

Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County–September 2019

## Palm Beach County GOP Hits Another Home Run with Lobsterfest

O n Thursday, August 15, more than 400 enthusiastic Republicans met at the Polo Club in Boca Raton for the Palm Beach County Republican Party's 18th Annual Lobsterfest. The originally-scheduled keynote speaker, Anthony Scaramucci ("The Mooch"), had been publicly disinvited after he criticized President Trump for using "racist language." He was not missed! He has since moved on to become the darling of the drive-by media and a lonely existence as a man without a party. Joe Budd, Palm Beach County's State Committeeman and the evening's emcee, quipped that Party Chair Michael Barnett had something in common with former White House Chief of Staff Gen. John Kelly: "They both fired Anthony Scaramucci."

Attendees were treated to speeches by Florida's Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez, Florida CFO Jimmy Patronis, State Representative Mike Caruso (District 89), and Cong. Brian Mast (CD-18), who regaled the audience with tales of his experiences with former Vice President Joe Biden. Scheduled keynote speaker Cong. Matt Gaetz (CD-1) was unable to attend when his flight was cancelled in Pensacola, but he sent a video, which can be viewed on the Party's website at www.palmbeach.gop. It is hoped that



Keynote speaker Roger Stone.



Former Cong. Mark Foley received the Service Award for Community Advocacy.

Cong. Gaetz will attend a future event for the Palm Beach County GOP.

Former Congressman Mark Foley was awarded the Service Award for Community Advocacy. In her introduction to Cong. Foley, Karen Giorno recalled that when she became the Florida director for Trump's 2016 campaign, Trump suggested that the first person she needed to get in touch with was Mark Foley, as he knew everyone she should know.

The keynote speaker was former Trump adviser Roger Stone. Stone, who lives in Fort Lauderdale, has been charged with witness tampering, obstruction of justice and making false statements in a case originally brought by Robert Mueller. He is under a gag order by the presiding judge not to discuss the case. But he was not silent about how he felt about the Democrat presidential candidates, noting that no matter who they nominate, "They will nominate a socialist. The socialist wing is in the ascendancy in the Democratic Party."

Everyone agreed that this year's Lobsterfest was a smashing success, raising about \$40,000 to fund 2020 election efforts. Kudos once again to Event Chair Linda Stoch and all the volunteers who did such a terrific job.

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Event Chairs Linda Stoch and Sue Snowden.



Lieutenant Governor Jeanette Nuñez.



Event Chair Linda Stoch, Russell Stoch, and Cong. Brian Mast.



State Representative Mike Caruso greets Event Co-Chair Sue Snowden.







Florida's CFO Jimmy Patronis and Broward State Committeewoman Michele Merrill.



Hon. Bill Diamond, State Committeewoman Cindy Tindell, and former GOP Chair Sid Dinerstein.

Photos by Marisol's Photography.

## The Unfinished Journey

#### By Sid Dinerstein siddinerstein@yahoo.com

"There's battle lines being drawn Nobody's right if everybody's wrong"

A thank you to the Buffalo Springfield for those '60's words from "For What It's Worth."

I've never done a book review before. But then again, I've seldom gotten multiple mentions in someone else's biography. Here goes:

One quiet day in 2008 a reporter called to read me the headline from his next day's article: "Nazi to join Palm Beach County Republican Party." I was the Chairman. The headline never ran. Within two hours we issued a press release making it clear that the applicant, Derek Black, had not filed all the required forms and that he wouldn't be seated. Derek Black, son of Stormfront founder Don Black, lived in West Palm Beach and had applied to run for one of our Committee seats. He "won" the seat but failed to file the required Loyalty Oath. I rejected his application. Stormfront, the largest White Supremacist website in the country, is housed in Don Black's house in West Palm Beach. Who knew? Not me.

Two years later Derek applied to fill a Committee vacancy. In my ten years as Chairman I never asked the Republican Executive Committee to reject an applicant—except for this one time. The vote was 87–19 against the application. No, we didn't have 19 White Supremacists. We had, and have, zero. But nineteen members agreed with Committeeman D.J. De Renzo's feeling that: "Love conquers all" (*Palm Beach Post*, March 31, 2010, Joel Englehardt). As the vote concluded I looked at Derek and said: "We as Republicans pride ourselves as judging people on the content of their character, not the color of their skin. Sadly, Derek doesn't." (Ibid.) That was the last time I saw or heard of Derek Black.

Enter Eli Saslow, author of Rising out of Hatred, the biography of Derek Black, from his Committee seat "election" to the near present. I just read it. It's mostly a good, inspirational read. But unbeknownst to Mr. Saslow and Mister Black, it's still an unfinished journey. Derek moved on from West Palm Beach and the Republican Executive Committee. He landed in the New School of Florida, a Sarasota-based small Liberal Arts college that tilted Far Left. It was a really good move. It brought out Derek's assets: He was curious and he was intellectual. Most people don't realize how rare these gifts are. Derek met and befriended all the people his family denigrated and encouraged him to avoid-Jews, Blacks, Hispanics. He flew under the radar as his internal conflicts grew. He was one persona as the heir apparent to Stormfront and another as the guitar playing, mostly quiet, well-read history major in the New School.

The heroine of the journey is his girlfriend Allison, an extraordinary young woman who lived with Derek's conflicts and slowly moved him to leave his hate behind. She played by Derek's own rules, curiosity and intellectualism, and posed arguments he couldn't counter. After all, would he want to deport (or worse) his college friends just because of their ethnicity? When he realized the answer was "Of course not," he had reached a point of no return. Checkmate.

Derek graduates. He stays with Allison. And the biography ends there. But the journey is unfinished. Why? Derek and Allison seem to wind up as garden vari-



ety, anti-curiosity, anti-intellectual, anti-Trump Liberals, 96% on an internet quiz. I doubt that's the end of the story. But this book is written by one Eli Saslow, writer for the *Washington Post*, and, worse, man with an agenda. Mr. Saslow portrays the 2016 election as a complete triumph for White Nationalism and President Trump's 60 million supporters as the same. If that signals the end of Derek's journey then it was a short one indeed. If all Derek accomplished was to abandon the David Duke hate-Blacks-and-Jews philosophy for the Al Sharpton hate-Whites-and-Jews philosophy, then Derek still has a long way to go.

I doubt Derek will ever read this essay. But on the off chance he does I suggest the following: Come back and visit the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. Meet some of our elected officials: our Chairman, a Black attorney. Another is a faith-based school owner who accepts "Step Up" (Opportunity) Scholarships for poor minority students seeking escape from failing public schools. And we have a Jew married to a Catholic. And then there's the Harvard alum. You get the idea. We're not exactly the Eli Saslow stereotypes that you have been told about. Yes, this is the same committee you sought a seat on years ago.

And Derek Black should continue to learn the following: It's not Left or Right. It's Collectivism versus Individualism. It's the Collectivism of "judging people by the color of their skin" versus the Individualism of "judging people by the content of their character."

I wish Derek well as he continues on his Unfinished Journey.

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.



## **Upcoming Delegation Meeting and Farm Share Highlights**

SEPTEMBER 10—Committee weeks are right around the corner, which means it's time to gear up for the 2020 Legislative Session. This year committee weeks will fall on September 16th–20th, October 14th–18th, October 21st–25th, November 4th–8th, November 12th–15th, and December 9th–13th. I will continue to serve on the Energy & Utilities Subcommittee, Higher Education & Career Readiness Subcommittee, Insurance & Banking Subcommittee, Joint Legislative Auditing Committee, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, and the Ways & Means Committee.

With Legislative Session on the horizon it is very important to me to hear your thoughts and suggestions for new legislation, and any concerns you may have. I encourage everyone to come on out to the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation Meeting and have a voice. These meetings are a great opportunity to approach all local leaders. The next meeting will be tomorrow, September 11th, 2019 at the Ballpark of the Palm Beaches, 5444 Haverhill Rd, West Palm Beach, FL 33407, from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM. For the entire 2019 meeting schedule go to: http://discover. pbcgov.org/legislativeaffairs/Pages/Legislative\_Delegation. aspx.

We had a great time at Farm Share on Saturday! Below are some highlights from the event.

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.







## **Rep. Frankel's Opponents Speak Out on Spending**

#### By George Blumel

We are not well represented here in Congressional District 21 by Democrat career politician, Rep. Lois Frankel. Her 33 years in elective office is characterized by reckless spending and support of her party's most progressive causes.

