman cooperating in absentee ballot probe" by Kristen M. Clark, *Palm Beach Post* Staff Writer, Thursday, March 12, 2015. (Source of *Post* article was <http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/news/local/loxahatchee-groves-councilman-cooperating-absentee-ballot-probe/eOc6HpGl8U9ZpA9UHCF wj/>. See Circuit Court in the 15th Judicial Circuit in Palm Beach County, Case No. 50-2015-CA-003454-XXXX-MB.)

West Palm Beach—2016

This case of ballot harvesting involved two candidates, one for state House, and one for County Commissioner. The facts are extensive for this case and the *Palm Beach Post* assigned several reporters and photographers to research the election for an article published in 2017. They reported their research at : <https://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/special-reports/winning-candidates-help-voters-fill-out-their-ballots/V0ieae6VcZNNWF6I9yIRdM/>. How the *Post* got the story? Data reporter Mike Stucka, researcher Melanie Mena and staff writer Daphne Duret contributed to this story.

The research team reported the votes in three precincts as a small part of their extensive coverage of these election results.

PRECINCT 7186

Boynton Beach Civic Center
69% of all ballots were mail-in
378 total mail-in ballots
338 voted for Bernard
334 voted for Jacquet

PRECINCT 7196

Temple Sinai, Delray Beach
62% of all ballots were mail-in
366 total mail-in ballots
310 voted for Bernard
302 voted for Jacquet

PRECINCT 7174

Rolling Green Elementary, Boynton Beach
55% of all ballots were mail-in
135 total mail-in ballots
112 voted for Bernard
105 voted for Jacquet

August 30, 2016 Primary Election

Here is a series of comments from the authors of this extensive special article cited above.

"For Bernard and Jacquet, the Aug. 30 primary meant outright victory. Nobody ran against them in the November general election."

"Powell comfortably beat Republican Ron Berman in November, and in his first few weeks as a state senator has introduced a few pieces of legislation."

"One of them?"

"A bill to make it easier to drop off vote-by-mail ballots."

Powell is Bobby Powell who was elected to the Florida Senate District 30 in November of 2016. The Senate district does not include these same three precincts. So far Powell has not been able to get an amendment to Florida statutes to make it easier to drop off vote-by-mail ballots. See Laws of Florida 2019-162 for amendments to F.S. 101.62 in 2019. Protect your vote, read the election laws.

The idea of ballot harvesting is gaining strength in states like California where the legislature approved it. Florida voters must become aware of the consequences of harvesting ballots before more elections disappear under an avalanche of one party or the other taking advantage of loop holes. But ballot harvesting is illegal in North Carolina and many other states. A congressional election was ordered canceled and done over because of ballot harvesting by a Republican in the 2018 election.

William J. Skinner is PBC-GOP Voter Fraud Committee Chair. Contact him at BillskinnerLW@aol.com or 561-433-1170 if you are interested in learning more about voter fraud.

The Name of the Game for Democrats Is Shame!!

by Colonel Arthur DeRuve (U.S. Army, Ret.)

Its shame extends through the centuries, back to its Civil War and Ku Klux Klan days. Constantly provoking issues of disgrace, it continues today with its attempt to unseat the greatest president we have had in the last one hundred years, and that includes Ronald Reagan!

I could make reference to its introducing our income tax law to the devastation of all Americans; or its New (rather bad) Deal which turned a routine recession into a full-blown depression; or its giving the Eastern European nations to the Communist USSR after World War II; or its bungling of the Korean and Vietnam Wars; or so many, many other blunders throughout its shameful history—far too many to limit to one column. So I restrict myself to its recent and current indiscretions—the libeling and slandering of its political opponents.

The reason the Democrats do this, of course, is because they have nothing positive to say about themselves. I will try to limit recollections to the more recent campaigns so as to allow inclusion to a single column. Too bad, as this doesn't allow me to make reference to the Dems' referring to Abe Lincoln as a stupid ape who is not qualified to be president . . . oops that slipped out. We start, therefore, with Ronald Reagan.

Ronald Reagan, who reversed the Democrats' engines which were driving this nation to the socialist left and who brought world communism to its knees, was referred to as a dumb actor without the intelligence or abilities to be president. This after Jimmy Carter set a new low in executive capabilities, and became the USA's worst president ever, at that time. (Later to be outdone by the un-American Barack Hussein Obama.) SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS!

George Herbert Walker Bush was charged with being too regal for our democracy and too weak and inarticulate for the White House. He was accused of being born "with a silver foot in his mouth." This, despite his successes as a congressman, CIA director, ambassador, et al. SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS!

George W. Bush was deemed by Democrats to be unfit for being POTUS because he drank a lot as a young man and had a low academic record at college. Subsequent investigations showed his record at Harvard was better than his opponent's and FDR's at the same school. Further, shall we not compare his youthful transgressions to those of Bill Clinton with young interns in the Oval Office and his perjury convictions relevant to similar activities? SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS!

Clearly, the one consistent tactic utilized by the Dems in campaigns against Republicans is not issues, rather it is name calling. The reason: we (not they) are on the positive side of all the meaningful issues! So it continues today with our current Republican President Donald J. Trump.



Our president won clearly on the issues. The Democrats claimed fraud. That didn't work, so they demanded recounts. That didn't work. So they proposed changing the Electoral College method of choosing our chief executive. That didn't work. So they tried to hinder his accomplishments by opposing all of his nominees to office. That didn't work. So they encouraged their supporters to engage people who supported Trump physically. That did work, and crimes were committed. So they opposed all of his legislative proposals. That worked to a limited degree, but to the detriment of the American people. SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS!

Clearly, the accomplishments of this president to date are astronomical. Every race, gender, age group, religion, economic level, etc., etc. are better off as a result of his presidency. The only losers are the Democrats and their cohorts (Socialists/Progressives/Marxists/Communists/Fascists). No one knows this better than the Democrats who continue with their Russia/Mueller/whistleblower fantasies. The Democrats have given new meaning to the expression sore loser!

SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS! SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS! SHAME ON THE DEMOCRATS!

