



THE SPACE COAST TUSK



A Newsletter for Conservative Republicans

FLYING HIGH...AND DIGGING AND BORING TO KEEP BREVARD COUNTY RED AND GET CONSERVATIVES ELECTED

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CALIFORNIA'S KEVIN MCCARTHY FINALLY NAMED U.S. HOUSE SPEAKER

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

MY TWO CENTS

By Stuart Gorin

--According to American Liberty Report, the watchdog group Election Watch discovered that in the 2020 election in Wisconsin, 152,000 votes were illegally cast, either by people who had moved out of the state or to another address within the state -- both actions completely illegal under Wisconsin laws. That doesn't mean that either Joe Biden or Donald Trump won the state, American Liberty Report said, but it does mean the result was unknowable, and there should have been a do-over election to clean it up.

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--Trash-talking on CNN, Chris "I wish I were my father, Mike" Wallace said his former colleagues at Fox News are "full of crap," and it would be hard to distinguish among them. Isn't it time for Wallace himself to look in the mirror?

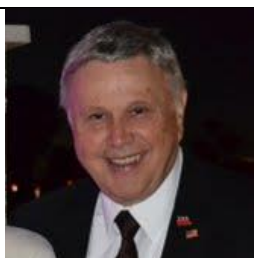
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--A 12-year-old girl in Argentina, Milagros Soto, became the latest deadly victim of Tik Tok's dangerous "choking challenge," after being found dead in her home while hanging from a makeshift noose. This horrible stunt involves individuals deliberately finding ways to cut off their own oxygen supply until they pass out. Experts have warned that this bizarre trend is highly risky and could lead to faintness, brain damage, convulsions, and other severe consequences. Unfortunately, she was not the only young person to suffer the consequences of this on-line fad. It is about time to put an end to this Chinese video "service."

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--Is there anything crazier than the amount of money the city of San Francisco wants to pay African American residents for

[Continued On Page 2](#)



It took 15 ballots over four-plus days to accomplish, but shortly after midnight on January 7, **California Congressman Kevin McCarthy**, the Republican House Majority Leader, finally attained the necessary votes to become Speaker of the House of Representatives.

McCarthy fell short on the first ballot because while he needed a majority vote of 217 members to be elected, there were 20 Republicans who opposed him, and he could only afford to lose 5 votes. After intense negotiations, in which he agreed to demands by members of the House Freedom Caucus, the opposing number -- who voted for other candidates -- dropped to just six holdouts.



It was on the 15th vote that the six agreed to vote "present" instead of for another candidate, and that reduced the number of cast ballots needed for a majority, thus giving McCarthy the speakership.

[Continued On Page 2](#)

INSIDE:

Spending Bill [page 2](#)

Legislative Meeting [page 3](#)

Let Me Be Frank..... [page 3](#)

Upcoming Brevard County Events [page 15](#)

Political Cartoons and Photos..... [pages 16 thru 20](#)

their eight-generations-back relatives being held in slavery? The city's committee charged with calculating the amount for reparations actually wants to give every African American man, woman and child living in San Francisco \$5 million each, and also absolve them of any and all debts, including housing. Political analyst Dick Morris calls this absurd proposal "the height of idiocy."

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More Two Cents next month.

The Democrats had their own candidate every time, of course. McCarthy praised former **President Donald Trump** and **Florida Congressman Matt Gaetz** for pushing him over the finish line by convincing the other remaining Republican holdouts (Gaetz was one himself) to vote "present" on the 15th ballot.

The others were **Representatives Lauren Boebert** of Colorado, **Andy Biggs** and **Eli Crane** of Arizona, **Bob Good** of Virginia and **Matt Rosendale** of Montana.

Speaking of Trump, he said, "I don't think anybody should doubt his influence. He was with me from the beginning" and helped get those final votes.

Among the list of concessions McCarthy made to his fellow Republicans were allowing a single lawmaker to make a motion to elect a new speaker, and returning to the way the House ran for decades before that practice was eliminated under former Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He also agreed to votes on term limits, to the adoption of a budget resolution that reportedly balances the budget in a decade, and to a cap on fiscal year 2024 spending at fiscal year 2022 levels.

McCarthy further agreed to reject any negotiations on spending with the Senate until the Senate passes its own spending bills, and not to increase the debt limit without spending cuts or other fiscal reforms. He also agreed "to set up a committee to examine the weaponization of government against U.S. citizens," and "to ensure no bills are brought up on the floor until at least 72 hours passed," to give members time to read them.

Last, but not least, he agreed to hand over a certain amount of power to the House Freedom Caucus.

Addressing the entire chamber, McCarthy said "Our nation is worth fighting for." Those six words had Republicans on their feet cheering their new speaker, while the Democrats stayed seated and silent.

"My father always told me, 'It's not how you start, it's how you finish', and now we need to finish strong for the American people. You know, the son of a fireman and a grandchild of immigrants can rise to the highest position in the most important legislative body in our country, and my Democrat

colleague, Hakeem Jeffries, with his life story, can rise to lead his party, and democracy can still thrive in America."

To Democrat leader Jeffries, McCarthy said, "There will be times we agree and many times we will differ. I promise our debates will be passionate, but they will never be personal. That's my commitment to you. And now, the hard work begins. What we do here today, next week, next month, next year will set the tone for everything that follows."

McCarthy added, "Tonight, I want to talk directly to the American people. As Speaker of the House, my ultimate responsibility is not to my party, my conference, or even our Congress. My responsibility, our responsibility, is to our country."

UNHELPFUL RINOS ASSIST WITH HUGE GOVERNMENT SPENDING BILL



No thanks to nine RINOS in the House of Representatives and 18 more in the U.S. Senate, President Biden has now signed the massive 4,000-page, \$1.7 trillion Consolidated Appropriations Act covering 12 normally separate regular appropriations bills for fiscal year 2023.

The fast action obviously precluded anyone from actually reading the massive bill, which provided funding for, among other things, emergency assistance to Ukraine and NATO allies, January 6 attack prosecutions, protection for pregnant workers, college access, childcare, mental health and food assistance, support for the military and veterans and additional funds for the U.S. Capitol Police. It also includes an overhaul of the electoral vote-counting law.

What the measure does not include, however, are funding for security at our southern border, assistance for Afghan evacuees to gain lawful permanent residency, Covid-19 response, an expansion of the child tax credit, or other corporate or individual tax breaks.

The action taken at the end of 2022 -- in lieu of a short-term continuing resolution -- precluded the opportunity for additional votes in January, when the majority Republican House would have had a say in budget passage.

The nine Republican House members who voted for the bill were Representatives John Katko and Chris Jacobs of New York, Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania, Liz Cheney of Wyoming, Fred Upton of Michigan, Rodney Davis and Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, Jaime Herrera Beutler of Washington State, and Steve Womack of Arkansas.

The 18 Republican Senators so voting were: Roy Blunt of Missouri, John Boozman of Montana, Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia, Susan Collins of Maine, John Cornyn of Texas, Tom Cotton of Arkansas, Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, Mitch McConnell of

Kentucky, Jerry Moran of Kansas, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, Rob Portman of Ohio, Willard "Mittens" Romney of Utah, Mike Rounds of South Dakota, Richard Shelby of Alabama, John Thune of South Dakota, Roger Wicker of Mississippi, and Todd Young of Indiana.

BREVARD STATE LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION HOLDS MEETING WITH COUNTY RESIDENTS

An overflow standing-room-only crowd of Brevard residents attended a meeting with the county's seven representatives in the Florida Legislature in Viera on January 11, during which more than 80 speakers told them what they would like to see happen in the 2023 session in Tallahassee that begins March 7.



Representative Thad Altman chaired the session, which lasted more than five hours. He was joined by **Representatives Robert Brackett, Randy Fine, Tyler Sirois and Chase Tramont**, and **State Senators Debbie Mayfield and Tom Wright**. The group unanimously selected Wright to be the chair for next year's meeting prior to the 2024 legislative session.

Limited to three minutes each, speakers were representatives of federal, state and local government, special districts, and business and community organizations. Most of them asked for passage of legislation that would provide them with extra funding for special projects they consider to be priorities.

The topics that were addressed covered health and wellness; medical and religious freedom; life over abortion; a bold stance on veteran support, including consulting with the Military Officers of America (MOAA) on military issues; education; pornography in school libraries; the Indian River Lagoon; property insurance; land preservation; housing; voter registration; the Second Amendment, including constitutional carry; giving 911 operators the same benefit given to first responders; and combating the One World Order.

Several representatives of the Brevard Republican Executive Committee spoke and called for amending voting statutes in all Florida counties; auditing ballots; uniformity in the vote-by-mail process, including use of a photo ID; requiring voters' legal addresses instead of PO boxes; and reducing times for early voting to no more than one week.

Bob White, the chair of the Republican Liberty Caucus of Central East Florida, addressed the legislators not to ask for any increased funding, but to support such measures as approving constitutional carry; repealing the previously passed Red Flag laws; allowing 18-year-olds to once again purchase weapons; school choice for students; making the election of School Board members partisan rather than bipartisan; the ability to recall board members; and rolling back expanding taxes on residents.

At the conclusion of the session, Senator Mayfield called it "a very productive delegation meeting," and she expects many of the conservative requests likely will be considered during the legislative session, adding that many of the issues are exactly the ones that **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** has been urging.

LET ME BE FRANK By Space Coast Tusk Designer Frank Montelione



"Honey, we don't have any room in the house for these boxes. Where should I put them?"