A couple of non-partisan taxpayer groups have studied her votes while in Congress since 2003. Click on the names for details of Frankel's voting record.

- Citizens Against Government Waste scores her at zero as being "Hostile to Taxpayers." Only Frankel and Rep. Wasserman-Schultz scored so low!
- National Taxpayers Union gives her an "F" grade as a "Big Spender."

That's the kind of representation that results in a national debt of \$22+ trillions, plus much more in unfunded continuing programs. The national debt today amounts to \$67,000 per citizen of the United States. Who's going to have to pay it? That mounting debt is a terribly unfair burden on our posterity.

Federal tax revenues are increasing thanks to the Trump administration's economy-stimulating tax and regulation cuts. But federal spending continues to grow even more! Clearly, we must elect more conservative Republicans if the debt is ever to be brought under control. We may have an opportunity to do that in District 21 as there are potential conservative challengers to Frankel that we introduced here last month.

To help distinguish among our choices of candidates in next year's primary we'll ask each one a question about a current critical issue. For this month we asked each of the announced candidates to tell us what they would strive to accomplish regarding the out-of-control deficit spending. Here's what they told us.

#### Victor Garcia da Rosa:

The United States government, just like an American family, cannot sustain a budget that is based on deficit spending. The solution is two-fold:

1. Cut spending on items that do not clearly Establish Justice, Ensure Domestic Tranquility, Provide For The Common Defense, Promote The General Welfare, and Secure The Blessings Of Liberty. Many items where the Federal Government spends taxpayers' money are not the responsibility of the Federal Government, much is the responsibility of the individual States. The States need to carry their own weight.

2. A balanced budget is financially critical and fiscally responsible to any organization, whether it is a family, a small business, a corporation or a government. The best way to eliminate deficit spending is a Balanced Budget Amendment. Website: https://victorgarciadarosaforcongress.com/

#### **Christian Acosta:**

"The Trump tax cuts have put more money in the pockets of the American worker and are leading to increased government tax revenue. As a member of Congress, I will work to reduce waste, fraud and abuse. Additionally, I will work to propose a budget that, at a minimum, spends less than the prior year. Through attacking the budget deficit from both directions, we can finally get back on the road to a balanced budget. Please visit our



website at www.voteacosta.com for more information on our positions."

#### **Elizabeth Felton:**

"As a Representative for District 21 I will vote "No" to any new spending that adds to the deficit without a built-in self-funding plan or reduction of spending in another area of equal or greater value.

I would suggest budgetary items that most taxpayers find ridiculous should be the first to go. Solar panels for a brewery and studies on duck genitalia sound like voluntary donation participation ideas, not necessary to the well-being of U.S. citizens and certainly not something taxpayers should be forced to pay for. In short, we have a huge spending problem, it needs to be curbed." http://electelizabethfelton.com

#### **Aaron Scanlan:**

"The deficit is a multi-faceted issue that requires a multifaceted approach to curb spending. There are a lot of governmentally funded programs that are just not performing what they originally have stated they are going to provide. We need a bipartisan approach to curb our spending while increasing our revenue with a stronger economy and more jobs contributing to the tax base."

#### Laura Loomer:

"Only Washington politicians think it's okay to spend more money than we have. Our families, households and businesses don't have that luxury. If our businesses acted like Washington, we'd all be bankrupt. As a member of Congress, I'll work alongside our President to bring common sense, business minded principles to the budget process and end the wasteful spending that has become the norm among Washington insiders." https://lauraloomerforcongress.com/

Of these candidates only Laura Loomer, at press time, has yet to sign the Term Limits Pledge: I pledge that, as a member of the U.S. Congress, I will co-sponsor and vote for the U.S. Term Limits Amendment of three (3) House terms and two (2) Senate terms and no longer limit.

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

## 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Upholds Judge Bloom in ACRU v. Snipes

#### by William J. Skinner

n August 22, 2019, the three-judge 11th Circuit panel of Stanley Marcus, Britt C. Grant, and Frank M. Hull upheld U.S. District Judge Beth Bloom's decision of March 30, 2018 after a five-day bench trial in Miami Federal Court held in the summer of 2017. The original case was filed on June 27, 2016 after waiting for a reply to a notice letter sent to Brenda Snipes by the American Civil Rights Union. The case from beginning to end was more than three years of effort by the plaintiffs at a cost speculated, by sources familiar with these National Voting Rights Act (NVRA) cases, in the high six figures.

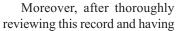
The 11th Circuit opinion of 39 pages can be downloaded without charge from the court's opinion page located at http://www.call.uscourts.gov/opinions. Other filings are available if you have an account to access files in American Civil Rights Union v. Brenda Snipes, et al., Case No. 18-11808. The 1199SEIU United Health Care Workers East intervened in the case to represent its members who vote in Broward County. Bellitto was dismissed at trial for failure to provide the required prefiling notice letter. Whether any party will file post-judgment requests and motions is unknown, but the time is limited to do so.

Snipes was removed from the Broward County Supervisor of Elections office by former Governor Rick Scott a few weeks after the November 2018 election for not being able to comply with recount requirements and other reasons. Snipes dropped her efforts to regain the position by appealing to the Florida Senate for a review of the removal. Peter Antonacci was appointed to the vacant position.

The Circuit Court judges introduced their decision in these words:

This appeal requires us to answer three related legal questions. First, is the NVRA's list-maintenance mandate confined to removing voters who become ineligible because they moved or died, or does the mandate extend to other bases of ineligibility as well, such as mental incapacity or criminal conviction? Second, does anything in the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") broaden the NVRA's list-maintenance obligations? And finally, does the National Change of Address procedure outlined in the NVRA create a safe harbor for reasonable list maintenance regarding voters who have moved? As for the first question, the statute could not be clearer: the states and their subsidiaries are required to conduct a general program of list maintenance that makes a reasonable effort to remove voters who become ineligible on account of death or change of residence, and only on those two accounts. And nothing found in HAVA-the latest congressional codification addressing voter registration-changes what is required by the NVRA; indeed,

HAVA repeatedly references compliance with the NVRA's list-maintenance mandates. Finally, the NVRA sets forth an explicit safe-harbor procedure by which the states may fulfill their list-maintenance obligations as to voters who move.



Moreover, after thoroughly taken oral argument, we can discern no clear error in the district court's factual findings. As the trial court found, Snipes employed the statute's safe-harbor provision when she examined who may have changed his or her address in Broward County, and she also utilized reliable death records from the Florida Department of Health and the Social Security administration to identify and regularly remove deceased voters. The NVRA requires a reasonable effort to remove only those voters who become ineligible because of death or change of address. Based on the record developed in the five-day bench trial, the district court did not clearly err in finding that Broward's Election Supervisor conducted a program reasonably designed to accomplish these tasks. Accordingly, we

The case was pared down by the evidence presented at the trial to support the claims in the original complaint. Judge Bloom found the expert assessment of the number of voters registered to be inadequate and the three-judge panel discussed this issue in depth. There were discovery issues including one about Snipes withholding requested information until the trial had started. The 11th Circuit described Snipes' response to the ACRU's complaint in part as: "Snipes responded that Florida maintains a statewide voter registration database and that the state issues statewide guidelines and procedures for list maintenance, and referred ACRU to sections 98.045 and 98.065 of the Florida Statutes" (Op. 5). The 11th Circuit opinion does not mention or recognize the existence of F.S. 98.075.

affirm the judgment of the district court.

In interpreting NVRA, the 11th Circuit writes:

What we are left with is the unambiguous language found in the NVRA. It requires the states to conduct a general program of list maintenance that makes a reasonable effort to remove voters who become ineligible because of a change of address or death. Although the statute also allows and encourages the states to conduct additional programs of list maintenance-and indeed the

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states have administrative and other incentives to do so the statute requires nothing more of the state. We cannot rewrite the statute to impose additional obligations on the states when Congress chose not to. Op. 21–22.

The 11th Circuit acknowledged that states may have additional programs for list maintenance, but the judges were not made aware of F.S. 98.075 by the parties in this case. F.S. 98.075 is self-executing and does not provide safe harbors like the NVRA. Certainly 98.075 does not need NVRA to execute an enforcement action to clean the voter rolls. F.S. 98.075 stands alone and Plaintiffs did not connect it to their claims.