Col. Arthur DeRuve was commissioned a second lieutenant through the college ROTC program, and after serving with the 2nd Armored Division as a Cold War soldier in Germany, he remained an additional 28 years in the Army's active reserve, including 11 years as a military liaison officer for West Point. He is a graduate of the Army's Artillery and Guided Missile School, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Fordham University and a master's degree in public administration from New York University. He and his wife Dorothy have been married more than 60 years, and after being "snowbirds" for many years, now reside in Wellington.

The Message

By *CS Bennett*

To those lost souls on the left—to include the Democrat Party, their socialist vanguard (the Squad), and the Congressional Black Caucus—know that your days of disrupting this great republic, antagonizing the general populace, working outside of our laws, decimating our Constitution, dynamiting away at our rights and liberties, poisoning our children's young impressive minds, and gender bending and twisting, what the Almighty meant to be male and a female, are coming to a dramatic end.

Your side says you stand for the poor and the disenfranchised, but it is all a farce. Power and influence are what you really seek. Removing our right to free speech and our right to bear arms, and having dominion over others, has been your goal from the onset. You were never about freedom, or improving the lot of the poor, but rather controlling those you deem beneath you, and neutralizing those who stood in your way—the elitist and egotists that you all are. You have usurped our laws and shredded our Constitution in order to further your socialist agenda. This cannot, and will not, stand in a country formed and consecrated, in colonial times, by those who escaped tyranny.

As for the Congressional Black Caucus, you have done little to advance the cause of the Black community. Violent crime remains high in your districts, and poverty and illiteracy seems to be prevalent in our urban cities, which you control. Unfortunately, you have allied yourselves with the very political party that has never lifted Blacks collectively from their misery and hopelessness. Matter-of-fact, you are in bed with the very political party that is guilty of crimes towards humanity, namely against your ancestors who were enslaved, beaten, raped, tortured, tar and feathered, and lynched. Yes, you are in cahoots, or better yet, consorting, with those who could care less about the advancement of the Black community.

If you cared, you would be singing the praises of Donald Trump, whose policies are impacting the Black community in a positive way. I will put his achievements up against anything you claim that Barack Hussein Obama has done, which is little or nothing. Just shine a light on Obama's adopted hometown, Chicago, with its poverty, high unemployment rate, high homicide rate, and drug violence, and his concern is there for all to see. We have all seen the news coverage, that which the media gets around to showing. Donald J. Trump is exposing your party for what it is, a criminal racket. No, things do not look so rosy, the things you have all been doing behind the scenes and getting away with once.

If you truly cared about the Black community, you would get rid of all those Planned Parenthood chop shops. They are killing the unborn, and in some cases, newborns, who only get to breathe our air a few minutes before being slaughtered and their body parts sold to the highest bidder. What manner of humanity would prey on the helpless and



the innocent, in this case the unborn, but those who have no heart and no conscience? Yet, many of these same murderers profess to being God-loving and God-fearing Christians. Your side appears to have more sympathy for the welfare of animals than the life of an unborn human. You cannot even acknowledge it is a life that resides inside the womb.

While others are celebrating the great job this president is doing on behalf of the Black community and the nation, you loathe and hate him. Through his policies, he has brought about many accomplishments—the lowest unemployment rates in both the Black and Hispanic communities. Employment rates have gone through the roof in these same communities. The economy is booming. The stock market continues to soar. We are energy independent, highly respected again, and feared in some circles. For those who entered politics to enrich themselves and to fundamentally change this great representative republic, this president has had the courage to drain the swamp. Like our president, you had a chance to make a difference in the lives of others, but instead, you decided to deal yourselves in on the greatest con game, and fraud, in the history of our country, the left-wing/socialist agenda.

My message from the Divine One Above is clear and simple. You will fail in what you are doing. Like the British Army—who were on the brink of winning but instead were broadsided and annihilated by the finger of God when He created a violent tornado in the middle of a sunny calm day for the sole purpose of wiping out the King's redcoats as they attempted to burn down this nation's capital, Washington DC, during the War of 1812—you will likewise perish—my anti-freedom, anti-capitalist, anti-American malcontents. You have aroused the anger and the wrath of freedom lovers across the fruited plains and from sea to shiny sea. Your own policies are what will bring about your demise. Yes, you will perish. So, I say to those on the left, and the never-Trumps, do enjoy the moment. Good riddance and good day. . . .

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.

So, there 'tis:

Is Bloomberg a Blooming Idiot?

By Larry P. Horist

November 28, 2019

In the large field of Democrat presidential candidates, there are always a few hopeless souls who make one wonder . . . WHAT ARE THEY THINKING? I am not talking about longshots, but rather those with no shot. I am talking about candidates like Joe Sestak, Marianne Williamson and John Delaney. Who, you say? That is my point.

I am referring to people with impressive resumes and long careers who still have no chance. They usually enter early and drop early when they realize that they are stuck with low polling numbers and even less cash—guys like Beto O'Rourke, Tim Ryan and Eric Swalwell.

We now have seen two latecomers enter the race. One is former Massachusetts, Governor Deval Patrick. At least he admitted that his candidacy has a slightly better chance than that proverbial snowball in Hell. As he put it, "It is a Hail Mary pass from two stadiums away."

His first debility is his New York ancestry. Thanks to the arrogant and biased media, a lot of folks in flyover country do not like the New York culture—with a special disdain for New York mayors. His successor in Gracie Mansion, Bill de Blasio, took the plunge and discovered that there was no water in the political pool. He had difficulty cracking one percent in the polls.

Trump avoided the New York jinx by running as a Republican disrupter. He still has a New York pugnacious personality—which a lot of voters do not like—but he balanced that off with policies endorsed by middle America.

Bloomberg's second problem is money. He gets two strikes for being old and white—as do Biden and Sanders—but Bloomberg gets the third. He is a billionaire—a dreaded one percenter—and a Wall Street insider, to boot. Before running for office, Bloomberg was CEO of Salomon Brothers. Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren have pretty much poisoned the well for super rich capitalists among a large segment of the Democrat base.

While the anti-capitalist left is gaining strength in the Democratic Party, Bloomberg has an even bigger problem with an even bigger part of the Democrat base—African Americans. His Achilles Heel in that regard has been his longstanding support for "stop and frisk" as a crime fighting

measure. He defended that policy up until he decided to make a run for the White House.