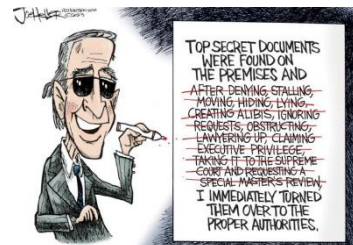


"Stick them in the corner of the garage next to the other boxes."

Sounds like the conversation held in many houses anywhere in the country. One other question in my household sometimes comes up when we are going out – "Did we close the garage door?"

Rumor has it that Biden's youngest son, Hunter, who lives in the same house, was told to clean out the garage. But, when you're paying \$50,000 a month rent, why should he do anything – hire a Chinese friend to do it.

The difference is the boxes in the Biden house are marked classified. The fact is that the Vice-President does not have the authority to declassify documents. Under the Presidential Records Act, White House records are supposed to go to the National Archives and Records Administration once an administration departs. Private citizens generally lack authorization to hold classified documents, and regulations require such files to be stored securely and for 4 years Biden was a private citizen from 2016 until 2020.



Who's to blame for "storing these documents? Everyone but Joe! It was his VP staff. Then it was his Secretary as VP. It might have been his attorneys. But now documents have been found going back decades to his

Senate career. But Biden has no regrets and says, "there is no there, there.". The drip, drip drip of findings found, according.

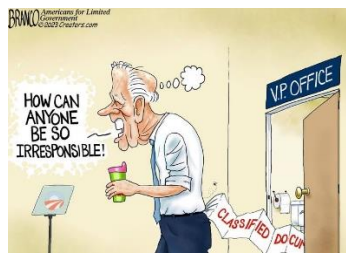
to, of all places CNN, the Justice Department took away “six items consisting of documents with classification markings and surrounding materials, some of which were from the President’s service in the Senate and some of which were from his tenure as Vice President.” Sorry Joe, there’s no one to blame for your possessing classified documents from those years but you.

Documents found in Mar-a-Lago were in a basement closet that was secured by the FBI. Those found in Biden’s possession were in unsecured garages, closets, in multiple locations and were available to anyone who stumbled across them.

While the Trump administration initially cooperated with the government to retrieve the documents he had, the FBI by order of the Justice Department raided Mar-a-Lago when they felt that cooperation slipping away. They searched Melania and Barron’s closets. They left no stone unturned.

Why, then, was it ok for private attorneys to hand over Biden’s illegally kept confidential government documents? Why wasn’t the entire issue handled by the FBI, not private attorneys. The files were found in various locations and only turned in piecemeal. Who had them moved? Who were the lawyers allowed to recover the documents when those attorneys may not have had the clearance to handle them? Who handled them when they were moved from the Penn-Biden Center offices to another location when that office was relocated.

Files were also found at the Penn-Biden Center about donations from anonymous Chinese sources of \$14 million in gifts in 2018. Add to that these files were available to anyone, including Hunter Biden and his associates, since they were not secured at the sites where they were found.



In a “60 Minutes” interview on September 18, when asked about President Trump’s handling of classified documents, Biden responded that he didn’t understand “how anyone could be that irresponsible.” What I found

more disturbing than Donald Trump having certain documents in his possession is that Biden, stating to CNN that “I was surprised to learn there were any government records that were taken there to that office (Penn-Biden Center).”

Biden emphasized that he does not know what is in the documents that were found at a Washington, D.C. office that he used when he was an honorary professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned \$4 million in one year for six appearances on campus. He also stated to CNN in a report earlier that same day that he and his White House legal team do not know what’s precisely contained in the classified documents. In fact, among those documents are U.S. intelligence memos and briefing materials that covered topics

including Ukraine, Iran, and the United Kingdom, according to a separate source familiar with the situation.

In an article published by, of all places, Politico, “many...Dems will concede they are getting frustrated with the White House’s handling of the situation.”

“They’re trying to put lipstick on a pig,” one Democrat close to the White House told CBS’ Ed O’Keefe. “The problem is this week they got handed 50 pigs and one stick of lipstick.” “Why in the world didn’t they get the story out earlier, like before the holidays?” griped another Dem official. “And why didn’t they get the full story out at once, instead of drip, drip, drip with each new discovery of documents? Put simply, it was not handled well at all.” The Justice Department knew about the documents prior to November 2 and the mid-term elections.

Even Congressman Adam Schiff, the outgoing chair of the House Intel Committee, during an appearance with ABC News’ Jon Karl, said that he cannot exclude the possibility that President Biden’s handling of classified documents endangered national security.

Are there any winners in these revelations? Could it be Donald Trump? The story to follow in this debacle is “how can the Justice Department charge Trump with anything considering that the lapses on the Biden side are much more egregious than among the Trump allegations?” In my opinion, Biden not knowing these documents were in his possession, finding them in various places and none of them secured is so much worse than Trump not cooperating with the Justice Department, even though all the documents were in a room secured, not by him, but by the FBI. The other winner is White House Press Secretary “Karinge” Jean-Pierre, who now can stand and frustrate the press by answering with, “I can’t speak to that... It’s an ongoing investigation...I refer you to the Justice department, National Archives or the President’s attorney.”

Stay tuned!



THE BREC CORNER By Chairman Rick Lacey

BREC members are still celebrating our historic win in last November’s huge victory for our Republican team led by **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** winning Brevard by almost 76,000 votes. Now, planning begins for the 2024 election. Several projects were announced at the January 12 meeting, including assigning two BREC members to be liaisons with Republican elected officials such as State Senators, Representatives and Senators, School Board members, and County Commissioners.

Another project will be identifying the 30% of registered Republicans who failed to vote in last year’s elections. Research and outreach plans will be developed to increase our 70% participation of registered Republicans.

Volunteers are requested for BREC committees, including Fundraising, social media, Election Integrity, Bylaws, Registration and Events.

Alan Ross introduced a straw poll among members which unanimously passed, calling for new leadership at the RNC.

Also, **Dan Heim** reported on the progress of the Election Integrity Committee in working successfully with **Tim Bobanic**, Brevard's New Supervisor of Elections. He listed all the areas where improvements were made in transparency and accountability.

BREC Chief of Staff Ruth Waters and **Yolanda Moadeb** presented surprised gifts to BREC officers and State Committee members for their outstanding service to the Brevard Republican Party.

I announced that BREC meetings will now be held on the second Thursdays of the month this year, and there will be fewer meetings since 2023 only has a few municipal elections this November. Instead, our focus will be preparing for 2024.

A moment of silence was held in memory of long-time Republican activist **Cynthia Handley**, plus the mother of **Richard Nink**.

Finally, 4 new members were sworn in, and the Republican Committeeman of the Month was awarded to **Thomas George** and the Committeewoman was awarded to **Mary Benton**.



**Brevard
Federated
Republican
WOMEN**

**RENDEZVOUS WITH
REPUBLICAN WOMEN
By BFRW President
Jill Gentis**

Our Brevard Republican Executive Committee January 4 meeting kicked off with the installation of the 2023-2024 BFRW Executive Committee. The new Officers Installation Ceremony was conducted by our **Chaplain Patti Ann Febro**.

The returning and new officers are **Jill Gentis**, President; **Peggy Duffy**, 1st Vice President; **Deanna Reiter**, 2nd Vice President; **Patricia Moore-Carroll**, 3rd Vice President; **Debbie Schofield**, 4th Vice President; **Terry Boylan**, Treasurer; **Dixie Riepl**, Recording Secretary; and **Xiaoqi Wang**, Corresponding Secretary.

All of the outgoing officers and volunteers were thanked for their help in making 2022 a remarkable year for the BFRW.

We intend to make this year the best year for Republican Women yet. Febro, a staff member in **U.S. Congressman Bill Posey's** office, recounted his long career in public service. She noted that he was just re-elected to a seventh term in the U.S. House of Representatives serving the constituents of

Brevard, Indian River, and a portion of Orange Counties. Before being elected to Congress, Posey served in the Florida State Senate for eight years, and prior to that, as a member of the Rockledge City Council ten years after his career at the Kennedy Space Center was cut short with the end of the Apollo Program.

Febro spoke about "What you can expect from the District Office of Congressman Posey". She said the Congressman and his staff offer a variety of services, from help with a federal agency to scheduling tours at landmarks around our capital. For example, his staff often help constituents obtain federal documents, request a flag flown over the Capitol, sort out snags in passport processing, and other issues.



Most importantly, she said, we can go to Posey's website and read up-to-date details about his press releases and articles. Recently he wrote about his support of the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act," and his opposition to the 4,000-page Spending Bill and the so-called Inflation Reduction Act.

Febro pointed out that we can also find Posey's position on other important issues, such as Congressional pay increases, the time needed to read and understand a bill before a vote is called, the need for a transparent Federal rules-making process, increased lobbyist accountability, insider trading prevention, tax code fairness and tax simplification for Seniors, a "Balanced Budget Amendment," the repeal and replacement of the onerous "Health Care Law," America's borders security, VA Accountability, strong National Defense, and his "all the above approach" to energy independence.

Most importantly, she said, Posey is on a mission to increase investment in Florida's Space Coast to ensure its place as the world's premiere launch location for space exploration. His website can be found at <https://posey.house.gov/constituent-services>.

At our next meeting on February 1, **Brevard County Republican Field Organizer Grace Glass** will return to speak about African American History in observance of Black History Month. Reservations can be made at www.brevardfederatedrepublicanwomen.org.



**FRWA IS "A CLUB OF ACTION"
By Outgoing Recording Secretary
Carol Vyhonsky**

At our Federated Republican Women in Action meeting on January 6, our guest speaker was **Elizabeth "Liz" Oros**, financial advisor and limited partner with Edward Jones. She is also one of our FRWA members.