The 11th Circuit judges have made sense out of the case that was presented at the trial by Judge Bloom. The ACRU did not present adequate evidence that could be used to find fault with Snipes compliance with the NVRA. The judges determined Snipes did enough to meet NVRA requirements.

*What Happens Next?* We await comments from ACRU about any future appeal. This decision may be clouded by the removal of Brenda Snipes from office by former Governor Scott and the passage of three years.

Why the ACRU did not sue in Florida state courts to mandate compliance with F.S. 98.075 instead of under NVRA in Federal Court is another question the 11th Circuit was not asked and therefore did not answer. Under F.S. 98.075 a Supervisor of Elections must act in seven days upon receipt of information about registered voters. If the Supervisor does not act, the statute provides the State itself may act to offer a hearing to any questionable voters and charge the Supervisor with violations for not following the statute. No court has found any legal infirmities in F.S. 98.075 at the trial court or appellate level in Florida probably because Supervisors are not using that law to clean voter rolls. The Palm Beach County Supervisor has not had a request for a hearing by any voter offered a hearing for the past few years.

This writer and others met on June 12, 2019 with another Florida Supervisor to ask that data about double-state voting be reviewed and these voters be given a chance to explain why they voted in two states in the 2016 election. No response has been received after passage of more than two months. It is as if F. S. 98.075 has been removed from the statutes or never been enacted. This makes the third time in the past 12 months such data has been presented to county and state election officials with no responses being given.

On August 21, 2019, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced that Florida will join ERIC. "Florida's voter registration data will be cross-checked against information from 28 other states for the first time starting next year, Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Wednesday, promising increased accuracy of the state's voter rolls." However, you can learn more about this welcome development at: https://www.tampabay.com/ florida-politics/buzz/2019/08/21/after-long-delay-floridajoins-national-voter-registration-data/.

Florida elections will have razor thin margins of victory and recounts on a regular basis in the future. Florida should be taking more steps to assure its data is correct for all voters. Voters need to make sure candidates for Supervisor in 2020 are willing to clean the voter rolls before we elect them to office.

William J. Skinner is a retired pharmacist and attorney who was elected to the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee in 2003 and continues to serve as a member.

## Mikey Caruso Finishes Third in Nation in Barefoot Waterskiing

Congratulations to Mikey Caruso, son of State Representative Mike Caruso, who finished third overall in the 42nd Barefoot Water Ski National Championships at the Blue Moo Alma Center in Wisconsin. Caruso, 33, of Delray Beach, was sixth in the slalom, fifth in the tricks, and third in the jump.

More than 70 barefoot water ski athletes competed in respective divisions for titles in wake slalom, tricks, jumping and overall during the three-day event.

The wake slalom event consisted of athletes crossing the boat wake as many times as possible in two 15-second passes (one pass in the forward position and one pass in the backward position). Tricks competitors performed as many tricks as possible in two 15-second passes. Jumpers, who were each allowed three attempts, went for distance while leaping off an 18-inch ramp.



Photo by Gary Curreri, Sun-Sentinel

## When You Vote for the Democrat Party You Are Voting for Poverty!

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

A mong many other things bad, but for now we will concentrate on poverty! The Dems spread the claim of racism against anyone who disagrees with them on any issue, to the extent that one could fertilize the Sahara Desert with their total compost. Their reason is simple: they have nothing positive with which they can defend themselves on any issue. Poverty is an excellent starting point to consider. Where to start clearly is with our major cities.

Assuming you agree that in such cities (over 250,000 in population) most of its impoverished are non-white, we should ask ourselves why is this the case. Believe it or not, the answer is simple. It is so because those cities are controlled by Democrats, and have been for long periods of time! Each election cycle the Dems go back to this constituency to tell them how bad off they are (as if they didn't already know it) and how by reelecting them things will get better. The voters have bought this liar's pack time and again. How could it not be true if the Republicans are all evil racists, as the cooperative media repeats over and over again? (It's called fake/dishonest journalism.)

For some specifics consider the following: The percentages of people living below the poverty line in the cities of Detroit, Buffalo, and Cincinnati (32.5%, 29.9%, and 27.8%, respectively) are the highest in the nation. The last times a Republican was elected mayor in these three cities were 1962, 1965, and 1971; also respectively. The percentage of people living below the poverty line in the cities of Cleveland, Newark, and Philadelphia (27.0%, 24.2%, and 25.1%, respectively) are among the highest in the nation. The last times a Republican was elected mayor in these three cities were 1989, 1953, and 1952; also respectively. The percentage of people living below the poverty line in the cities of Milwaukee and St.Louis (26.2% and 26.8%, respectively) are also among the highest in the nation. The last times a Republican was elected mayor in these two cities were 1908 and 1949; also respectively.

Is it all becoming clear to you now? The so-called Democrats, really are a party heading down the slippery slope leading thru Socialism/Marxism/ Leninism/Stalinism to eventual Fascism. This is the route taken previously by the National Socialists of Germany (better known as The Nazis)! I deliberately omitted the tag of Progressivism as I don't know what the heck it is; particularly as it may or may not apply to the Dems. There is as much progress in the Democrats' platform as there is in the programs of the governments of Cuba, Venezuela, North Korea, and Russia (among others). They



will lie and lie to the public at large. They will make grandiose promises as to what benefits will accrue to all should they be elected. Then they will default on all.

The reason for the default they will always claim to be those rich Republicans/the one percenters. The real reason they fail, of course, is that they that don't employ, nor do they even understand, the core principles of capitalism outlined by our first great Republican president (Abraham Lincoln) and practiced by our current great Republican president (Donald J. Trump). These are, simply: you cannot help the poor by destroying the rich—you cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down—you cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred—you cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong—you cannot build character and courage by taking away people's initiative and independence—you cannot help people permanently by doing for them, what they could and should do for themselves.

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.

## Are You Sure We Aren't in Kansas Anymore??? Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

#### **By Gary Mullings**

It's a beautiful sunlit morning as our small jet banks hard right and lands at one of the most secure places on earth—the Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, GTMO (get-mo)...holey-moley!

I have been on numerous bases, having spent six years in the Marine Corps Reserves (many years ago). As a civilian, I have worked for the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, in the Washington, DC area, for more than 45 years. Along with a small group of colleagues, we recently were assigned to conduct a week-long "Concrete Plant Manager" class for concrete producers on the isolated base.

Single-file we go through security with all our paperwork, and board a military bus that takes us directly to a waiting boat for the trip across the bay to the other side of the base. GTMO has a single main street that runs from the dock to the gate to Cuba, where representatives from both countries meet monthly. This was going to be a trip and adventure of a lifetime.

GTMO is the oldest U.S. military base on foreign ground. It has been leased from Cuba since immediately after the Spanish-American War, around 1903. Along with numerous other advantages, the base has served as a legal haven where the federal government could place individuals close to the U.S. but on foreign soil.

I had imagined that the base was going to be laced with razor wire, armed guards, and snipers at the ready. As we drove up the main street, there was . . . a McDonalds? there was . . . a supermarket? there were . . . kids playing kickball? there was . . . a Pizza Hut? there was . . . the gift shop?? Holy-moley, this looked more like Topeka, Kansas. But the most astonishing thing were the people. The Americans who had come to this far-away outpost and worked with distinction. The friendly, courteous Americans who gave this place such a down-home feeling. What heroes . . . I couldn't have been prouder.

As part of our class, I did get to travel to the "other side" of the base. We were placing concrete, building a road that meandered through the area where some of the world's worst terrorists are kept. There were American military personnel who worked with a precision and sense of duty unmatched. I couldn't have been prouder. The people on both sides of the base are American heroes. You see, I know about American heroes: It's 1620, your wooden ship has just left England and it's taking on water in rough seas—you're my ninth great grandfather, Thomas Blossom. It's the winter of 1788, the temperature nears



zero as you drive a horse-drawn ammunition wagon for the militia during the Revolution—you are my fifth great grandfather, Mathias Mount. It's 97 degrees as you lay on the ground, July 3, 1863, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Your horse has just been shot out from under you for the third time, a Confederate horseman, with sword raised, is closing quickly—you're my second great grandfather, Seth Slate. It's January, 1942, and your ship has just been torpedoed in the icy North Atlantic, and it is about to become the first warship sunk in the Atlantic Ocean in WWII, and you can't swim—you're my father, Tom Mullings. It's June, 1968, you are laying in a rice paddy in Vietnam, bullets are flying all around you, and you have just been shot in the abdomen by an AK-47—you're my brother, Tom Mullings. You see, I know heroes.