In an effort to placate black voters, Bloomberg made an apology that I viewed as ineffective and humiliating. It was devoid of sincerity. It sounded like just what it was, a crass and clumsy attempt to wipe out his past record.

This was not the first time Bloomberg came across as a shameless opportunist. He flipped from Democrat to Republican to Independent to Democrat seemingly based less on political philosophy and more on political pragmatism. In terms of political ideology, Bloomberg comes across as a man without a country.

He also has a historic disadvantage that one should never talk about in these times of political correctness. But I shall,



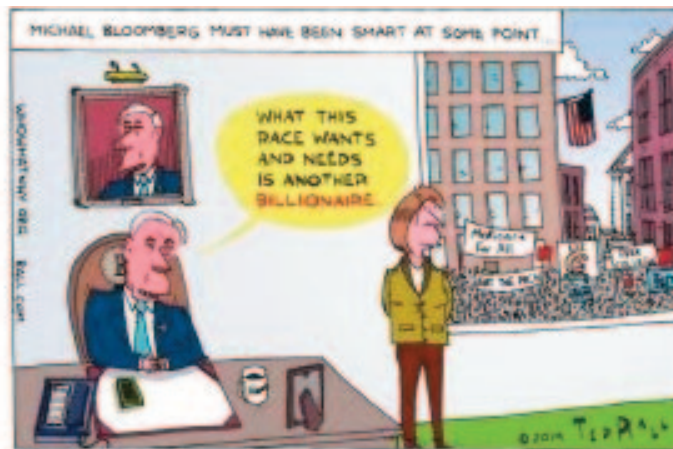
because the problem—though unspoken—is real. He is Jewish. Over the years, Jews have held virtually every elected and appointed office in America except President or Vice President.

Some point to Sanders' success in the 2016 campaign, but alas, he did not get the nomination. In an era in which we have elected a Catholic President and a black President—two groups held back by the receding

White Anglo-Saxon Political (WASP) majority—Sanders was the first Jew to ever win a presidential primary. The road to the presidency for a Jewish politician still appears to be steeper than for others. The barrier will end one day—but not likely in 2020.

Finally, Bloomberg is not a strong campaigner. He is charisma challenged. He speaks like he is addressing the board of directors—a bit like Romney did in 2014 when he lost a winnable election to Obama.

So . . . can unlimited money overcome ALL these problems? I am betting not, but we have never seen a multi-billionaire dollar presidential campaign before. He has already shown the advantage of self-funding by kicking off his cam-



So, there 'tis—continued on next page

So, there 'tis—continued from previous page

paign with more than \$30 million dollars in advertising. That has never been done before—unless you count the \$35 billion billionaire Tom Steyer spent allegedly to get Trump impeached. Most saw that as the buildup to the presidential campaign.

Unlike the Steyer, the Bloomberg ads are not going to be designed to gain name recognition—which he already has—or email lists. His will be hard-hitting political ads directed at Trump.

The fact that Bloomberg already has high name recognition is actually to his detriment. He needs to overcome the national voters' low regard for him. At least Steyer started out with a clean slate—and even that did not work out well for him.

Bloomberg tries to sell an advantage advanced by all big money candidates only more so. He declares that he will not accept ANY donations—and that will protect him and his campaign from the influence of “special interests.” Good God! The man IS a walking and talking special interest. His money IS special interest money.

The only thing Bloomberg has going for him is the money—and that is a two-edged sword. In this political horse race, I see Bloomberg as a future scratch.

So, there 'tis.

So, there 'tis...

The opinions, perspectives and analyses of Larry Horist

Larry Horist is a businessman, conservative writer and political strategist with an extensive background in economics and public policy—with a special interest in minority issues. He has served as a consultant to the Nixon White House, travelled the country as a spokesman for President Reagan's economic reforms, and has testified as an expert witness before numerous legislative bodies, including the U.S. Congress. He writes for several online news services and is principle commentator for PunchingBagPost.com. You can also follow his video commentaries on YouTube.com/LarryHorist. He is actively semi-retired in Boca Raton, Florida. So, there 'tis is his signature sign off.

Pam Bondi, Diamond and Silk Surprise Guests at Women for Trump Reception in Palm Beach



A special thanks to Belinda Keiser who got the ball rolling for Women for Trump in South Florida at a lovely reception in a beautiful home in Palm Beach on November 15. Lots of help from her staff and Karin Hoffman, and great organization from Advisory Board Chairs Dr. Gina Loudon, Katrina Campins, Mica Mosbacher, and Executive Director Ashley Hayek! Great surprises included visits from Pam Bondi and Diamond & Silk!

Dr. Loudon emphasized that social media is our battlefield, and encouraged us to “Be That Voice.” She noted that there are three major social platforms to use—Facebook Twitter and Instagram—and that each has a different audience. She said that Facebook has 1.5 billion hits each day. Point of the day: GET ON BOARD! Share the successes of POTUS and how he has done so much to improve the quality for life for women! He’s worked to help stop human trafficking, reduce female unemployment, make our streets and schools safer, and so much more! The DOW has reached an all-time high and stocks are soaring! The Schiff Show is exactly that—all hearsay garbage. Let’s now get people registered, get out the vote, and work to save freedom of religion in the USA.



Airplane Conversations/On Impeachment Mess

*By Gene Robinson
November 21, 2019*

A person recently said this about me, “Gene is a man of few words, unless he is writing.” I don’t agree with the first half of that assessment, because I choose when to talk a lot, if I have the inspiration. Regarding my writing . . . **THE PERSON WAS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!!**

I boarded an airplane Wednesday morning to fly from balmy and sunny South Florida into the Cold Midwest, and I expected a regular flight, watching the screen monitor on the seatback in front of me to see a recently-released movie for my 2 hour, 36 minute flight. I was in for a surprise by what I encountered. But, first a backdrop on my trip, and what is planned. I will be in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota to help in those states with the President’s re-election, to assist local and statewide Republicans in the 2020 race, something I have been doing since early summer, and also to spend Thanksgiving with family. Then, back to Florida in December, to continue doing what I do locally in Republican politics on a daily basis.