Liz received an MBA degree from Florida State University and served as the President of the American Businesswomen's Association, among other organizations in the community. She handed out some valuable information about the Secure Act which became law in 2020. She discussed Roth IRA's vs. traditional IRA's,

inherited IRA's, and new rules regarding 529 education plans (which can now include K-12 expenses as well as college expenses).

Oros also discussed Charitable Giving, Donor Advised Funds and Roth IRA conversions. She stressed that diversification is the best plan when investing your money, and also reminded us of the importance of checking and updating the beneficiaries we have listed on our policies, such as life insurance, 401K plans, etc., and making sure our executors know where all of our important financial documents are located.

She noted she is not a CPA or an Attorney but has a list of references in the area that she can refer you to. Our members who have utilized Liz's services gave her rave reviews!

Outgoing president **MaryLou Russ** thanked the 2021-22 Board members and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation. (**Jan Snyder, Joanna Hause, Carol Vyhonsky, Bonnie Magee, and Ruth Kaufhold**).

Russ conducted the induction ceremony of new FRWA officers for the 2023-24 term. The new officers sworn in are: **Helen Voltz**, President; **Jan Snyder**, 1st Vice President; **Sue Sheppard**, 2nd Vice President; and **Bonnie Magee**, Treasurer. The new Recording Secretary, **Charlene Horton**, was absent and will be sworn in on a later date.

Russ also asked the membership to affirm their commitment to helping the new officers and the Club by volunteering when needed and leading/serving on Committees.

New president Voltz was then given the president pin and the gavel. She and Snyder presented the outgoing president with a plaque of appreciation, flowers and a gift card. A "Thank You" cake was cut and handed out to attendees. We greatly appreciate Russ' many years of service on the Board of FRWA, and for being one of the founding members of the club.

Voltz then gave an introduction of herself and how she came to live in Palm Bay/West Melbourne and her journey to getting involved in politics. We thank her for her willingness to serve and look forward to her leadership in FRWA.

Our next scheduled meeting is on February 3 at 11:15 am at MeMaw's Bar-B-Q in Palm Bay. Our speakers will be **Palm Bay Mayor Rob Medina** and **Joanne Kennedy** of the Essential Pregnancy Center. Meetings are free and guests are welcome; however an RSVP is required. Please visit www.FRWABrevard.org for more information and to RSVP.



REMEMBER WHEN By Heritage Isle Republican Club President Mike Hoagland

Remember when the FBI at the direction of the DOJ performed a massive raid on President Trump's residence at Mar-A-Lago searching for classified documents? Clearly this is a violation of our Constitution's 4th Amendment. This corrupt FBI and DOJ under the leadership of Biden has no problem trampling our constitutional rights. Keep in mind that Trump as president had the authority to declassify any document he chooses. Yet, a location with 24/7 secret service security had to be subjected to a massive raid to include searching Melania Trump's underwear. The secret service agents had to stand aside to permit the FBI agents entry to the residence....

Joe Biden as Vice President is now found to have removed classified documents and had them placed in a Wash D.C. office and the garage at his personal Delaware home. The Vice President has no authority to declassify anything. Biden has committed a crime. Even though the DOJ was forced to appoint a Special Counsel to review the situation, does anyone truly believe there are any consequences for Biden? Keep in mind that he did this 6 years ago and he replies he didn't know. While the corrupt DOJ was trying to determine their best strategy to indict Donald Trump over the document issue, they now have the problem of how to avoid appearing to practice a double standard of justice.

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Also, remember when we had the best booming economy in our country's history? We had relatively no inflation, low interest rates, low gas prices because we became energy independent, reduced personal and business taxes, the highest labor participation rate in our history...Ministers were permitted to speak their political viewpoint without the threat of losing their tax- exempt status. Enterprise Zones were created with incentives to invest in inner city businesses. Our borders were controlled. Our military was brought up to speed with pay, equipment, and technology. Space Force was created to compete with our adversaries. Three conservative Supreme Court justices were appointed...All the above was accomplished in Donald Trump's four years in office.

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As of late, it is worth reviewing all of the initiatives that Governor DeSantis has started. He has set about altering the WOKE culture in Florida. He has started replacing leadership in some of our universities. Former Nebraska senator Ben Sasse, a conservative, is the new president of Florida's flagship institution, the University of Florida. DeSantis also has replaced the Board of Directors at New College in Sarasota, a liberal bastion, with a conservative board. One of the board members is from Hillsdale College, a conservative institution that has existed since 1844.

Clearly, DeSantis is working to introduce constitutional thought which is conservative by definition. He has spent

considerable effort to assist with turning our local school boards from progressive to conservative with much success. His “Parental Rights in Education Act” was passed legislatively in order to return education to its roots of “reading, writing and arithmetic” and remove the social issues promoted by progressives such as critical race theory, sex education in early grades, gender identity, alter historical events and too many issues for this column. Parents will be able to control what their children are taught academically and socially.

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Domestically, we have an extremely corrupt government. The FBI and DOJ are corrupt. The Wash DC bureaucratic deep state is corrupt. The Democrat Party is corrupt as are many in the Republican Party. Our White House is corrupt. Our media should be the watchdog for us, but they are in bed with the Democrats. Social media is corrupt as evidenced by Musk’s release of Twitter’s policies prior to his purchase of the company. Control of these institutions is all part of those forces attempting to take down America and they are succeeding. These forces are global. Global corporations, World Economic Forum, powerful lobbyists, foreign governments, and in some cases, supposed allies. These combined forces are using every tool or method to undermine Trump and his supporters. They will fund any amount of money required to accomplish their goals. They intimidate conservatives, many of whom can’t afford the fight. They will pay any amount to solicit individuals to lie. After 6 years of Trump persecution, do not expect this to end...

Those who say “Trump is offensive. He is mean. He calls people names,” are asking how important is America’s future to you? Look at his policies. If I hear one more person say they vote because of how they “feel” they should vote, I think I will puke.... It is easy to see how we find ourselves in our current situation. Most have no idea because they are intellectually lazy. Many just don’t care to get involved. Others are lemmings who go along to get along. It takes courage and effort to do what needs to be done. There will be criticism. Know that there are enough of us to get this done!

(NOTE: Responding to the above remarks, following are excerpts of comments by **Heritage Isle Republican Club member Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis.**)

As some of you may know I am British, and I can tell you that I know America, it’s Constitution and Bill of Rights are amazing documents as they are written. The problem exists that we have had playing out in America. We are now in the endgame of the elites, New World Order, et al! Those amazing documents are being chipped away and modified by the very people we elect, right under our noses by those very people! I was raised within the confines, yes they were confines, of a society of poor working class who had been led to believe that their very survival could only be obtained by receiving government handouts. Those handouts included but we’re not



limited to: Welfare Housing; Free School Meals; Socialized Medicine; Free School Uniforms; Utility Allowances; Lifelong Benefits (think unemployment); and so on....

Here came the brilliance -- election season. States started passing laws via zoom for mass mail in ballots! The fix was in! It was all by design, the smoothness was amazing. Google made a fortune on all those zoom/teams platforms! How did they manage to manifest such dexterity to educate an entire nations children via a remote computer screen? Again, by design! I was a town clerk and also head of elections, albeit in a tiny municipality, I can tell you voter fraud is real. Mass mailed in ballots to every person on the checklist, wether they are dead or have moved, that ballot was going to that person at that address and their returned ballot was being counted! People need to understand how their state adds people to the voter checklist and more importantly how someone is removed from a voter checklist....

Florida has one of the strongest Election Integrity Laws in the country! We must be very careful who we vote for, the democrats are not to be fooled with. They are smart, engaged and emotional. They use and engage in psychological warfare and have learned well from their makers, aka the elitists! I find it abhorrent that Republicans are not willing to band together, how they use language as to why they don’t like Trump’s tone to not support him, rather than embrace his actual proven results driven policies! This proves to me that many more Republicans are willing to drink the kool aid in hopes that everything will be okay in the end. It won’t, and the Democrats know this flaw with Republicans....

The Republican silence is deafening. Democrats, they have banded together, they have earned their reputation of mob status, we have become absolute silent wimps, praying in a corner that everything will turn out okay....

America IS the last stand, if America falls, it will be thru no fault other than our own, for we chose to do nothing about it, we own it, and we let it happen. Are you in this fight, or are you complicit? Time to find your voice, time to take on the challenge. If you don’t find the fact that many a young person believes that Lincoln was a democrat, then you’ve got your head in the sand! The young ones are blinded, and we need to take the blindfolds off them....

I am not an alarmist; God is my King, I am held solely accountable to him, but I wish to preserve my God given rights too and extend that to my fellow humans in time for them to see the light. God bless you all, and please have the courage to not avoid what is truly an agenda on us all!

THE MAYFIELD MINUTE **By State Senator Debbie Mayfield**

Prior to the start of the 2023 Florida Legislative Session, which begins on March 7, several State Senate committees held preliminary hearings on upcoming



issues. The Committee on Transportation heard a presentation from the Florida Department of Transportation on the state's Shared-use Non-motorized trail program intended for bicycles, pedestrians, and wheelchair accessibility. The Select Committee on Resiliency heard local government presentations on communities impacted by recent storms. The Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security heard a presentation on education and employment opportunities for veterans. The Committee on Agriculture heard a presentation on the status of the state's citrus industry.

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Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has unveiled comprehensive legislation to hold Big Pharma accountable and to lower prescription prices, a proposal to reaffirm the state's commitment to assist residents in making more informed health care decisions.