So, the week-long class is over, my small jet climbs and banks left. As I look down, I see Main Street . . . and it could be any Main Street USA, but I know it's not. I can't help but think about the American heroes, on both sides of GTMO, who work so pridefully to keep us free—holeymoley! You see . . . I know about heroes.

Gary Mullings resides in the Washington, DC area and is the Executive Vice President of the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland. He served for six years in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and is the much younger brother of the editor of this newsletter.

## Civil Rights for Illegals, Huh?

#### By CS Bennett

We have a major problem at our borders, namely our southern borders. The Democrats know this, and have known this for years, and Obama knew it when he was in office. He addressed it then and the Democrats supported him. There was not a word of unfairness to the people coming into the United States illegally. There were no outcries of concentration camps when Obama housed these interlopers in gated facilities. There were no major protests in the streets proclaiming, "*this is not who we are*," when Obama implemented policies that deported these illegals back to their country of origin.

Now that we have a Republican president in office, namely Trump, the Democrats want to flip the script on this situation. Under Obama, this was a plausible crisis, perhaps even a real one. Under Trump, this is suddenly a manufactured crisis. Under Obama, this was an undocumented immigrant problem. Under Trump, Republicans call it for what it truly is, an illegal alien problem. Yes, words have meaning, and the Democrats know quite well what they are doing and how they are using certain words, and terms, to hoodwink unsuspecting Americans into supporting their feel-good policies, policies meant to bring this nation down, and policies meant to destroy America as a sovereign nation.

America is the first true republic the world has known. Before it, people were ruled by monarchies, warlords, dictators, and oligarchs. In light of this New World Order agenda, there was only one country standing in their way of creating their globalist dreams, the United States of America, and its freedom loving people (well, the majority of them). But more than that, standing in the way of their dreams of open borders and a disarmed America, continues to be our United States Constitution and our right to bear arms. This is why the left is trying their best to weaken our Constitution, and our laws, especially laws pertaining to our border. Rush Limbaugh had it right the other day. If the left can get rid of our border laws, then there will be no need for us to be concerned about citizenship status. Anyone could come here and participate in our elections and influence, even determine, our future. This would remove us as a threat to their New World Order.

In order to make their case, the left has turned our illegal alien problem into a civil rights agenda in order to defeat our efforts to defend, and maintain, our sovereignty. And to think that this political party, the same nefarious party that



brought us slavery, lynching, the KKK, and Jim Crow Laws, wants to lecture Republicans, the very people who stood up for civil rights since its inception as a political force. And they do it with arrogance and pompous ignorance, the sanctimonious bunch of hypocrites that they are. I am not for name calling but sometimes you have to call a spade a spade. Sometimes you have to speak the truth. And sometimes you have to shed light on matters of darkness so that others who could not see before, can now see the corruption and dishonesty that is taking place inside the halls of Congress and our municipalities and our educational system.

I would like to suggest the following: that we end all sanctuary cities (the premise behind these cities is against the law), build the wall (walls work), and arrest and adjudicate mayors, and other politicians, who are breaking the law and breaking their oath of office. We need to restore law and order in this country. We need to start holding our elected officials responsible to what they were sent to Washington to do, and that was to protect, defend, and preserve our Constitutional Rights and continue to secure our freedoms and liberties. They have all reneged on their campaign promises and betrayed their constituency. Now it is time for these officials to pay the piper and be booted out of office. Let's restore truth, honesty, and integrity in Washington and our educational system. Vote Republican in 2020. Seek out true conservatives, freedom lovers, and constitutionalists. As for civil rights for illegals, I don't think so. Let's have some civil order here at home instead. What say you?

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:* It Is Time for the Deniers to Face the Facts

#### *By Larry P. Horist September 1, 2019*

Too many folks are denying reality to push a purely political agenda. It is time for all you deniers to face the facts and admit that you are  $\ldots$  and have been  $\ldots$  terribly wrong—even dishonest.

Oh! I am not talking about climate change. No. No. No. I am talking about the American economy and your refusal to admit that it is roaring along quite impressively. You're continuing to deny that reality—and your efforts to convince the American public that the economy sucks—is damaging and dangerous.

Unwittingly, you could create enough Chicken Little-type fear that it would hurt the economy. In the extreme, you could create a psychological atmosphere that might lead to a bit of a recession. And maybe that is not unwitting.

Perhaps many of you are following the not-so-entertaining entertainer, Bill Maher, who is a-hopin' and a-prayin' for a recession in order to defeat President Trump in the next election—regardless of the millions of Americans who would be harmed. Talk about putting party politics ahead of the nation. If that does not work, maybe folks like Maher will start a-hopin' and a-prayin' for more deadly hurricanes or even mass shootings. Whatever it takes to get Trump out of office.

It seems you cannot turn to any news service—especially those serving as the communications vehicles for today's left-wing Democratic Party—without having some politician, reporter or "contributor" tell we the people how only the rich benefited from the tax cut and the rest of us are suffering from lack of money for basic needs. They claim we need three jobs to survive. According to them, the economy is on the brink of recession. All that is just to scare us into a recession. And all that is hugely untrue.

They may cry out that the sky is falling every time the stock market takes a small dip—yes small. They try to convince us that a two percent drop is something akin to the 1929 crash. Okay, that is a bit hyperbolic, but you get the point.

Yes, the stock market goes up



and down. That is what it does. But it has been fluctuating in the range of record highs—and is currently only 4 percent below the record high. The Trump policies of tax cuts and deregulation are the reasons. The millions of people with stock-based retirement plans have been doing very well in the Trump economy.

But it is not just stock. In fact, stock prices are not the best indicator of a good or bad economy because it also fluctuates up and down in times of recession—and often rises in recessions because corporate profits improve when there are significant layoffs. Stocks are all about profits.

That big dip in the market that was given sooooo much negative spin in terms of the Trump economy—and blamed on the President's trade policies—has basically recovered even though he has threatened even more tariffs.

While there is little more room for job creation with unemployment around 3.7 percent—which most economists consider "full employment"—the shortage of workers

So, there 'tis—continued on next page



#### So, there 'tis—continued from previous page

is pushing up wages. The less-than-a-living-wage income levels that marked the initial years of the recovery from 2008 are ebbing with higher paying full-time jobs.

Democrats claim that the modest drop in job creation currently running around 165,000 per month—is a negative sign. When the nation is as at virtual full-employment, job creation tends to slow down because there are not enough workers to take jobs. That is why we NEED immigrants to come to America (legally)—as Trump has said. (And yes, he has repeatedly and specifically stated that we need a flow of immigrants to expand the workforce—regardless of their ethnic background. Claiming that Trump is anti-immigration and a racist is another bogus political narrative advanced by the left and echoed by their media allies.)

Another measure of the health of the economy is consumer confidence. It is currently at an all-time high. It is reflected in another measure.

One of the all-important indicators of a strong economy is disposable income—that money people use to buy things. That is up due to higher wages and lower taxes. So far in 2019, spending has grown by a very healthy 6 percent with July reaching 8 percent. This puts the lie to the claim that the tariffs are significantly impacting on income and spending.

China is suffering far worse in the trade war since the potential consumer price increases have not yet been realized on the American side. When the Democrats talk about the price increases, they are talking theory . . . potential . . . not current reality. Unfortunately, China—as an authoritarian regime—can let its economy and people suffer to a greater degree.

As much as I am a free-trader, I see no other short-term solution that can eventually and effectively end China's trade abuses, money manipulation and the purloining of trillions of dollars of intellectual property. It is a fight that must be won—and if it means more TEMPORARY tariffs, so be it.

Virtually every tax-paying American has benefited from the tax cut. In terms of personal income taxes, the average American has done a bit better percentage-wise than those dreadful one-percenters. Democrats conflate the cut in corporate income taxes as cuts benefiting the rich. In fact, a cut in corporate taxes is a reduction in prices that benefit all consumers. Remember . . . corporations never pay the taxes. They pass that cost on to the consumer. A corporate tax increase is paid by you and me—and it is regressive since the price increases hit hardest on the poor. The cut in corporate taxes is one of the reasons for the job growth.