As I was set to watch a movie on the plane, I noticed Six (6) people in seats near me, and their monitors were on the Impeachment Inquiry hearing for Wednesday, November 20, that featured Ambassador Gordon Sondland as the key player. I do not pay much attention to the Democrats’ Impeachment Mess, because their hatred for Donald Trump is “over the top” and “out of control,” so I ignore their circus for the most part. But, I fly a lot, and I do not see fellow passengers watching a news event during a flight, as people want to forget what is going on around them, and want to relax with something less compelling.

However, with a journalism background as a part of my professional career, that included me being a sports writer, a general news columnist, and a managing editor of a newspaper, my inquisitive journalist “natural need to know” about what someone thinks, feels, and will say flared up, and . . . and my learned nosy instincts kicked in!!

As things proceeded, halfway through my flight north, there was a recess in the Wednesday’s televised hearing, which gave me the perfect opportunity to speak with the Six (6) who were watching the hearing, have them take their “ear buds” out, and get their opinions on the Impeachment process and how they think this entire effort in Congress will play out. But, to make them feel comfortable, so I could get the answers that I wanted, I DID NOT tell them of my involvement in politics, I DID NOT ask them if they were Republican or Democrat, for what I wanted to know, and I DID NOT record our conversations. I also remembered as a journalist, that if people think they are being interviewed, they will try to be more polished with their answers, trying to give responses that they think people want to hear. So, as a tactic I used as a journalist, I just engaged people in normal conversation, not letting them think they were being

interviewed, so they they would be “themselves,” giving you truthful answers, in our back and forth open discussion.

And, on a rather long airplane flight, in conversation about a topic of the day, who would think that what they say would be used later, since what they are saying is, as we say in journalistic circles . . . off the record. But, I have learned to remember things that people say, almost verbatim, from my years of experience, then I write those things down soon after an encounter, to make sure that I have the facts straight. It is called “The Robinson Way,” and it has served me well!!

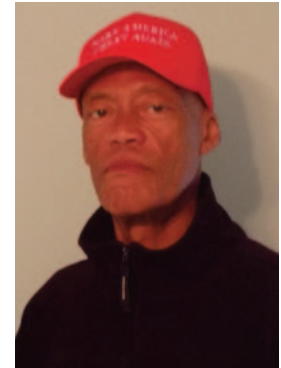
Now, I will talk about the Six (6) people of both genders, from different backgrounds, of different ages, and what their responses were to my questions, to let you know, at least in this very small sample of total strangers, what their opinions were on the Impeachment Inquiry, especially Wednesday’s hearing with Ambassador Sondland, and the eventual outcome for Donald Trump as they see it. Keep reading, or not, your choice. Because I am a man of few words, unless I am writing. So, if you think I have used up my quota of written words with you . . . stop reading now!!

THE SIX (6):

1) A 23-year-old male, recent college graduate, said, “This impeachment process is so important, so I am trying to see and hear everything I can. As I listened to Sondland, he would say one thing one minute to answer a question, then say something entirely different the next minute, like he had somewhere else he wanted to be. But, we already know, in my opinion, what is going to happen in the end. The president is going to still be in office, and he will keep doing the things he is doing.”

2) A 45-year-old saleswoman on a business trip, offered this: “I watch the hearings to keep up with what is going on, so that I can stay up to date on things, for my use during any given day. In business, things are going pretty smoothly, so I don’t see why we have to endure this whole thing over something as small as what Donald Trump said, or did not say. He didn’t commit a crime, so let’s move on.”

3) A 27-year-old man, and his 25-year-old girlfriend were listening to me speak with others, and they wanted to get involved in the discussion. He said, “We are getting mar-



Airplane Conversations—continued on next page

ried, so this impeachment stuff is so interesting, learning what is said behind closed doors we don't normally get to hear about. Trump is so different, that I don't think they know how to handle him, because they have never seen anyone like him before, so they think he is corrupt, when he is just being himself.” His fiancé added, “I watch and try to see what is really happening, who is telling the truth, and who is lying. But politicians are hard to read, because they are so used to lying, while making it seem truthful. In the end, I don't think the president is going anywhere.”

4) A 60-year-old man who once owned his own business, but gave it up after suffering two heart attacks, is now a trouble shooter for other business people, and he had this to say: “Trump told us from the beginning that he wasn't a politician, that he was a businessman. He didn't lie to us, so as far as I am concerned, he still hasn't lied. What he is doing, are the things that businesspeople do. Since I was young, I have always felt that no matter whether you like the president, or not, you respect the office. These impeach-

ment hearings, and the Mueller hearings, have been a waste of taxpayer money when there are many other things that Congress could be doing for us.” The man's 59-year-old wife then added, “I don't want my husband to have another heart attack, so I try to keep him away from all this impeachment stuff, as best I can.”

Well, there you have my discussion with Six (6) people on an airplane ride, getting their true feelings about what they were seeing in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday . . . IN REAL TIME!!

If the various people on that flight spoke with true conviction, and if they represent many others like themselves, Donald Trump will weather this impeachment storm, like all the other storms he has been put through since winning the 2016 election, and he will be re-elected overwhelmingly. GOD Bless.

Gene Robinson is President of the Tamarac/Margate/Coconut Creek GOP Club, and a proud Broward County, Florida, Republican.



Club News

Florida Federation of Republican Women Go to the White House

On December 9, members of the Republican Federated Women of South Florida joined a group of Florida Federation of Republican Women (FFRW) from around the state for a trip to our Nation’s Capitol for an amazing tour of the White House. First Lady Melania Trump designed the White House decorations, and they were gorgeous! Don’t pay any attention to the snarky criticisms of the mainstream media—the White House literally sparkled and glowed with lights and patriotic ornaments. How proud we were to see it!

Also on our agenda was a visit to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building (EOB) and a private tour of the Vice President’s Ceremonial Office. We sat at the Teddy Roosevelt desk, where all the Vice Presidents who have used the desk have traditionally signed their names in the top drawer. We saw Grant’s cabinet, where military memorabilia from years past were on display. And we walked out on the balcony to admire the beautiful view of the White House West Wing across the street.

Our three-day trip also included a meeting with Senator Rick Scott in the Hart Senate Office Building. He graciously fit us in between votes on the Senate floor. One of the items he discussed was changing the vetting procedures for foreign nationals training at our military bases, following the shooting at Pensacola.