Highlights of his proposed legislation include: requiring pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to disclose all affiliated organizations and disclose any complaints or settlement agreements they have been party to prior to operating in Florida; directing the Office of Insurance Regulation to take actions against PBMs which violate state law; proposing a public disclosure requirement of all proposed drug price increases; and requiring all manufacturers to submit an annual report outlining and justifying any increases over the past year.

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Since January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month, Attorney General Moody is imploring more Floridians to join in the fight against human trafficking by knowing how to identify and report suspected activity. According to the U.S. Department of State, there are an estimated 24.9 million victims of human trafficking worldwide at any given time. Moody said, "Ending human trafficking in Florida is a top priority and while we made great strides toward this goal during my first term as Attorney General, we cannot relent in our efforts to prosecute traffickers and help victims." Since taking office in 2019, AG Moody's Office of Statewide Prosecution has secured sentences for 95 defendants in human trafficking cases.

Some of the AG's partnerships to combat human trafficking include:

Working with Truckers Against Trafficking, the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Public Transportation Association, American Gaming Association and Busing on the Lookout to train employees in the gaming and passenger transportation industries.

Teaming with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to launch the Highway Heroes campaign. Highway Heroes has recruited more than 6,400 truckers to identify potential victims and report suspected human trafficking across Florida's 12,000 miles of roadways.

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According to a passenger poll for 2022, for the third year straight Port Canaveral was voted the "Best U.S. Cruise Homeport" and Carnival Cruise Lines' Port Canaveral-based Mardi Gras was voted the best overall cruise ship for the second year. The Mardi Gras also took top honors for its Bolt roller coaster as the best cruise ship feature, and its Cucina del Capitano Italian restaurant was named best dining venue.

"We're thrilled to have earned this valued distinction three years in a row," Port Canaveral Chief Executive Officer John Murray said in commenting on the ranking. "What an honor for us and our cruise partners to be so well-recognized for providing a high-quality guest experience. It's tremendous gratitude of our efforts from the millions of cruise guests sailing from Port Canaveral year after year."

The Mardi Gras set sail in 2020 and is the first US-based cruise ship to be powered by liquefied natural gas, and the first cruise ship with a roller coaster at sea. Port Canaveral-based Royal Caribbean's Wonder of the Seas, the world's largest cruise ship finished second in the best overall cruise ship category, followed by Celebrity Cruises' Los Angeles-based Celebrity Solstice.

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Regarding School Book Selections, beginning January 1, school personnel involved in the selection of school district library materials must complete an online training program developed by the Florida Department of Education prior to reviewing and selecting age-appropriate materials and library resources.



**AN UPDATE FROM MY OFFICE
By Florida State Senator
Tom Wright**

January has been a jam packed month, with everything from meetings in the district to multiple Committee Weeks in Tallahassee.

The new year started great with a Committee Week, the Governor's and his Cabinet's Inauguration and other events honoring the occasion. The following week we hit the ground running with the Volusia County Delegation meeting on January 9 and the Brevard County Delegation meeting on January 11.

Both of these meetings went great and were wonderful opportunities for me and my colleagues to hear what is most important to the constituents we represent. Between both meetings I got to hear from many of my constituents and it was a great help to make sure my priorities for the 2023 Legislative Session are in line with the priorities of my constituents.

Another major event from the month was also on January 9. Following the Volusia County Delegation meeting, I had to

rush to Tallahassee to be present for a public hearing by Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) to discuss a proposed rule on drones. A current rule up by DMS would limit the types of drones that government entities can use, which would eliminate the entirety of some law enforcement agencies' critically needed drone fleets.

I was lucky to be joined at the meeting by representatives from law enforcement agencies that traveled from all over Florida to be present. Finding a viable implementation of this rule is paramount to our law enforcement agencies' ability to safely continue the critical work they do and I look forward to continuing to work with DMS to make it happen.

As Committee Weeks are beginning to ramp up, we have also begun to start hearing bills within our various committees. On January 17, I presented my first bill of the year, Senate Bill 50: Public Records/Judicial Assistants. This bill aims to better protect our judicial assistants who do a great public service for Florida residents. A judicial assistant is the gatekeeper of judicial proceedings because a judge may not talk to litigants unless it is in open court.

Due to the amount of interaction between judicial assistants and litigants, there have been many documented examples of judicial assistants, or their families being harassed or threatened because of how court proceedings have gone. This bill would give the same public records exemption that judges, and their families currently have, to judicial assistants, their spouses and their children. The State of Florida must recognize the danger our Judicial Assistants are exposed to and do everything we can to protect them.

As we navigate through Committee Weeks and the 2023 Session, I look forward to sharing what is happening in the Florida Legislature with all of you. Should anyone ever need the help of my office, please do not hesitate to reach out at 386-304-7630 or email at wright.tom@flsenate.gov. My office is always here to fight for you and listen to the concerns you have.

AUDACITY AND IDIOCY

January's "winners" are:

--The woke security officer at the equally woke Mall of America, for threatening arrest of a shopper for wearing a shirt that read "Jesus Saves" and "Jesus is the Only Way," telling him to take it off because it is "religious soliciting," which is not allowed on mall property, and some guests said they were offended by it. Hopefully there are better places to shop in Minnesota than this mall.

--The owners of the Miami restaurant Paradis Books and Bread, for asking a group of patrons – who happened to be African American conservatives – to leave because their views “don’t align” with the owners’ opinions, and their “behavior and their words made other folks in the space as well as one of us working very uncomfortable.” So, what was



the group’s “troubling” topic of conversation? None other than their thoughts on Roe v. Wade.

--Terese White, a flight attendant for Arizona-based Mesa Airlines, for trying to bypass security at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport as an airline employee, but was screened anyway on her day off, and it was discovered that she had more than three pounds of the deadly drug fentanyl taped to her abdomen. She took a plea deal in court and has a sentencing hearing in March.

--Supporters of Socialist Canada’s Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) program, for publishing a children’s book aimed at 6- to 12-year-old children extolling the virtues of having a doctor “compassionately” kill you. The book is clearly aimed at socially conditioning young kids to think that doctor-assisted murder is okay.

--The South Carolina State Supreme Court, for agreeing with a lawsuit filed by Planned Parenthood and other groups, and in a 3-2 decision, striking down the Palmetto State’s six-week abortion ban, saying it didn’t give women sufficient time to obtain an abortion and violated the right to privacy. The ruling means that the deliberate termination of pregnancy is protected up to 20 weeks gestation under the state’s Constitution.

--The U.S. Department of the Interior, for announcing that it has given new names to five places -- two in California and one each in North Dakota, Tennessee, and Texas -- that for many years had the word "Squaw" in their names -- a term now deemed to be both "racist" and "harmful." What will be offensive next? Female? Bride? Wife?

YOU CAN’T MAKE THIS UP

--During an Antifa riot in Boston, police arrested a 23-year-old non-binary man who identifies as a woman, Riley Dowell, who was found defacing an historic Boston landmark – the century-old Parkman Bandstand – with anti-police graffiti, including the acronym ACAB, which stands for “All Cops Are Bastards.” In addition to the vandalism, Dowell was charged with assault after one officer was injured. Dowell happens to be the son/daughter of Massachusetts Congresswoman Katherine Clark, the second highest-ranking Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives. After pleading “not guilty,” Dowell was released from jail on a \$500 bond and is scheduled to return to court for a pre-trial hearing on April 19.



--The "January 6 Liz Cheney Committee" is no more, but according to the "For The Right News" website, in a further sign that the entire witch hunt against President Donald Trump was a charade, the committee pulled an incredibly sneaky move on their way out the door. They ordered all files and video accumulated in the course of their “investigation” to be sealed for 50 years, because that allows them to now

selectively leak anything they want to try to damage President Trump.

--When outgoing Speaker Nancy Pelosi delivered her final remarks from the House floor, she issued holiday greetings for all groups of people, including "Merry Christmas" for Christians, "Happy Hannukah" for Jewish citizens, and for African Americans, she apparently intended to say "Happy Kwanza," but instead used the German word "Schwanze." We will leave it up to readers to find out the translation.

--President Joe Biden has more regard for dead service animals than living human babies in their mothers' wombs -- working to both expand the killing of unborn babies in elective abortions, and support legislation to create a monument honoring service animals. The National Service Animals Memorial Act passed with bipartisan support in the omnibus appropriations bill. It approves the creation of a monument in the Washington, D.C. area to honor service dogs, war horses and other animals and their handlers who have served the United States. There is nothing wrong with this, but the President also displayed his hypocrisy and utter disregard for human life when his administration took two new pro-abortion actions that could lead to the deaths of more unborn babies. The Food and Drug Administration now allows pharmacies to begin selling life-destroying abortion drugs.

--Just a relatively short time after nominating Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the nation's highest court, President Biden could not remember her name correctly when speaking at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. "Kejan Drown Jackson is our Supreme Court Justice," he told the congregation.

--According to the election integrity group Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF), more than 22 million ballots that had been mailed to registered California voters during the 2022 mid-term elections -- nearly 47 percent to registered Democrats and 24 percent to registered Republicans -- nearly half of them went "unaccounted for." PILF's report said election officials "do not know what happened to them."

--After a six-year-old boy in a Newport News, Virginia, classroom shot and wounded his teacher -- who was hospitalized but fortunately survived the ordeal -- disturbing new details emerged. The boy, who brought a gun to his classroom, had a reputation for throwing furniture around in the school, and composed a letter to the teacher disclosing his animosity for her and included a desire to set her on fire to take her life. But when the teacher showed the letter to school administrators, they reportedly ignored it and ordered her to disregard it. How do these administrators sleep at night?