For sure, there has been a modest slowdown in the economy in the past month, but hardly a recession. It is a little like reducing your highway speed from 80 to 70 miles-perhour. You are still moving along at a pretty good clip.

No matter how you look at it. No matter to whom you want to give credit. The American economy is booming. And if all you economic doomsayers would just quit scaring the children, it would even be better—but I guess the only thing that motivates you folks more than a good economy for we the people is a useful crisis—real or invented—that will hurt President Trump.

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. Clients of his former consulting firm included such conservative icons as Steve Forbes and Milton Friedman. He has served as a consultant to the Nixon White House and travelled the country as a spokesman for President Reagan's economic reforms. He has testified as an expert witness before numerous legislative bodies, including the U.S. Congress. Horist has lectured and taught courses at numerous colleges and universities, including Harvard, Northwestern, DePaul universities, Hope College and his alma mater, Knox College. He has been a guest on hundreds of public affairs talk shows, and hosted his own program, "Chicago In Sight," on WIND radio. Horist was a one-time candidate for mayor of Chicago and is an award-winning debater. His insightful and sometimes controversial commentaries appear frequently on the editorial pages of newspapers across the nation. He writes for several online news services and is principle commentator for PunchingBag-Post.com. You can also follow his video commentaries on YouTube.com/LarryHorist. He is praised by readers and viewers for his style, substance and sense of humor. According to one reader, Horist is the "new Charles Krauthammer." He is actively semi-retired in Boca Raton, Florida. So, there 'tis is Horist's signature sign off.

## A Violent Year in U.S. Politics Coming

## By Gene Robinson A Loyal Broward County, Florida, Republican

As I was packing, looking forward to flying north this week to both Ohio and Pennsylvania for Labor Day family fun, mixed with politics, in the Buckeye state, and then on to tackle political business in the Keystone commonwealth, I took a moment to think about just how "significant" all the time and energy that we will put in for the 2020 election . . . really is. And what will be the consequences if we do not put in the work!!

We often hear those involved in politics speak of an upcoming vote as the most important election of our lifetime, and that expression is used so often that it has a tendency to sound like someone "crying wolf" one time too many. When anything is said too often, the public "turns off" their collective hearing aids, and the words "Most Important" become trite, overused, and can become . . . **not so important**.

When Donald Trump, who had never run for public office before, ran for president in 2016, many political pundits said that 2016 would be a really important "watershed" election, because there were two diametrically opposing sides, with the other side having a viable female candidate for the first time, in Hillary Clinton, trying to win an office being vacated by Barack Obama. When Obama first ran in 2008 as the first Black major party candidate with a real opportunity to occupy the Oval Office, 2008 was called the most important election of our lifetime. There's that term ... again!

So, I am not going to belabor that point, or use the term "most important election of our lifetime" again. However, what I am going to say is that, from this very minute at the end of August 2019 until November of 2020, we are getting ready to enter into the ... most potentially violent year in American political history ... period.

Why do I say that? Read on, and you will see!

Politics on a national scale in this country is no longer one side arguing the issues of the day against the opposing side. What we have now is No Holds Barred, Anything Goes, All Out War. And, in War, people get injured . . . and people get killed. **This war will be no different.** 

For how else could you describe a year that will potentially see more Anger, Vitriol, Lying, and Violence than we have ever seen in American politics before? How can I say all that is going to happen in the coming year? Because, we are seeing all of those things happening already with over a year to go until the 2020 election, and those things are going to happen on an even grander scale, as things are only going to get Worse. **Much worse!** 

Why will it get worse? Because, Ultimate Power is the "treasure" that is at stake. My father always taught me that in politics, a group of people who have lost Power, will work even harder, and sometimes do anything, to get back into Power, as they miss it so much, with all the trappings that Power brings. Under Obama the Democrats enjoyed eight years of feeling that they were On Top of the World, then feeling that Hillary would give them even more Power with her time as President. But, now with President Trump, whom they feel is "illegitimate," in control of the Seat of Power in the White House, the Dems are feeling depressed, sullen, and even worst, they are ... **desperate**, as their World has Fallen Apart. And, they will stop at Nothing,



in today's political environment, to get back into Power, as ... desperate people resort to desperate measures, sometimes even violent measures!

Historically, when most groups in some foreign countries had something that they thoroughly enjoyed, then lost (like Power), those groups did anything and everything to try and get that something back. The same kind of thinking is taking place in the current political "climate and discourse" in America, of all places, with Democrats, who started "acting out" the night that Trump won, with their riots. Remember: Anger, Vitriol, Lying, and finally Violence, if that is what it takes. The list of violence being perpetrated by the Left is too long to recount here, but that list will get even longer. Who can forget the lovable Maxine Waters saying, "When you see them anywhere. . . ," and now who can forget the masked roving gangs of Antifa?

The Dems cast all their chips, for nearly three years, in the Game of Russian Collusion to try and dethrone a sitting President who had done nothing wrong, but the cards that they held did not present them with a "winning hand," as they only "shot themselves," and ended up mortally wounded, playing the game of Russian Roulette instead.

The other side is so angry with their failure to remove the President from office "legally," as they had no grounds, that they are still trying to impeach Donald Trump, using whatever means are necessary to get the job done. I played both high school and college basketball, and there were times when I became so angry on the floor, that I lost my focus and my game suffered because of it. The Democrats are so angry right now that they have lost their "political focus," and ... their game has suffered tremendously because of it!

Looking back, the Dems were a once proud political party, but now they will say and do anything from one day to the next, to try and win the White House again. They have over 20 candidates in a field to take on the President in 2020, but they are constantly "attacking" each other, gaining no

#### A Violent Year—continued from previous page

ground, so they are behind Trump in every national poll recently taken. No wonder they are so angry and out of sorts ... as the over 20 Dem candidates are such "Losers" collectively, that a man who never held a political office before he ran for President, in Donald Trump, is ... beating them at every turn and the election is over a year away!

If I wasn't enjoying all of this so much, I would feel sorry for any individuals who still call themselves Democrats... but, as my children always said as they were growing up, after saying they felt sorry for someone ... **not**!! So, as I said, from this moment forward, get ready for the Most Potentially Violent Year in American Political History, and it may get really "nasty and dangerous" for some of us, especially here in heavily Democrat Broward County, Florida. But, as long as we Work Non-Stop, Every Day ... I like our chances of holding on to power.

God Bless.

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

#### In Memoriam Nancy Boyman December 30, 1927 to August 22, 2019

Nancy Boyman, an extraordinary Republican activist, has died. For years she struggled with Parkinson's Disease, but she never stopped being knowledgable and involved.

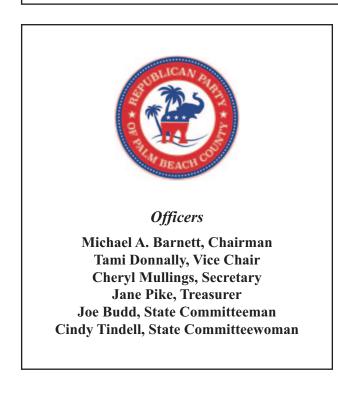
As a teacher in New York City Nancy wrote the Holocaust curriculum. When Russian Jews were being imprisoned and tortured, American Jews lobbied to get them out of Russia and to America. Nancy played a big role in the campaign that ultimately succeeded.

In Florida Nancy helped the survivors of the Holocaust to be recognized and celebrated. Each year Nancy organized a Holocaust Memorial Ceremony to be held in her synagogue, Beth Ami, where she served on the Board of Directors. Many in the Holocaust group helped educate the community about the horrors they had to endure. Sev-

eral years ago when Jewish students were being harassed by Muslim students at FAU, Nancy got the Jewish community involved, and it worked.

Nancy was supportive of many conservative organizations in Broward and Palm Beach Counties. Before every election, Nancy and her husband Richard hosted dozens of people in their home in order to educate them about which candidates were the best.

Nancy is survived by her husband Richard and three children. May she rest in peace.



## REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

September 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



## **Updates from Angela West**

UGUST 22-Good Thursday Morning! Missed talk- ${
m A}$  ing for a couple of weeks due to life. Austen graduated from university with an honorable GPA which will allow her to attend pretty much any graduate program (we are now a family of four with 11 post-secondary degrees between us). She accepted an offer with an airline and attempted to drive across country, only to be hit in a head-on collision before she could even exit Florida-she still made it to the first day of the job-bruised, sore and with a black eye, but she is a fighter! All goes well, she will be flying out of the Washington DC area in about a month. If you see her, say "hello!" Aubrey bought a fixer-upper and also signed a contract for both a job and a house. Aubrey is a remarkable and extremely smart young lady. . . . In my mid-20's I would never have dreamed of either of these accomplishments! Allen announced that he was running for the chair of the Republican Party in Texas—if we lose Texas (which is going on right now through "seepage")-he will work hard and will right this ship for sure. Finally, I met a few new clients who can benefit from financial advice! Busy two weeks!

Enough about the personal stuff. . . . As Sonny and Cher sang "The beat goes on, the beat goes on. Drums keep pounding a rhythm to the brain, La de da de de, la de da de da." The "field of dreams," otherwise known as Democrat primary contenders, has shrunk by three or four. They have all decided to run for other offices. But, as my best friend says, "There are many stories in this windy city," so let's get to just a few. . . .

1) Well, Jeffrey Epstein is dead and apparently buried which, depending on how deep, should not be far from his eternal home. Not much of a surprise, given the fact that I called him "dead man walking" from the day he was arrested. The truth is, people do "shoot the messenger" and kill the



"bearer of secrets and bad news." He had too much news to tell and held too many secrets which everyone now denies. The old son, "It wasn't me," comes to mind. Sure, I was hugging the bare waist of a teenager, sure I partied with little girls on a remote island, sure . . . but I was reading a book or paring my toenails when the "bad stuff" happened, so it "wasn't me." The stories of perversion and debauchery abound, from his gift on his birthday of 12-year-old girls to his desire to "seed the world" with his spawn of his loins at his ranch out west. I suspect that since he and his brother are childless, the family lineage has come to a screeching halt and probably was sterile from the jump-thank the Lord for His Mercy. The injustice of his death means that those tortured girls who were likely sold down the river by their parents and guardians will never see justice. And the perpetrators are free to devour young children through other pimps-it's a "taste" that these people develop and just like the vampire needs blood and the crack addict needs a fix, they do also.

2) Around 80 percent of white evangelicals backed Donald Trump in the 2016 election, according to exit polls. So, the other morning I watched as the silly people on a morning show tried to semi-shame/wring their hands over why the evangelicals "still support" Trump. . . . Who are they to support? The abortion-loving and often Israel-bashing candidates on the left? Unlike the fool Joe Scarborough and his cray Mika might believe, the average evangelical does not sport a deep southern accent and take off their shoes when counting over 10. In the Bible—the real one, not the book of Morning Joe—God frequently uses imperfect men to achieve perfection. And since none of us are perfect, expect that in some way we might be used as well.

Let me list just a couple of the imperfect: There's no question that David is one of the Bible's more important figures. It's easy to be inspired by his youthful willingness to fight Goliath, his tender friendship with Jonathan, his worshipful Psalms, and his enduring patience under wicked King Saul. David coveted Uriah's wife, Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:2–3), committed adultery with her (2 Sam. 11:4) effectively stealing her from Uriah (2 Sam. 12:9), lying to him (2 Sam. 11:12–13), and eventually having him murdered (2 Sam. 12:9). When the prophet Nathan confronts David for his depravity, he immediately repents, confessing his sin. The Lord works in mysterious ways.

3) Several 2020 Democratic presidential candidates are supportive, or at least open-minded, about decriminalizing prostitution. When the topic comes up in candidate forums or media interviews, Sens. Kamala Harris, Elizabeth Warren, and Bernie Sanders have expressed varying degrees of support. I hope that the legalization of prostitution never, ever, happens. Last week at a local diner I saw a new waitress. Startled at her immediate appearance, I tried to look away.

#### Angela West-continued from previous page

She was tattooed down the side of her face with a name and symbol. I will get back to that later. For the pandering candidates, they argue, "If sex work is not going to disappear anytime soon, anyone who cares about the health and safety of sex workers—not to mention their rights—should support moves to make it a fully legal industry. That is what most sex workers want as well." Hollywood glamorizes the life of a "sex worker" as one of a complete "badass"—gorgeous whore with a heart of gold waiting to be rescued by some rich guy or regarded as a "sex professional."

Back to the tattoo—the girl had a barcode and name on her face. Obviously she was in some sort of "second chance" job and was self-conscious that I noticed this. Police and anti-trafficking advocates are seeing those brands on girls more and more in recent years. It's just another way to control them [the girls], and let other pimps know that, "Hey, this individual belongs to me." The branding shows up all over the girls' bodies, but particularly in places where the buyer knows who owns this "property." The initials "ATM" tattooed near a girl's crotch. A trafficker's name tattooed across a girl's thighs. A bar code tattooed across a girl's wrist, like an item in a grocery store.

The practice is not new. It used to be done by slave owners using brands on slaves to show ownership. Now it's back in a different form, but for the same horrible purpose. These pandering politicians are, in essence, promoting slavery since the legalization of prostitution essentially frees the "john" (usually a male) from prosecution and ensnares the female. In addition, if this should ever pass, look for the now legal "business-person" pimp to make sure the barcode is on everything. Wake up people.

4) President Trump signed a measure on Wednesday that seeks to remove the bureaucratic barriers for permanently disabled veterans to qualify for student loan forgiveness, which he said would save 25,000 wounded warriors an average of \$30,000. The rollout of the executive action came during the American Veterans national convention in Louisville, Kentucky, where Mr. Trump was joined onstage by Betsy DeVos, the education secretary, and the deputy secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, James Byrne. Excellent. Did not hear the MSM speaking of this this morning.

5) A U.S. appeals court in Denver said Electoral College members can vote for the presidential candidate of their choice and aren't bound by the popular vote in their states. This is bad news folks. Better check this before they WRECK this United States and our Republic.

"The beat goes on, the beat goes on. . . . Drums keep pounding a rhythm to the brain, La de da de de, la de da de da."

Ecclesiastes 3:1: "There is a time for everything and a reason for every activity under the heavens."

See you in a couple of days!

#### Bernie Marcus, Founder of Home Depot, on Why He Supports Donald Trump

I woke up this morning thinking it was going to be another great day. I've been celebrating with friends, family and the community since I turned 90. I've told you about the gracious gift of \$117 million that was collected and given in my honor to four charities that mean a lot to me. All that happiness blew up because I said in a newspaper interview that I have supported and will continue to support Donald Trump.

Boom!

Negative stories . . . vicious threats, without cause, to boycott the company that has enabled my foundation to give billions to support autism, medical research, education, heart and neurological issues like stroke, and to help our veterans. The company that I retired from in 2002 and have not had a business relationship with in almost 20 years. A company that has employed more than a half-million people. The people who work there are affiliated with both political parties or no



party at all. They are of all religions and all colors and backgrounds. Why would people want to hurt them? All because I give my voice and some of my money to our President. Am I in China? Argentina? Russia? That's what it feels like to me.

It saddens me that our country has come to this, where I, as a private citizen, cannot express my feelings. It angers me and it saddens me, but it sure as hell is not going to stop me. If you thought it would, you've got the wrong guy.

In the next ten years, God willing, I will accomplish more to save this world than my critics will do even if they had forty lifetimes.

## **Club News**

## Republican Federated Women of South Florida Hosted an Ice Cream Social at the VA

O n Saturday, August 17, the Republican Federated Women of South Florida proudly hosted an ice cream social and a round of Bingo for the residents of the Community Living Center and the hospice ward at the West Palm Beach Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Members and supporters of the club prepared root beer floats for the resident veterans and their guests, and awarded coupons to the VA canteen as Bingo prizes. Some of the veterans needed help with their Bingo cards, and our members



were happy to sit with them and offer assistance. Although we were advised not to discuss politics during our visit, we were allowed to introduce ourselves as the Republican Federated Women of South Florida, and our name was clearly posted on the facility's calendar of events.

The Republican Federated Women of South Florida regularly hosts ice cream socials at the Veterans Administration. Seeing the smiles on the faces of these veterans makes it all worthwhile. We are grateful to Frank and Andrea Plescia for making the arrangements for our visit. Frank is the POW/MIA Florida Chair for the DAV (Disabled American Veterans), and Andrea is the Veterans Outreach Chair for the Palm Beach County Republican Party.