After our meeting with Senator Scott, we rode on the trolley in the basement tunnel over to the Longworth House

Office Building, where we met with Congressman Michael Walz. A former Green Beret, Cong. Walz spoke of the need to recruit more veterans to run for Congress, and mentioned a just-passed bill that would help Gold Star Families.

We also visited the Florida House, opened in 1973, which is our “embassy” in DC, the only state to have one. It is filled with mementos tracing Florida’s history and is used for events and as a place for information and assistance for Florida residents and anyone who wanders in from the cold. It is ideally located across the street from the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, and the Folger Library.

It was a wonderful three days, topped off by our stay at the Trump International Hotel. One never knows who they might run into in the bustling lobby, and we did see Ann Scott, Eric Bolling, Kevin Sorbo, and Mike Lindell, the My Pillow guy, who patiently posed for photos with all of us.

Even though I grew up in the DC area and lived there for nearly 40 years, this trip was incredible, and spending time with the ladies of the FFRW was an added bonus. Many, many thanks to Michele Merrell for arranging it, and to Giovanna Coia for the EOB tour. It was all very special.

And one final note. As we moved around the city, we were encouraged that many of the people we encountered—from the cab drivers and the hotel bellmen, to people on the street and in the airport—were all Trump supporters and were excited to vote for him in 2020!

—Cheryl Mullings




Club News

Boca Raton Regional Republican Club October 28 Meeting with David Gufrein

We all met David Gufrein, Vice President and CEO of United American Patriots, at our Oct. 28 meeting. It was an incredible event and David was Awesome! UAP is there for our soldiers who have been falsely accused. They just recently had some huge wins, and Lt. Clint Lorange is now free!

We need to rid ourselves of these Obama policies and give our soldiers hope that we are on their side. 2020 is just around the corner! Democrats are out recruiting new voters. We have to all do our part to ensure we win the next election.





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**REPUBLICAN PARTY OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY**

December 2019 issue of the Newsletter, published monthly by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The views and conclusions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, REC Board of Directors, or the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee. Letters to the editor are welcomed but should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited for length and content. All submissions are property of their respective authors and may not be reproduced without prior permission of the author. Any comments, questions, or other feedback should be directed to tommullings@comcast.net.

Mission Statement

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

www.palmbeach.gop

Club News

**Republican Federated Women of South Florida
Hosted Veterans, Joe Budd at Their November Meeting**

Thanksgiving arrived a few days early for these U.S. veterans, including one wheelchair-bound vet who still stands for the Pledge of Allegiance. Veterans representing all the armed forces celebrated a veterans' Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 21, hosted by the Republican Federated Women of South Florida. The group feasted on a traditional turkey dinner at the Boca Country Club. Club President Linda Johnson emceed the event and introduced each veteran along with notable points of their service.

Service members shown below, left to right: Andrew Lloyd von Gelt, Delray Beach, 31-year veteran on four tours, including both Gulf Wars, with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marines; Tom Mullings, Boca Raton, U.S. Army, a scout dog handler with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, wounded on his last day in Vietnam; Ed McCarthy, Boca Raton, 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy on a guppy submarine, and an E-6 in the U.S. Army, serving for 36½ years total, including the two Gulf Wars, Panama, and the Iran-Contra conflict; Steve Laine, U.S. Navy, chief cook on submarines and served in the Naval Reserves another 10 years; Bob Kemp, Muncie, Indiana, Major in the U.S. Army Special Forces, serving in the Vietnam conflict 1964–1970; Beth Becker Agami, Delray Beach, a Gold Star Mom, in honor of her son Daniel J. Agami, who served with the U.S. Army's 126 Infantry in Iraq when he was one of four killed

by an IED; Kaywin Martin, I-4 rank in the U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam, 1959–60, and said, "I escaped unharmed"; David Cohen, who served in Vietnam in 1966, simply said, "We went over there with 42 boys and 19 came back"; and in the wheelchair, Arthur DeRuve, Wellington, serving as a 2nd Lieutenant in Germany in 1955, and continued in the U.S. Army Reserves for 30 years, who stood from his wheelchair to recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Not pictured is Air Force Veteran Angela Crawford.



The keynote speaker for the evening was Joe Budd, Palm Beach County State Committeeman and founder of Club 45 USA, the largest Trump club in the country. Joe gave us updates on the Republican Party of Florida, and noted that the Party is united behind the re-election of President Trump, unlike the 2016 election. He discussed the success of Club 45. We thank Joe Budd for all he does and for a most entertaining and enlightening discussion.



Club News

Congressman Brian Mast at Veterans Luncheon

*By Jim Davis
November 12, 2019*

Fran Hancock, President of the Republican Club of the Palm Beaches, on November 6th honored the Veterans in attendance and celebrated them by providing a free luncheon. Keynote speaker was Congressman Brian Mast, who is currently serving in his second term for District 18. Brian is currently a member of two committees:

- The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and
- United States Foreign Affairs Committee.

He lives in Palm City, FL with his wife, Brianna and four children.

Brian opened up his presentation by honoring the veterans and recalling the time he spent in the military. He mentioned by name his close friends that served with him and some of which gave their lives for our country. He expressed how proud he was of the men and woman who put on the uniform and served in the military.

Brian went on and discussed how the impeachment process was a sham and nothing else will likely get accomplished in the House of Representatives in the foreseeable future. The following is an excerpt from Brian’s presentation:

“I’ll be blunt—this impeachment investigation has become an embarrassing circus, completely disconnected from real America, with Speaker Pelosi and Chairman Schiff as ringmasters.

“After weeks of closed-door meetings and cherry-picked testimonies, the House passed a resolution to formally launch an impeachment investigation into President Donald Trump. This resolution gives Chairman Schiff complete control over this investigation including the schedule, wit-



nesses and hearings, including whether they are open or closed to the public.

“This publicity stunt vote is a brazen attempt to stack the deck even more in favor of the narrative Democrats want to be true, instead of trying to find the actual truth—it gives Chairman Schiff unilateral power to decide what facts to tell the American people and which ones to hide from them.

“The bottom line is that House Democrats have made it clear time and time again that they’re more interested in putting politics and hatred for the President ahead of our country’s best interest. It’s time to end this sham.”