-- Lesbian filmmaker and actress Tonje Gjevjon is under investigation in Norway on criminal hate speech charges because she stated that a man cannot be a lesbian. Authorities told her that her comments about trans activist Christine Jentoft on Facebook -- a biological male identifying as a female -- were the reason she was being investigated. Similar to cases in Greece and elsewhere, Gjevjon's comments run

afoul to a criminal code amendment passed in 2020 that added "gender identity and gender expression" as protected categories under Norway's hate speech laws.

--Former Virginia Tech soccer player Kiersten Hening was removed from the team in 2020 after refusing to kneel in a unity ceremony for Black Lives Matter. In response, she sued, and the school has now settled the case for \$100,000. The school's attorneys had claimed that the firing was due to her "poor performance" on the soccer field, but she had been playing the most minutes on the team and had a solid record.

--The Department of Homeland Security now considers business owners who hire illegal immigrants as "predatory actors" to be held accountable for their actions. According to "The Post Millennial," DHS will now "reward" an illegal for rattling out the American who hires him. So the hiring citizen gets punished, and the illegal gets a stay on deportation and ironically is then authorized to work in the country.

--In 1858, Serranus Hastings, who earlier had served as Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and as the state's Attorney General, founded the University of California Hastings College of the Law. But as part of an on-going effort to distance itself from Hastings for reported atrocities against native tribes in the 1800s, the school this month rebranded itself as the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, based on a 2017 investigation that found he had "played a role in seizing California land and accused that he perpetrated genocidal acts against Native California Indigenous Peoples." Hastings' descendants attempted to stop the name change by filing a lawsuit which questioned the accuracy of the allegations against the school's founder, saying, "There is no evidence that S.C. Hastings desired, requested, or knowingly encouraged the state or its militia to commit mass-murder or any other atrocity against Native Americans," but a California judge dismissed their case.

--First, there was sympathy art teacher Frank Thompson of Roosevelt Intermediate School in Westfield, New Jersey, who collapsed unconscious in front of his class and needed help from the school nurse. But that turned to outrage, after he was found to be suffering from a drug overdose, and now he is facing criminal charges after police found paraphernalia and drugs -- including fentanyl -- stashed in his classroom closet.

--If San Francisco's committee charged with calculating the number of reparations that the city would pay African American residents as reparations for their eight-generations-back relatives being held in slavery got their way, in the words of political analyst Dick Morris, the "absurd proposal would be the height of idiocy." That's because their recommendation, if accepted by the city, is to give every African American man, woman and child living in the city \$5 million each, and absolve them of any debts, including housing.

--Upon the death of 19th Century Richmond College student and later trustee Thomas C. Williams, a gift from his family enabled the college to establish a law school, and after the college became the University of Richmond, it was known as

the T.C. Williams School of Law. Then, over the years, other generations of Williamses made substantial financial gifts to the university. But this past year, allegations arose that the original Williams was a slave owner, and his name was removed from the law school. Protesting family members said that their ancestor actually “contributed to the demise of slavery,” but their words fell on deaf ears. Now, eight generations of Williamses later, they want the school to refund to the family previously donated monies – which they say at compounded interest over 132 years comes to more than \$51 million.

THIS AND THAT

HILLSDALE COLLEGE. Several hundred supporters of Michigan’s Hillsdale College attended a luncheon program in Melbourne on January 17, at which **Dr. Larry Arnn**, the school's long-time president, discussed future plans for the school both on campus and at its satellite program in Washington, D.C. Expansion is also under consideration, he said, for locating centers



in Florida and California. Arnn said they also want to establish online courses for credit. In conjunction with the school's 175th anniversary, Hillsdale has launched the Four Pillars Campaign to sustain the four purposes to which its mission is directed -- learning, character, faith and freedom. The goal here is to raise \$686.8 million to cover scholarships, general operations, program endowments and capital projects, since Hillsdale does not accept one penny of federal or state financial aid. Currently there are around 1,600 undergraduate and graduate students at the private, conservative Christian liberal arts college. Arnn also expressed pride in the school's free, monthly publication "Imprimis," which carries the texts of speeches given by educators and others on such topics as politics, economics, culture, national defense, and the Constitution -- to educate citizens and promote civil and religious liberty. Now celebrating its 50th year, "Imprimis" is sent to more than six million readers each month.



BEN SASSE. On January 8, **Nebraska Republican Senator Ben Sasse** resigned from office in order to take the new position of University of Florida President, reportedly at a \$1 million a year salary. **Republican Governor Jim Pillen** has named his predecessor, former **Governor Pete Ricketts**, to fill part of Sasse's

unexpired term. According to Nebraska state law, he will have to run in a special election in 2024 to serve the final two years. Then, to win a full six-year term, Ricketts would have to run again in 2026.

JOHN RICH. During the coronavirus pandemic, country music star **John Rich** stated he would never perform a concert where patrons would have to show proof of vaccination in order to attend it. After he did agree to one venue, the concert promoter added that rule, so Rich cancelled it. But the



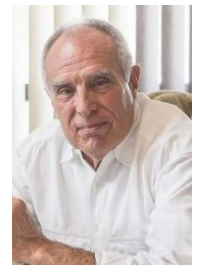
promoter then sued the entertainer for failure to appear. Now, happily for Rich, the courts have ruled in his favor, and many fans have congratulated him for “standing up to tyranny.” Many of his supporters agree that no authority should be able to force them to provide personal medical information. They also believe they shouldn’t be forced to take a drug they don’t wish to have.

GENERATION Z POLL. A new poll by the Morning Consult shows that a staggeringly low percentage of adults in the Generation Z category -- "Zoomers between the ages of 18 and 25 -- only 16 percent of them -- say they are proud to be Americans and have lower trust in government institutions than do past generations. By contrast, Generation X and Baby Boomers overwhelmingly expressed pride in America, at 54 percent and 73 percent, respectively. The overwhelmingly leftward lean of Generation Z’s politics are widely considered to have played a major role in the surprisingly poor performance by Republicans in last year’s midterms. An exit poll from CNN went viral after revealing that these voters supported Democrats by a 28-point margin, a far greater political imbalance than any other generation.

RONALD REAGAN CLUB Addressing the Ronald Reagan Club in Melbourne on January 23, **Linda Moros**, the Inspector General for the Brevard County Clerk of Circuit Court, said her mission on the job is to provide responsibility for activities that promote accountability and integrity. Focusing on the prevention and detection of fraud, waste, and abuse, she said these actions improve efficient and effective use of public resources and preserve public trust in Brevard County government. Prior to joining the Clerk’s Office, Moros spent 29 years as a Law Enforcement Officer in the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office, attaining the rank of Major. A major function of the Clerk of Court’s operation involves public records search – on such topics as public interest court cases, child support and alimony, guardianship, foreclosure sales, marriage licenses, tax deeds, wills, and official records. Paying diligence to these public records, Moros said, can help combat scams, phishing expeditions, waste, fraud and abuse. Take the time to look at what is available free in the public records, she urged the audience. Reports that are available on the Clerk’s website, she added, include the Clerk’s adopted budget, disbursement allocations, judicial statistics, and a pre-trial release register. There are even links to information on jury duty, marriage licenses, and passports. For additional information, visit the website: www.brevardclerk.us.



HERITAGE ISLE REPUBLICAN CLUB. Chiropractor **Dr. Sal Martinago**, addressing the Heritage Isle Republican Club on January 5, told the members that the 2024 election will be extremely important for America's existence, because forces exist



with the purpose of taking over the country, and many of their strategies already have been accomplished. Referring to the Communist Party, Martingano said that in 1963, it listed 45 goals, of which 29 already have been accomplished. Among them, he said, were to capture one of the political parties; gain control of schools, including elimination of religious expression there; infiltrate the press, radio, TV and motion pictures; present homosexuality as normal; discredit the American Constitution and Founding Fathers; gain control of big business and unions; and discredit the FBI. Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, Martingano said it was based on a lie, and that it did not come from bats in the Wuhan, China, laboratory, but rather from snake venom. To treat Covid, he said, hydroxychloroquine, Ivermectin, Quercetin and Monoclonal Antibodies are 100 percent effective, but their use is banned in hospitals. He added that Remdesivir, which was the only drug approved for hospital treatment by the finally now-retired Dr. Anthony Fauci, has serious side effects, including kidney failure and blood clotting. Noting that the Biden Administration used such terms as "mandatory", "compulsory" and "required" in speaking of ways to combat Covid, Martingano said none of them are actually "a law" in the U.S. There is only one candidate for president who "has the courage to do what is necessary to stop" the forces that are against America, he said, and that person is Donald Trump. For additional information about Dr. Martingano, visit his website: www.salmartingano.com.

REPUBLICAN LIBERTY CAUCUS OF CENTRAL EAST FLORIDA.



Speaking at the January 2 meeting of the Republican Liberty Caucus of Central East Florida, **Matt Susin**, the chairman and District 4 representative of the Brevard County School Board, said that with the newly elected conservative majority on the board, "we accomplished more in the past three weeks than the board did in four years." There is now a "zero tolerance policy" in effect for disruptive students, he said, and no longer will cell phones be allowed in classrooms. "We are the launch pad for the next generation," he said, adding that there will be emphasis in the schools on funding for career and technical programs. Susin said that last November, Brevard County ended having the transgender issue in classes, and was the first district in the state to do it. At school board meetings, he said, the speaking time on the program for parents to comment has been returned to three minutes, after the previous Democrat-led board reduced the amount of time allotted. Susin said that during the last school year, 5,000 students left to be home schooled, and "we dropped in state ranking from an A to a B. That district performance, he said, is why School Superintendent Mark Mullins was ousted. The things that Susin said he still wants to bring back to Brevard schools are having churches help support low-income students, having all school district budgets published on-line, registering lobbyists involved in education matters, involving the expertise of retirees, and getting military veterans to speak in schools.