The next monthly meeting of the Republican Federated Women of South Florida is scheduled for Thursday, September 26, with investigative reporter Laura Loomer and

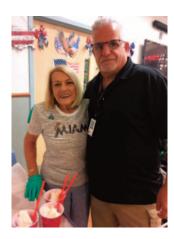


Visiting the VA (*left to right, front row*): Cheryl Mullings, Linda Johnson, Rosemary O'Mara, May Long; (*back row*): Sara Bernard, Diane Belz, Tom Mullings, Frank Pescia, Carol Johnson, Andrea Plescia, and Celete Ellich.

former Trump adviser Karen Giorno as featured speakers. We are planning our October 24 meeting as a candidates forum, with former Palm Beach County GOP Chair Sid Dinerstein as the moderator

For information about the Republican Federated Women of South Florida, please contact President Linda Johnson at ljayll@att.net.

-Cheryl Mullings



Rosemary O'Mara with Frank Plescia.



Cheryl Mullings was the Bingo caller.



Tom Mullings helping another veteran with his Bingo card.

## **Book Review**

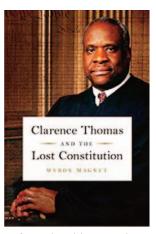
# *Clarence Thomas and the Lost Constitution*, by Myron Magnet. New York: Encounter Books, 2019. Hardcover, 139 pp., index. ISBN #978-1-64177-052-1.

This book tells a depressing but instructive story that all Americans would do well to familiarize themselves with. Its author, Myron Magnet, is the editor-at-large of the Manhattan Institute's *City Journal* and in 2008 he was awarded the National Humanities Medal. He is also the author of *The Founders at Home: The Building of America*, 1735–1817.

Only some of us old enough to remember, will recall that before the shameful Kavanaugh hearings on Capitol Hill, there were the equally despicable Clarence Thomas hearings in which the left tried but failed to bring down in disgrace another great and honorable man with "sordid, uncorroborated allegations of sexual transgressions."

The 1991 Senate hearings on Clarence Thomas's Supreme Court nomination, first revealed an American "crisis of legitimacy" that has been going on for nearly one hundred years. I'll briefly outline that crisis here, but first it would be useful to review why the U.S. Constitution was structured the way it was. In a nutshell, the Founders "wrote a new constitution, framing a central government strong enough to fight a war and fund it, but fenced round with limits to prevent it from becoming the elective despotism they feared." Ingeniously, they did that by creating a "delicate balance through the three branches of government and the separation of powers: democratically elected representatives frame laws to do the voters' will, which the elected president executes, unless the Supreme Court deems them unconstitutional. But that small government of limited and enumerated powers hasn't operated for nearly a century [emphasis mine]. All its parts still have their old names and appear to be carrying out their old functions. But in reality, a new kind of government has grown up inside the old structure eating up their host from within."

This century-long governmental "usurpation" has developed in three stages: 1) The subversion of the Fourteenth Amendment, "whose effects still distort our jurisprudence." 2) The rise of the vast administrative state, "government by executivebranch or independent agencies without a scintilla of constitutional legitimacy, but acting as a fourth branch of government." 3) The doctrine



of the "living Constitution," first formulated by Woodrow Wilson, which made up law and swept away what remained of the Founders' original limited governmental vision.

Enter Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court of the United States, who, in my humble opinion, is a genuine twenty-first century, American hero without peer, whose cases on the nation's highest court cited in the book, "add up to a sweeping critique of what the court, sitting as a Wilsonian Constitutional Convention and legislating from the bench with ample audacity over the decades has wrought—vandalism leading to serfdom."

All of us who take the time to read this wonderful book will be rewarded, and let's have the author tell us why. "We marvel that late eighteenth-century America produced its [uncommon gathering] of great men who invented our republic on such revolutionary principles. It's a marvel that there are some who'd like to restore it as the world's beacon of individual liberty. Through a similarly alchemy of character and culture that nurtured the Founders, our age has produced Justice Clarence Thomas. Surely it isn't too much to hope that it will produce enough of his ilk to kindle a new birth of freedom."

*—Tom Mullings* 



## **Book Review**

#### *Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America*, by David Horowitz. West Palm Beach: Humanix Books, 2018. ISBN: 978-163006-114-2. 194 pp. with Index.

T o some, David Horowitz is hard to understand. He dedicates this book to four of his friends—April, Peter, Wally, and Mike. The last one must be Mike Huckabee, who wrote an endorsement on the top of the front cover saying "Most compelling defense of Christianity." Over the years Horowitz has written many books, political reports, charts, and pamphlets. He has written and talked about his unbelief in religion and his life journey from being a leftwing radical communist to now more of a partially reconciled seeker of the truth who is still afraid, I think, to make a final decision for fear of being wrong in his choice. Enough curbstone psychology for now. Let me tell you what this book is all about. I will quote a few items and summarize the rest.

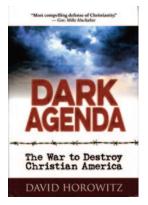
A total of 12 chapters gives a broad overview of Horowitz's thinking about his spiritual journey and where he thinks he is going. Chapter 1 starts off in Sutherland Springs, Texas, at the First Baptist Church, where a gunman was shot twice by a former NRA instructor after the masked gunman killed 26 people. The gunman had been court martialed by the Air Force for domestic violence, but the Air Force neglected to report the information to the FBI database.

Horowitz calls this Texas event a beginning of the wider war against Christians and Christianity. He claims that the war started in the fires of the French Revolution when the leaders changed the name of the Cathedral of Notre Dame to the "Temple of Reason" and began to massacre the Catholics in the Vendée region. The Cathedral in Paris recently burnt in 2019.

In Russia, Marx's disciples "removed religious teaching from the schools, outlawed criticism of atheists and agnostics, and burned 100,000 churches. . . . Between 1917 and 1935, 130,000 Russian Orthodox priests were arrested, 95,000 of who were executed by firing squad" (p. 4).

Horowitz says 9/11 is responsible for the rise of the New Atheists who did not shrink from connecting those attacks to Islamic beliefs. But the New Atheists included modern Christianity and Judaism in "their screeds about religious terrorism" (p. 7). The principal manifesto of the New Atheist, *The God Delusion*, was written by Richard Dawkins in 2006, who says Darwin and science now explains everything. Dr. Francis Collins, a former atheist, is now head of the National Institutes of Health. In 2006 Collins wrote *The Language of God: A Scientist's Evidence for Belief*, that explains the compatibility of science and religious conviction. Horowitz quotes Collins as saying the difference between their ways of explaining the difference "is that my presumption of the possibility of God and therefore the supernatural is not zero, but yours is."

Chapter 2—The war against Christianity was joined by Christopher Hitchens who was a friend of Horowitz when they were both radicals in London in the 1960s. They became antagonists in the 1980s after migrating to the U.S. The last years of Hitchens' life he became a supporter of America's war against Islamic jihadists in Iraq. Horowitz defended Hitchens against his leftist comrades, but thought he was terribly misguided. Horowitz was dismayed at the way Hitchens wasted his talents on a futile war against the



idea of God. Horowitz says nobody can know as a fact whether God exists or not. [Looks like Horowitz is expressing his doubts again at this point in the book.] Hitchens' body developed esophageal cancer in 2010 and when diagnosed it was at stage 4.

When Horowitz was writing about Hitchens's life, he remembered that he had watched Hitchens down glass after glass of scotch and chain-smoke. Hitchens died in December 2011 at age 62. Horowitz recalls Blaise Pascal at this point, quoting Pascal saying that "Faith is God felt by the heart." Hitchens told Horowitz that he thought Pascal was a fraud despite his "wager" theory. Hitchens turned to Dr. Francis Collins to treat his cancer and the two became friends. Hitchens faith was stored in the theory that God did not exist, and beyond that Hitchens believed in an earthy redemption, which religious people were obstructing (p. 22). Horowitz explains again what his theological views were during those years.

Chapter 3-Radical Faith. Horowitz says he was born into a family of political radicals who called themselves "progressives," but he later came to learn they were really communists. His parents thought of themselves as the redeemers, not God. After the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, the communists started to call their system "social justice." Horowitz established the New Left magazine, Ramparts, and hired Betty Van Patter as the bookkeeper. Betty was captured from a Berkeley bar one night, was handed a note, and left with someone. She was found raped, tortured, and beaten to death. Horowitz says her death caused him to want to understand "original sin." Progressives see themselves as agents of their own destiny. Opposing visions are the root cause of the war on American Christians described by this book. Progressives have declared war on religious liberty, which is America's founding principle. "And that is why they seek to silence and suppress its defenders" (p. 35).