Congressman Brian Mast concluded his presentation by taking questions from the floor. He mentioned one of his areas of focus and passion is clean water for the residents of Florida and thanked the Republican Party of Palm Beach for all of their continued support.

Al-Baghdadi Dog Conan Goes to the White House (or, The White House Goes to the Dogs!)



Book Review

Founders' Son: A Life of Abraham Lincoln, by Richard Brookhiser. New York: Basic Books, 2014. Softcover, 348 pp. ISBN #978-0-465-04001-8.

For readers familiar with my book reviews in this newsletter, you're aware of my belief that Abraham Lincoln was one of the greatest presidents we've ever had. I've read many biographies on his legendary life and have even reviewed one in these pages, but Richard Brookhiser's *Founders' Son: A Life of Abraham Lincoln* examines an aspect of Lincoln's thinking that is well worth exploring here, and the author is an excellent writer and eminently qualified to lead us on our quest.

He's a senior editor of *National Review* and has written eleven books, including *James Madison*, *Alexander Hamilton*, *American*, and *Founding Father: Rediscovering George Washington*.

"They [founders] were the pillars of the temple of liberty." Those words were spoken in 1838 by Abraham Lincoln, who at the time was only 29 years old. "They were a forest of oaks," he said, and summoned the past to save the present and made them effectual allies. If we study how Lincoln engaged with the founders, we can learn how to engage with them and him ourselves.

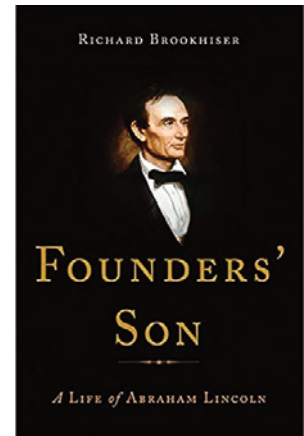
No one in America spoke more eloquently about the evils of slavery than Lincoln did. In his famous debates with Douglas on the campaign trail he said, "Our Republican robe is soiled and trailed in the dust. Let us turn and wash it white in the spirit if not the blood of the revolution." He believed that the founders were largely against slavery, but saw no way out of it without extinguishing the birth of the new nation. They avoided the word "slavery," so that years later when slavery had finally disappeared, "There should be nothing on the face of the great charter of liberty suggesting that such a thing as negro slavery had ever existed among us."

In a speech at Cooper Union, Lincoln gave his most elaborate case that he was the founder's son. In that speech he traced the legislative history of 39 signers, demonstrating that they were opposed to slavery, saying, "Let us have faith that right makes might [in opposing it too]. Let us speak as they spoke and act as they acted."

I believe that reading this book at this time, as we move into one of the most important presidential election cycles in history, is well worth doing. After all, we conservative Republicans are all sons and daughters of the founding fathers, and those revered founders are under assault from the left like never before in recent history. "The founders had made their mark in history by establishing free government . . . [but] . . . They are wraiths [now], venerable but vanished, [and] new reapers will arise," Lincoln warned.

The Democrat Party has lost their way in American politics and are misleading the public when they disingenuously sing the praises of the Constitution and those legendary men who bequeathed it to us, who they in fact only pretend to follow. The Confederates embraced the founders, but did not heed their words. Democrats are doing the same today and they are wrong! The founding fathers are gone, but their handiwork remains unconquered! We true sons and daughters of the founders, led by President Donald Trump, are determined to reassert their timeless authority and influence in our beloved Republic, and reading this book is a good way to get ready for the battle to come next year.

—Tom Mullings



Book Review

***Search and Destroy: Inside the Campaign Against Brett Kavanaugh*, by Ryan Lovelace. Regnery Publishing, 2019. 246 pp including 54 pages of notes on resources and an index. ISBN: 978-1-62157-975-5 This book is available at the Palm Beach County Library.**

This timely book is a must read for the team that supports the next nomination to the Supreme Court of the United States. For those who worked daylight hours and did not follow the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh on cable news, this background story will be an eye opener. It has only nine chapters and each of them contains attention-riveting facts and disclosures about what was going on behind the scenes.

A Google search of “Books on the Kavanaugh Nomination” will show 10 or more brand new books on this subject. I did this search in late November 2019 when there are more books being promoted that challenge some claims of other books. This book is a good place to start your reading. Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 86 years old, was recently in the hospital, and President Trump may be making another appointment soon.

Ryan Lovelace is an award-winning journalist in Washington, D.C. The back flap of the cover describes him as the Business Law Reporter for the *National Law Journal*, *American Lawyer*, and ALM Media. He is a former Supreme Court reporter for the *Washington Examiner*.

Here is an outline of the book. Chapter 1—Kavanaugh Wins the 2018 Supreme Court Primary; Chapter 2—Battle Plans; Chapter 3—Disrupt, Delay, Deny, and the Silliness of Spartacus; Chapter 4—Sabotage; Chapter 5—A #MeToo Gambit; Chapter 6—Kavanaugh Critics Cry Havoc; Chapter 7—Time to Fill or Kill; Chapter 8—Survival of the Fittest; and Chapter 9—Collateral Damage.

Now a few words about each chapter. Chapter 1—Neil Gorsuch was already confirmed by the Senate to replace Justice Scalia. Kavanaugh was not on the original list of judges reviewed by presidential candidate Donald Trump. Justice Kennedy decided it was time to retire. Kavanaugh was added to the short list on November 17, 2017. But Kavanaugh was being considered even before. Kavanaugh had baggage from his work for the Bush Administration. Trump made his decision by July 8, but it was still a secret until Trump made the White House announcement that he was nominating Brett Kavanaugh. “Everyone knew that Trump had selected a formidable champion to do battle with those who were intent on denying him a second appointment to the high court” (p. 16).

Chapter 2—Battle Plans. A year before the nomination several liberal groups such as Alliance for Justice, the Center for American Progress, People for the American Way, and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

notified reporters that “activists would descend on the Supreme Court one hour after Trump announced a new nomination.” Signs had to be prepared with multiple names by professional printers and by hand lettering. Protesters told reporters they did not know who prepared the signs.