EXPERTS EXCERPTS



Former U.S. Ambassador Stanley Escudero, writing on Camouflaging the Recession in the newsletter of the Republican Club of Southeast Volusia: "In September, the United States completed two consecutive quarters of declining Gross Domestic Product, which is the traditionally accepted proof of recession. Astronomical

spending levels under the last three Administrations, along with Biden's campaign against fossil fuels and the war in Ukraine, drove inflation to some 8.6 %, a level not seen for forty years. The longstanding Federal Reserve inflation target is 2%, but the Fed's only tool to reduce inflation is to increase interest rates, which increases prices across the board and thus reduces demand and cools down the economy, at the cost of major financial problems for most people. The continuing supply chain shortage has pushed prices even higher, and pulled some products, like baby formula and certain pharmaceuticals, from the shelves altogether. Tackling inflation, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates six times in 2022, and is expected to raise them again this March. We ARE in a recession, and virtually every economic indicator, along with the predictions of most economists and financial gurus, suggests that it will get worse in the coming year. Yet the Biden regime continues to deny that we are in a recession, pointing to substantial increases in job numbers and low unemployment as evidence that our economy is strong. With the mid-term elections in mind, Biden consciously distorted these two indicators to camouflage the fact of the recession. Consider: **JOB NUMBERS:** It is true that job numbers have been increasing every month, frequently by over 200,000. Normally, in an economy the size of ours, this sort of increase would be a sign of solid economic growth. But what Biden knows to be true but fails to mention is that this job growth is no more than crawling out of the pit created by the lockdown of the economy during the COVID pandemic. Under Trump, our economy was recovering at an extraordinary rate from its initial COVID slowdown. But the Biden/Fauci shutdowns severely reduced the scope and scale of our economy, driving businesses into bankruptcy and throwing millions out of work. The massive inflation which he has fueled via over five trillion dollars in new spending....And the destructive assault on fossil fuels in favor of expensive and ineffective so-called 'renewables' even further reduces economic and job growth. Despite the job increases which Biden touts, the rate of increase is far slower than it should be coming off of the COVID collapse. The truth is that our employment level is still three million jobs lower than it was when COVID began. This employment gap and the fact that the rate of job growth is lower than it should be point to economic weakness leading to recession. Biden's claim that this is a sign of strength is absurd. **LOW UNEMPLOYMENT:** Biden often points to the current unemployment rate of 3.7% or about six million people as a sign of a strong economy which cannot be in recession. Again, it's what he does not say that is important. The government only counts as unemployed those who are

looking for work. They do not count those who are not employed but who are not seeking jobs. Yet it is the Biden regime and its massive welfare programs which enable families to live quite comfortably without working or looking for work. Welfare was originally sold to the public as a temporary hand up, but like most government programs, it has grown like Topsy. Reagan and Clinton reduced its scope via work requirements, but Obama removed those limitations, and now there are around 18 states where a family of four can receive over 30% more in welfare than they would make if the husband worked as a firefighter, truck driver and the like. (Florida is not one of those states.) During COVID, Biden not only provided stimulus checks, he also increased welfare payments of various kinds. His misnamed "Inflation Reduction Bill" extended those subsidies until 2025. In short, Biden has reinforced a system which makes people dependent upon the government, at the taxpayers' expense, while keeping them off the unemployment lists. This constitutes a drag on the economy while distorting the unemployment numbers. And it provides no support whatever for Biden's claim that we are not in a recession. With help from the mainstream media, Biden has been able to get away with his false claim that our economy is recovering well from COVID and inflation and that we are not in recession. But the people see their costs and credit card debts going up on a daily basis while their savings diminish. If the many predictions of a serious and deeper 2023 recession are anywhere near accurate, Biden and his media allies will have a hard time sustaining their lies. Biden has claimed that, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, one million new jobs were created in the second quarter of this year, which he insisted is proof that the economy is recovering very well and we are not in a recession, even though GDP declined in that quarter....Fox New's Tucker Carlson reported that the contrast between the GDP decline and the rate of job creation also seemed improbable to the Philadelphia branch of the Federal Reserve, which checked the reported job numbers. The Philly Fed found that the real number of jobs created in the second quarter of the year was ten thousand, not one million, a number which confirmed that the economy is in recession. Assuming the Fed's numbers to be accurate, this means that Biden's number is either based on an egregious typo, unlikely as he was reading a well-prepared speech from a teleprompter, or Biden was lying. Given his continuing aversion to the truth and the advantage conferred to his regime by the larger number, I have no problem believing that he was lying -- again. But this throws into question the accuracy of any economic data provided by Biden's government, making any macroeconomic analysis of our economy, including my own, suspect. In short, it means that our personal experience of economic and financial conditions is likely to be more accurate and certainly more meaningful than anything the feds might tell us."

Brevard County Executive Committeewoman Marilyn Olshansky, writing on the mid-term elections and looking ahead, for this newsletter:

"The results of the mid-term elections were not all we had hoped. The composition of the Senate is not what we

wanted. Nevertheless, for Republicans, the mid-terms were an important success and, at the same time, a wake-up call demanding an honest response. First, let's congratulate ourselves on gaining control of the House. This had to have been the Democrats' greatest fear, which drove them and their media allies to resort to the most unscrupulous, divisive, and vulgar campaign practices imaginable. Nasty campaigns are nothing new, but past shenanigans couldn't prepare the electorate for hearing the President of the United States claim that his political opponents would destroy our democracy. This despicable charge was echoed for weeks leading up to the election by well-known media figures....Some may have thought that there must have been some truth to it if the President himself said so, along with familiar media personalities and elected officials. Notwithstanding their deplorable tactics, the Democrats' greatest fear was realized. They lost control of the House and the ability to cover up their scandals. We must celebrate this achievement. Lessons to be learned: a) The actual vote – We may have had the facts on our side, as well as national conditions that overwhelmingly favored Republican leadership, but unfortunately that alone does not win elections. Garnering and securing votes win elections. The Democrats have mastered securing votes. From mail-in voting to early voting, the Democrats have raised these methods to a fine art. Like many of you, I agree that, except in particular circumstances, voting should be on one day, with results ascertainable within hours after all polls have closed. I regret that we have lost yet another 'national gathering' to forces that seek to undermine national unity. However, unless we are to concede future elections to the Democrats, we must accept that, unless and until a universal Election Day is restored, understanding the Democrats' tactics and beating them at their own game is mandatory. We need leadership at the helm of the RNC and in state houses that understand what is at stake with voting mechanisms. Voter rolls must be maintained diligently to eliminate those who have died or have moved into other jurisdictions. Access to ballot collection sites must be secure against fraud. Ballot counting must be secure and transparent. b) Our candidates: This is not the first time we Republicans have handed Senate seats to the Democrats. I recall that a very viable, Republican candidate was rejected in the Delaware primary in favor of a candidate perceived as being more conservative. Senator Chris Coons was elected as a result and has been there ever since. Claire McCaskill of Missouri won her last term in the Senate against a Republican nominee who proved cringeworthy and unelectable in the general election. In this case, McCaskill, unimpaired by scruples, actively supported his election in the primary. The most important litmus test for a Republican candidate is electability. The Democrats understand this and even went so far, in the midterms, as to support the primary campaigns of the least electable of the Republican contenders to the tune of millions of dollars. To my knowledge, we did nothing to fight back. Candidates who are electable in certain states will not satisfy our notions of conservatism or libertarianism. The Democrats understand this concept and



recruit 'moderate' candidates to run in 'purple' states, while funding ideologically pure but less electable Republicans in their primaries. For heaven's sake, stop calling Republicans RINOs over policy disagreements! This is divisive at a time in which our party must be unified, even when we must agree to disagree. If I had my way, Republican organizations would charge a fine every time someone calls a fellow Republican a RINO. The proceeds could be used to help fund campaigns and for victory parties. The governors' and senate races in Arizona and Pennsylvania, and the senate race in New Hampshire might have been winnable had electability been the primary consideration. Much as I like and supported Herschel Walker, he was not the strongest candidate we could have run. Again, electability (and lack of baggage) should have been the chief considerations but weren't. Money could have helped, had winning seats taken precedence over personalities. Leadership by the RNC and by Congressional leaders would have helped. Those officials knew, or should have known, that the DNC was funding weak candidates in Republican primaries. There should have been a response. I would like to see the leadership of the RNC changed to leaders who would take a more aggressive stance on primaries and, certainly, on early voting and ballot collection. We should not try to match the Democrats in unscrupulousness, but we must learn self-defense. We must open our eyes to the political world we live in and learn how to navigate it successfully. Let's celebrate our successes, learn from our losses, and enjoy great success in the future."