In the next chapter, Horowitz describes the present Christian America as a watered-down version of what the Founders wanted. The new Capitol Visitors Center, for

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example, hid the national motto, "In God We Trust," when it opened in 2008. "The designers of the center had gone to great lengths to alter essential American history" (p. 38). The designers quoted a Whig figure's leftist vision of America instead. Then Horowitz describes what religious principles the country was founded upon. He got most of that right, but was wrong to say neither the Declaration or Constitution employs Christian language. [Ask me why, if interested.] But he is correct that an important right in the Bill of Rights is religious liberty.

We are limited in space here, so we urge you to get and read the book. Chapter 5 reviews the issue of prayer in the schools including *Engel v. Vitale* the landmark 1962 Supreme Court case. Prayer in schools was common for 200 years. Engel lost the case three times in the lower courts. Instead of dealing with his issue in state legislatures, Engle brought the issue to six unelected justices and changed the whole country. George Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is about Winston Smith who works at the Ministry of Truth. The education system had to establish its own ministry of truth to make the past conform to the present, Horowitz says. After 9/11 religious proselytizing of Islam was perfectly acceptable in our public schools so long as it is against Western values in general. The left despises Christian doctrines.

In the 1960s Madalyn Murray, the founder of American Atheists, filed the lawsuit known as *Murray v. Curlett* in the Baltimore Circuit Court where the case was dismissed. The appeal reached the Supreme Court by 1963. The high court banned reading of the Bible at public schools and Justice Potter Stewart was the lone dissenter. This changed the life of the nation. Next, the book brings in Margaret Sanger, the feminist radical, and Emma Goldman, who would start pushing for abortion rights. Eventually, in June 1965, the Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, ruled there was a "right to privacy" in the Constitution found in the penumbras or shadows of other rights. [That was the year I graduated from law school, only 54 years ago.] Horowitz affirms there is no such right in the Constitution.

Birth control was established by the Supreme Court in 1973 by *Roe v. Wade*, as another advance in women's liberation. The drive for this result was originated by Students for a Democratic Society at the University of Texas. The decision was announced as another 7 to 2 holding with Rehnquist and White as dissenters. The next victim of the left was Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court.

Battle lines—Chapter 8—were drawn and Rev. Jesse Jackson was against abortion in 1977. To get Democrat Party support for his run for President, Jackson changed sides. Many right-to-life Democrats left the party over abortion. Horowitz brings up the place of the Equal Rights Amendment, Moral Majority, Concerned Women of America, and other groups in the 1970s and 1980s. Gay liberation came next. HIV and other sexual infections ran rampant. "Racist" was being used more and more. This was calculated to provoke the religious right.

When Barack Obama entered the White House, he installed a new carpet in the Oval Office with the inscription "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." Horowitz says this is the religious premise of radical politics. Radicals think they are on the right side of history because their mission is to create "social justice" that has never existed before.

Obama worked to diminish America's role in the world. He first ended the "war on terror" by ordering those words stricken from government documents. Our govenment actions became "Overseas Contingency Operations." Obama failed to support uprisings in Iran against the mullahs. Horowitz says we later learned Obama's goal was to make a deal that would allow Iran to get nuclear weapons. The withdrawal of U.S. troops caused the formation of ISIS. Obama and the anti-God, antireligious left steadily gained its grip on the Democrat Party and it removed "God" from its platform by 2012. Partisan division between Democrats and Republicans became the rule.

In Chapter 11 Horowitz explains how Religious Liberty is being attacked by an extreme anti-Christian hate group masquerading as the Military Religious Freedom Foundation. Horowitz credits the head of this Foundation with meeting with Air Force General Norton A. Schwartz that resulted in religious expression becoming a criminal offense. Under Obama and Secretary Hagel, the Pentagon adopted the Foundation's false view that the First Amendment was an antireligious stricture. Religious Liberty is America's first freedom and the military has been forbidden to have any of it. "Freedom of conscience, derived from 'the priesthood of all believers,' is the cornerstone of American pluralism, making possible the diversity of America's communities, their equality under the law, and their ability to peacefully coexist" (p. 140). There is more in this chapter, but you get the idea of what Horowitz is telling us.

Chapter 12 takes us into 2016 with Donald J. Trump coming to the White House. Pew Research says 81% of evangelicals voted for Trump. Needless to say, Horowitz gives us quite a lot of facts and quotes to finish the book, but you will have to get the book and read them yourself.

Horowitz's summary of this war to destroy Christian America may prove to be wrong in small particulars, but he has put it all together in a seamless mosaic that makes sense to this reader. You need to read this book soon so you can take part in the 2020 election with an understanding of what is going on according to this reckoning.

William J. Skinner is a retired pharmacist and attorney who came to Florida in 2003 where he has served on the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee until the present time. He can be contacted at billskinnerlw@aol.com or 561-433-1170 please leave a message after 5 rings.

## **Editor's Postscript**

## The Mysterious Nuclear Explosion in Russia

#### **By Tom Mullings**

I listened in on the August 28 conference call hosted by Shashona Bryan, senior director at the Jewish Policy Center. The guest on the call was Dr. Stephan Bryan, an expert on security, strategy and technology who's held senior positions in the Defense Department, on Capitol Hill, and for large multi-national defense and technology companies. He completed his undergraduate degree at Rutgers University, and received his MA and PhD from Tulane University.

The half-hour talk by Dr. Bryan was about a most interesting and mysterious topic-an explosion that occurred recently on a barge in the White Sea in the far north of Russia. The explosion was titanic, as evidenced by the picture accompanying this article, and was located at a top secret Russian military facility. It was widely believed to be the third in a series of tests of a hypersonic vehicle launched from a rocket that uses a scram jet and propulsion by a nuclear reactor. The test obviously failed, as did the previous two in the series, but the fascinating thing is the fact that the Russians were attempting to use a miniaturized nuclear reactor as a means of propulsion for this revolutionary technology. If they were to successfully field technology of this type in a relatively small cruise missile flying at hypersonic speed it would have unlimited range and be extremely difficult, at best, for the United States to detect and shoot down. Such a weapon could be a game changer in the development of strategic arms for Russia.

In the failed test of the new weapon technology on the White Sea, one of Russia's leading designers of this technology was killed in the tremendous explosion, along with at least four other people.

America experimented with similar technology in the 1960s, but abandoned those efforts, concluding that it was much too dangerous in all its aspects; the primary reason being that even if successful, the weapon would spew out dangerous nuclear radiation all along its flight! The cannot deal with hypersonic weapons. Dr. Bryan thinks the United States can find a way of dealing with hypersonic weapons, "but we're not there yet, not even close."

Just as they did in 1986 on the occasion of the explosion of their nuclear reactor at Cherynobl, the Russians shut down monitors because they didn't



want the world to find out about the disaster. At this time, we don't know if the radiation from the blast spread beyond the area on the White Sea, but Dr. Bryan suspects that it is moving south.

The Chinese are also trying hard to develop hypersonic weapons and Dr. Bryan advocates arms control for this kind of system, saying that China would have to be included, but Russia, given this most recent failure, might be open to it.

This is a most dangerous situation that needs addressing in one way or another. We don't have missile defenses over the Pole or on the East Coast, because many have argued that we should continue to rely on the MAD (Mutual Assured Destruction) doctrine, but Russia does not believe in this. Dr. Bryan thinks a test ban treaty might be a good way of approaching arms control on this issue, because



Russian technology is putting harmful radiation into the atmosphere. They are attempting to clean it up in the White Sea and at least one diver has been killed trying to do so. Still, there are problems that could prove insurmountable with the test ban approach, that Dr. Bryan acknowledges. For one thing, this kind of technology uses a much smaller rocket than an ICBM (Intercontinental Ballistic Missile) which are harder to detect

major difference between the American and Russian experimental tests with this technology is that Russia uses a scram jet, which travels at hypersonic speeds (greater than the speed of sound) while the United States used a ram jet, which moves at subsonic rate of speed (less than the speed of sound.) If the Russians were to succeed at developing this technology it would be quite significant since, at the present time, all air defenses in the world, including those of the U.S., and therefore may present problems with verification.

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.

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## 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

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