The group Demand Justice, led by Brian Fallon, was determined to slime anyone Trump picked and planned to spend \$5 million of its “dark money” in this effort. Demand Justice was a 501(c)(4) organization that does not have to disclose donors. But Lovelace names some of the board members. Justice Kennedy was named to the Court by President Reagan thirty years before, after the Senate rejected Robert Bork in 1987, who had taught at Yale Law School, was Solicitor General, and served on the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

Chapter 3—On day one of the Senate confirmation hearing, Sen. Kamala Harris interrupted Chairman Chuck Grassley and sought to block him from naming Kavanaugh. Sen. Harris was the first to turn Kavanaugh into “he-who-must-not-be-named” (p. 31). The strategy was to disrupt, delay, and deny confirmation by any means necessary.

Chapter 4—Sabotage. Christine Blasey Ford made her claims about a Kavanaugh sexual assault to the *Washington Post* by an encrypted app on July 6, 2018, but she did not name Kavanaugh or herself. Trump was still three days away from naming Kavanaugh, but the soon-to-be-named friends were organizing to help. *Washington Post*’s Ruth Marcus went on MSNBC that morning to say the candidate was “the biggest danger to abortion rights” (p. 53). Ford sent another message 81 minutes later to the *Post*. “Brett Kavanaugh with Mark Judge and a bystander named P.J.,” she wrote. Again, there was no reply.

Eventually, Ford notified Congresswoman Eshoo who told Ford to write to Senator Feinstein, which she did by a letter of July 30, 2018, which Eshoo had delivered to Feinstein’s office. Then began a stream of contacts by Ford to Feinstein and others all documented in detail with Ford’s story changing again and again.

Chapter 5—A #MeToo Gambit. Sen. Feinstein delayed disclosing the Ford letter. Attorney Debra Katz became concerned that the Weinstein effect was taking over—“if you have not assaulted eighty people, it doesn’t count . . . it’s not worthy of the *Washington Post* anymore.” Lovelace follows some of the people in the process of confirmation to their comments during speeches at public meetings long



Book Review—continued from previous page

after Kavanaugh was sworn in. This adds to some better understanding of what was happening. Letters to and from the Judiciary Committee to Ford's attorneys are incorporated here.

Chapter 6—Kavanaugh Critics Cry Havoc! Other accusers came forward with claims poorly stated, all requiring some analysis and decisions to be made by the Committee. There was Deborah Ramirez from the nominee's Yale days. This was challenged by the *New York Times*. There were Robin Poregbin and Kate Kelly who were writing another book about the nomination. Kerry Berchem was instrumental in involving Senator Richard Blumenthal, and NBC picked up some threads. Michael Avenatti forced stories from Julie Swetnick into the public sphere, allowing the Democrats to demand the nomination be canceled. While trying to unravel the new charges, Kavanaugh still had to prepare for his testimony.

Chapter 7—Time to Fill or Kill. The GOP Senators were quiet during the Ford accusation testimony but the pressure was building on Senator Lindsay Graham, who finally erupted with a warning to any lily-livered Republican afraid to buck the Democrats. "To my Republican colleagues, if you vote on Kavanaugh, you're legitimizing the most despicable thing I have seen in my time in politics!" Then he trained his fire on the Democrats. "You want this seat? I hope you never get it" (p. 109). The Democrats decided they would #BelieveTheWoman.

Jeff Flake decided not to seek Senate reelection in 2018 and sought to get the last word at this hearing. He did not get it, but Senator John Kennedy did when he told Kavanaugh, "I am 100% certain that the accusations against you are untrue." Flake was film-attacked by hecklers Ana Marie Archila and Maria Gallagher, in an elevator and the video went wild. Flake asked for the FBI to investigate current and credible allegations. This would be his final say. Other claims kept coming until finally Senator McConnell gave a speech about closing the debate and proceed to a vote on the Senate floor on October 5, 2018.

Chapter 8—Survival of the Fittest. The segment starts by telling about the McCaskill-Hawley race in Missouri in late September. McCaskill told voters she would vote against Kavanaugh. Hawley mentioned Trump's record in putting conservative judges on the bench at an event in the

Ozarks and the crowd went wild. Hawley was glad to tie himself to Kavanaugh, as he too was a graduate of Yale Law School and personally knew Kavanaugh. Trump also campaigned for Senate winners in Indiana, North Dakota, and Mississippi.

George W. Bush called Senators Joe Machin, Jeff Flake, Lisa Murkowski and Susan Collins for a Kavanaugh vote. Collins was threatened with bodily harm if she voted for Kavanaugh and she retreated to her home. Collins speech ahead of the cloture vote was "a master class in civics," Lovelace wrote. The speech is in the book. After the vote, the Democrats were apoplectic. The next morning Chief Justice Roberts administered the oath of office.

Chapter 9—Collateral Damage. The final chapter reveals that Christine Blasey Ford's GoFundMe website took in about \$650,000 for her expenses. 13,969 donors gave. Ford thanked everyone and said she would pay reasonable expenses and would post more information later. Six months later, she had not posted any updates. We are still waiting on the Department of Justice to sort out criminal referrals made by the Senate.

Do not be surprised at the tactics that will be used to block the next Trump appointment. The Notes on Resources is a little unusual in that each lays forth a quote from the book and gives a reference or source of the quote. Read this book and get on the team to help the next nominee.

*Reviewed by William J. Skinner who practiced law in D.C. and Maryland from 1971 to 2003. Here is a fly-on-the-wall moment. From 1973 to 1976, Skinner was an associate attorney with McMurray and Pendergast, a small specialist law firm that no longer exists. Raymond McMurray graduated from Harvard Law School and the firm's attorneys attended some of Harvard's lunch-time continuing education programs. On one occasion, Robert Bork who was Solicitor General at the time, spoke at the luncheon. He was accompanied by William Rehnquist, then an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court. Skinner sat next to Rehnquist while eating and engaged in small talk about the budget of the Court. Bork was rejected for the high court in 1987. Rehnquist wrote a book on impeachment law, titled *Grand Inquests*, in 1992, and presided at the Clinton Impeachment. Current Chief Justice John Roberts was a clerk for Rehnquist and was appointed Chief Justice in 2005 when Rehnquist died. Oh, the times we live in!*

Editor's Postscript

How China Took Over While America's Elite Slept

By Tom Mullings

[Editor's note: What follows is a sobering, eye-opening account of Sino-American relations as they exist today in the early part of the twenty-first century. But this accounting has not been sensationalized in the slightest. It is based on the writings and thoughts of retired Air Force Brigadier General Robert Spalding, the former senior director for strategic planning to the president at the National Security Council and chief architect for the National Security Strategy.]