Senior Analyst Laurence Sanford, writing on "Paper Tiger II," continuing the woke leadership in the U.S. military, for the American Security Council Foundation:

"Instead of instilling a sense of unity and pride in being American, the woke culture instills racial divide and shame in American history. One should not be surprised that U.S. military recruiting and retention rates are falling dramatically and are well below military needs to safeguard America. The Heritage Foundation, a premier think tank headquartered in Washington, D.C., issued an 'Executive Summary of the 2023 Index of U.S. Military Strength.' It rated the U.S. military as 'weak' and not able to meet the demands of defending America's vital interests. The analysis concluded: The Army is 'Marginal' and is aging faster than it is modernizing. It remains 'weak' in capacity, with only 62 percent of the force it should have. The Navy is 'weak' with a need for a 400-ship manned fleet when it only has 298 ships. By 2037, the ship count will be 280. Current and forecasted funding will not change this decline. The Air Force is 'very weak,' with very low cockpit time for pilot training and aging of the aircraft fleet. It is at 86 percent capacity, short 650 pilots, and the average age of fighter aircraft is 32 years. The Marine Corps is rated 'strong.' The Space Force is 'weak.' The counterforce space systems are inadequate to win a conflict in space. The Nuclear Capabilities are 'strong' but trending toward 'weak.' China is America's greatest existential threat. The head of the



U.S. Strategic Command, Admiral Charles Richard, recently alerted the world that 'the ship is slowly sinking' when it comes to deterrence against China. At the current pace of buildup, China will soon overtake America's nuclear forces. Over 300 new missile silos are being constructed in China, and they are also building the fractional orbital bombardment system weapon, which would provide for a nuclear first-strike capability. The U.S. Air Force is old. The average age of the entire fleet is 30 years old. Eight fleets average over 50 years, with the B-52 Stratofortress bomber fleet averaging 60 years. It was introduced into service in 1954 as one leg of the nuclear triad; the other two legs are nuclear missiles in submarines and in land-based silos. The B-52 platform has been continually upgraded with electronics and radar systems, and a multi-billion-dollar engine upgrade is in progress. This will extend the B-52's shelf life until the 2050s, or 100 years of service. The Navy fleet is also aging, with the Navy extending ship shelf life to build up fleet count. Then there is the issue of fleet count versus surviving a Chinese missile attack. Since the U.K. - Argentine Falkland War in 1982 up to the present-day Russia - Ukraine War, missiles have demonstrated the ability to sink surface ships at a relatively low cost and a high degree of success. What is more important than fleet count is the survivability count. Submarines are the most survivable. Aircraft carriers are waddling ducks to Chinese anti-ship missiles. The U.S. submarine fleet of 50 attack subs and 18 ballistic launching subs is survivable. However, it is all nuclear and thus very costly, with the newest attack subs costing approximately \$6 billion each. The newest diesel-electric submarines cost one-tenth the cost of a nuclear sub, with almost the same stealth capabilities. China's submarine total of 76 is expected to surpass the U.S. by 2030. Other naval issues are a lack of shipyard and repair facilities, thus the inability to increase ship production. The Army is shrinking and has major recruiting/retention problems. Woke leadership, Wuhan virus mandates, and extended deployments are all affecting Army readiness. Military ammunition stockpiles are being rapidly depleted in supplying Ukraine with arms, but the U.S. does not have the industrial capacity to quickly re-stock. Also, certain raw materials used by the military are sourced from China and Russia. The Space Force faces China's space weapons that can 'blind and deafen' American satellites in space. China has invested heavily in space weapons and has demonstrated the ability to destroy U.S. space systems.... The very existence of the United States is at stake. China has embarked on the greatest military buildup in history. It now challenges the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, and Space Force in lethality and numbers. The current alliance with Russia further adds to the danger.... The military is aging, and its equipment is failing. The United States and its allies need to increase military spending. What good is social spending if the country cannot defend itself?"

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

"Many constituents have told me they feel like Washington has only made things worse for them over the last two years. The good news is, in one short week, the new House Majority

has already made significant headway addressing the important issues facing our country and delivering on the promises made to the American people. My commitment to you is to continue the fight to bring sanity to Congress and hold Washington accountable, work to create jobs, grow our economy, secure our borders, and reduce the regulatory burdens on our families and small businesses."

--**Florida 8th District Congressman Bill Posey**, on steps being taken by the new Republican majority in the House of Representatives

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"The American auto companies, which are so often bailed out by U.S. taxpayers, have made a pronouncement that they intend, in the next few years, to stop making and assembling gas-engine cars. You know. The kind of cars that Henry Ford started rolling off the assembly line 100 years ago at the Ford Motor Company in Detroit. Henceforth, virtually all American-made cars will be electric vehicles. Perhaps the corporate brass in Michigan's auto executive offices thinks this makes them good global citizens. They are all in on the fight against global warming....But it's one thing to make cars that appeal to members of the Sierra Club and quite another to produce automobiles that the typical buyer wants. And guess what? So far, most people have turned a decisive thumbs-down on EVs.

--"Washington Examiner" economics columnist **Stephen Moore**, on attitudes towards electric vehicles

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"Political consultants are like the biologists who cut off a frog's limbs, one by one, each time ordering the frog to "jump." The frog's jumps get less impressive, until all its limbs are off, and the poor guy can't jump at all. Conclusion: removing a frog's arms and legs causes deafness." Instead of highly skilled practitioners using proven formulas to propel their candidates to victory, political consultants are grifters ripping off campaigns and their well-heeled donors to make a pile of money for themselves. No matter how many times their formulas fail, consultants return to them, like people who remember the one time a horoscope was piercingly accurate but not the 364 times it was wrong."

--Author and columnist **Ann Coulter**, on her thoughts about political consultants

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"It became legal in 1923 for American women to wear trousers. Admit it, you never knew it had been illegal. Harry Houdini freed himself from a straight jacket while hanging upside down. There must be a modern political analogy involving our upside-down economy and politics. The Disney brothers launched their cartoon studio. It turned out that Washington was not the only Mickey Mouse operation. The Senate issued its first report on the scandal known as Teapot Dome. More scandals would follow as they inevitably do when too many politicians hold too much power for too long. Term limits anyone?....There were conflicts, labor strikes and other problems we still experience today in one way or another. Air travel became easier and more available although safety was still a major concern in 1923. Looking back 100

years at least two things are clear: While leaders and events may change, human nature never changes."

--Columnist **Cal Thomas**, on events a century ago in 1923

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"Gender ideology is one of the direst cultural threats Western society faces. Not only are the bodies and minds of precious people -- particularly children -- at risk, but if all that matters ultimately are feelings, if we cast objective truth aside to accommodate deeply held personal desires, then the stability of civilization itself is at material risk. The time has come for an intense but mutually respectful societal conversation that focuses not only on the causes of transgenderism and the potential benefits of transitioning such people, but also the many risks and alternatives that can care compassionately for suffering people while maintaining cultural equilibrium. Our future thriving requires nothing less."

--**Author Wesley Smith**, on turning the transgender tide

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"Political foes of Israel's old/new Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu seem to be borrowing a page from the American left's playbook. They've mounted a worldwide campaign to portray him as a threat to democracy. Much as the threat and then the reality of civil disobedience and uncivil violence was raised against Donald Trump even before he was inaugurated, Netanyahu's enemies raise the specter of a constitutional breakdown that they themselves organize. The Israeli left, as the left in so many places, has used such tactics against their political opponents for a long time...What he faces is a constitutional aberration sorely in need of correction -- the slow usurpation by Israel's judiciary of the supreme power of the state, power limited only by their own all-too-imperfect consciences."

--"The American Spectator" author **Shmuel Klatzkin**, on Netanyahu's battles with the Left

UPCOMING BREVARD COUNTY EVENTS

--February 1: Brevard Federated Republican Women meeting, Space Coast Convention Center, Cocoa, 11 am.

--February 2: Heritage Isle Republican Club meeting, Heritage Isle Clubhouse, Viera, 10 am.

--February 3: Federated Republican Women in Action meeting, MeMaw's BBQ, Palm Bay, 11:15 am.

--February 7: Moms For Liberty meeting, Frogbones Double Tapp Grill, Melbourne, 6:30 pm.

--February 13: Space Coast Patriots meeting, Merritt Island Library, 6 pm.

--February 16: Republican Women's Network of South Brevard meeting, Beachside Hilton, Hwy AIA, 11:30 am.

--February 16: Space Coast Young Republicans meeting,

Hell 'n Blazes Brewing Company, Melbourne, 6:30 pm.

- February 21: North Brevard Republican Club meeting, American Police Hall of Fame, Titusville, 7 pm.
- February 25: Space Coast Republican Club meeting, Red Lobster, Merritt Island, 11:30 am.
- February 27: Ronald Reagan Club meeting, Frogbones Double Tapp Grill, Melbourne, 6 pm.