There couldn't be a better time to tell this story, in light of President Trump's recent announcement of a "first phase" deal with China on trade that will undoubtedly calm market jitters and investors on Wall Street, and help to insure continuing economic expansion in the American economy during the upcoming presidential election year in which so much is at stake.

After Mao Zedong rose to power in 1949, launching the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), an ambitious plan arose to return China to its "proper place in the world as a great empire." Providing added motivation to Mao was a desire for vengeance against the current world order. "The Chairman" viewed the previous hundred years as a "century of humiliation" at the hands of the great powers, and today the CCP continues to foster resentment over these national humiliations, treating them as unhealed wounds and indoctrinating students about them in all grade levels, from kindergarten through university.

The beginning of this ambitious CCP plan made tortuously slow progress at first, but began to gain momentum under the leadership of Deng Xiaping, and has turned into a steam roller of growth in terms of national power and wealth that has amazed people all over the world. One of the baffling things about China's rise is how the country has achieved that growth, which everybody agrees is the most mind-boggling growth in the history of the world. It is a long and complicated story, but what it boils down to from an economic perspective is this: they did it by issuing and obtaining massive amounts of credit, by generating billions in foreign investments that remains unrecoverable, and by creating a walled, closed economic system that remains unaccountable to outside audits and fleeces foreign investors.

"China is a total Ponzi scheme," says former Goldman Sachs VP Steve Bannon. The only question is "How bad will it drag down everybody." If those conditions existed in the U.S., Madoff would still be fleecing his marks, taking a cut for himself, and then slowly paying off previous clients.

Those conditions basically describe the rules that China has used to fuel its explosive growth, running a Ponzi scheme on a global basis[!]

As the founder of a hedge fund focused on making event-based global investments, Kyle Bass devotes a good deal of time studying China's balance sheet and confirms Bannon's take on the subject of China's instability. He estimates China's total credit at \$48 trillion, nearly four times its gross domestic product. By comparison, the United States held about \$24 trillion in credit in 2019. In other words, China had *three times* the amount of money in circulation than the U.S. did, while generating \$4 trillion less in GDP. This should automatically lead to significant inflation, but it doesn't. How does China do this? Here's how in a nutshell: The country's closed economic system and totalitarian repression work to artificially prevent inflation and enforce stability.

Seen from another perspective, however, this seemingly fatal vulnerability also makes the Chinese government dangerous. How so? Simply put, the central economic planners of the CCP will take any step necessary to ensure it has the cash and the access to foreign capital needed to both sustain itself and continue investing on all fronts in its unrestricted war [against the U.S. and its allies], including bribes, blackmail, sabotage, political strong-arming, and yes, trade wars. Here are some examples: Mr. Khubani parlayed a \$20,000 investment into a company that generated more than \$1 billion in sales for a number of years. In the 1990s, he noticed his company had become a target of Chinese counterfeiters, producing counterfeits of his products that were "exactly the same." Mr. Khubani's company put in considerable effort locating and shutting down warehouses packed with knockoffs, but "it was like a never-ending game of whack-a-mole, where you get rid of one and ten others pop up."

With the rise of the internet, however, the counterfeiting problem grew at an exponential rate. "In 2015, we started noticing counterfeits of our products turning up on Amazon using our trademark, our patent product, using everything. Everyone thinks Amazon is this great American company," says Khubani, who notes that Amazon did start removing bogus sellers, "but part of the reason they are making money



Postscript—continued on next page

Postscript—continued from previous page

is that they are aiding and abetting the sale of counterfeit products. And nobody knows this.”

I mentioned sabotage above. It is a massive operation targeting companies all over the world, especially American companies, and it is state-run. These sinister operations crystallize the level of economic warfare that China was engaged in. It wasn't just stealing—copying documents is the corporate equivalent of a smash-and-grab-robbery. This was a strategic sting on a number of levels. At some point, the CCP had set industrial policy and made green technology a priority. Once the American chemical start-up was identified, an operation was spearheaded that required both intelligence planning, hacking by the People's Liberation Army, and oversight and analysis by a Chinese-owned business. The goal was to sabotage and devalue an American company in order to acquire it at a below-market price, to obtain technology that the CCP considered vital. It was nothing less than a government sanctioned assault on an American company[!]

Many Americans think that China is no longer a totalitarian dictatorship and they point to their claimed embrace of capitalism as evidence that they are moving toward a freer society. You might say that Americans who believe that dismiss the above sabotage as well-meaning Chinese engaging in capitalism with Chinese characteristics. As preposterous as that sounds, when Gen. Spalding went to the Treasury and the Department of Commerce about the above-mentioned sabotage, the response he got was jaw-

dropping: “China's not our adversary, they're our friends. We cooperate with them[!!]”

The military situation between the United States and China today is equally as jaw-dropping. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to the General, along with our decades-long, nation-wide view of China as a friend, has contributed mightily to the erosion of U.S. military superiority, preventing needed investments in R&D, social cyberwarfare, and the types of weapons systems China cannot defend against.

For a long time, Gen. Spalding was a part of the problem, believing China to be a benign power, but no longer. He now believes that America was blinded by profits. We fell for a country that came with a smile and bearing gifts, while robbing us blind. That's what we did when Clinton and Gore, Bush and Cheney, and Obama and Biden were in office. Today we need leaders who understand the duplicity and the threats—and will act accordingly. The 2020 presidential election looms as an opportunity to seize the balance of power; to reshape America and protect the West—indeed the entire world—from a totalitarian future where our freedoms will not be even be allowed to be mentioned, and it is vitally important that we avail ourselves of that opportunity.

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

Paid for by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, independent of any candidate or committee. www.pbcgop.org



**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

<p style="text-align: center;">CANDIDATE OATH –</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Committeemen and Committeewomen</p> <p>Check applicable one:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> District Committeeman or Committeewoman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> State Committeeman or Committeewoman</p>	<p>OFFICE USE ONLY</p>
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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: _____		