The Brevard Republican Executive Committee will not meet in February.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER. Through email, website and Facebook, we are now reaching nearly 2,000 people on our ever-increasing distribution list. The newsletter goes to readers not only all over the country, but beyond. **Editor Stuart Gorin** and **Designer Frank Montelione** hope to see the numbers continue to grow as we pass on information. We continue to cover activities of the Brevard Republican Executive Committee, Republican clubs in the county, and conservative organizations, so both elected officials and the typical “man-in-the-street” are kept abreast of what is happening at the local, state and national levels. Since Republicans as well as Conservatives will never agree 100 percent on all issues – for example, differences between Conservative members and establishment Republicans – we

will not necessarily support any writer’s positions, but will present them so you, the reader, can make up your own mind – fair and balanced. There is a link to this issue at www.thetusk.org and several recent back issues are available in the archives on the same website. To sign up for your free subscription (or to unsubscribe, if you are so inclined), or to send your comments, suggestions or information to share, email: spacecoasttusk@gmail.com

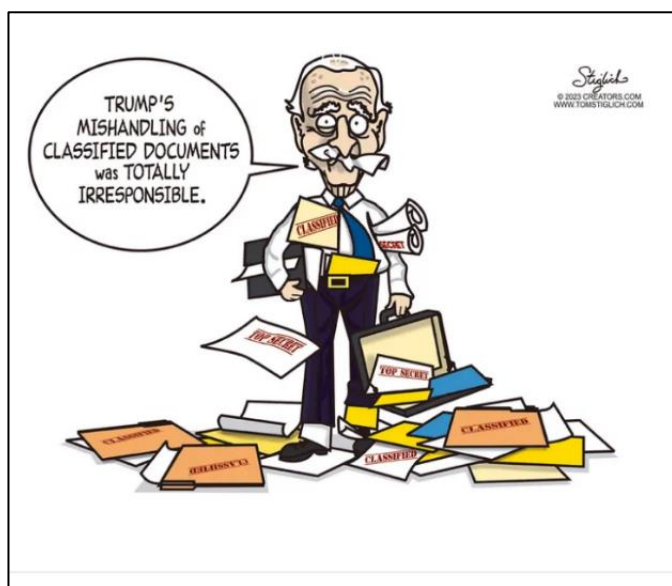
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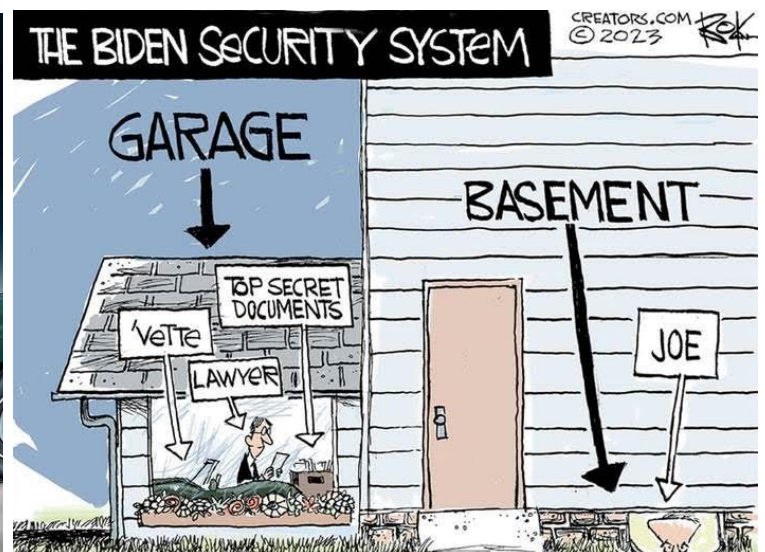
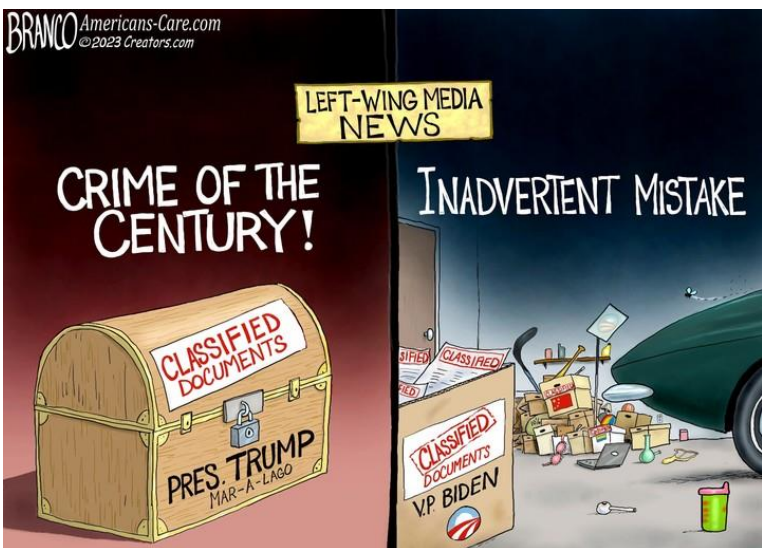
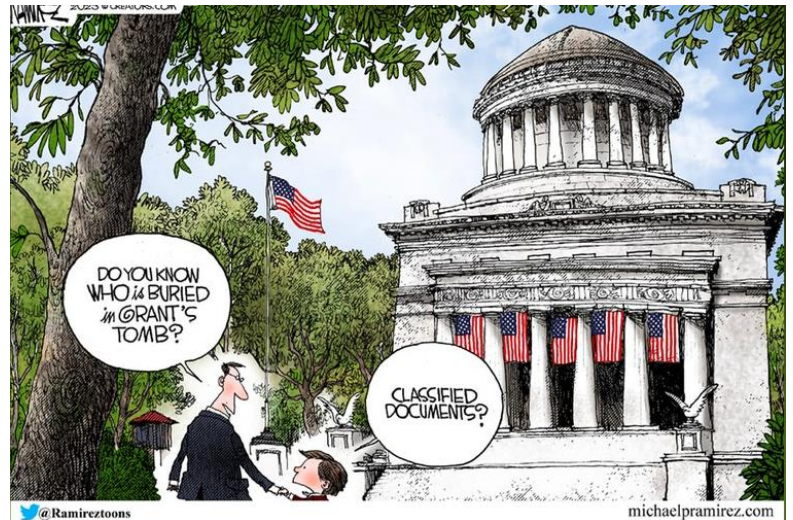
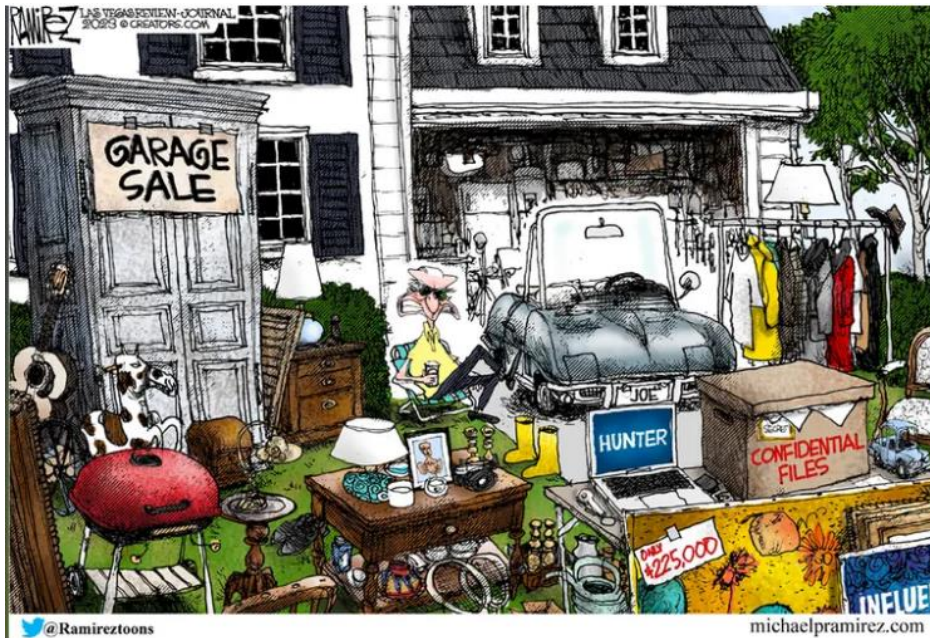
Former Vice President Mike Pence -- as reported by "The Babylon Bee" -- publicly repented in church for the "sin" of eating M&Ms from the candy company's new "all-female bags" without his wife being present. He said he knew he had committed a serious indiscretion, and the church leadership prayed over him, fully restoring him to serve without reproach in public service. But then, Pence learned his wife had eatena Mr. Goodbar not in his presence, and now the couple has sought counseling with their pastor.

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A second exclusive report from the satirical “Bee” says that yet another box of Joe Biden’s classified documents was found on the clearance shelf of a Delaware Walmart – next to \$1 DVD’s of Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s documentary on “The Green New Deal.”

SEVERAL PAGES OF PERTINENT POLITICAL CARTOONS AND PHOTOS FOLLOW

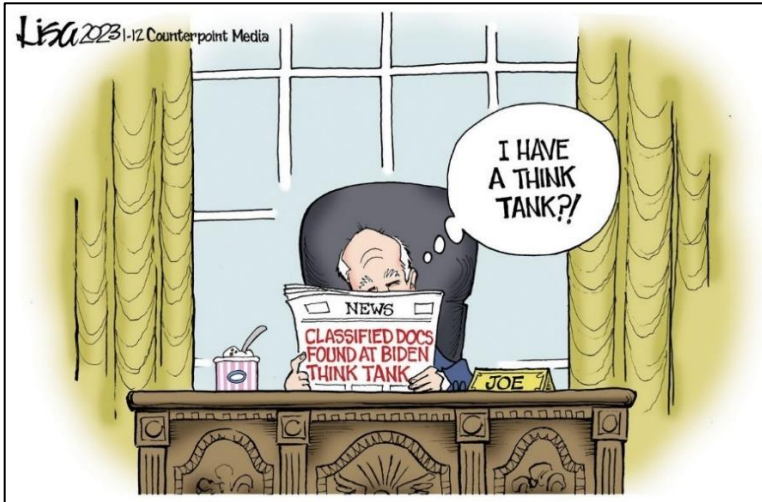






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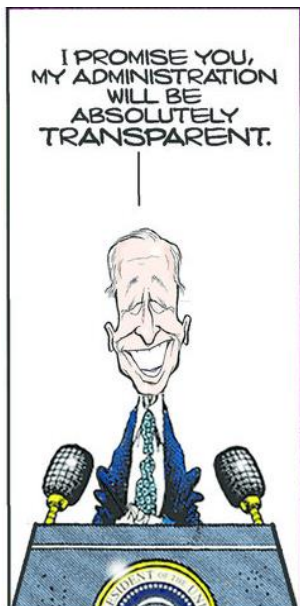
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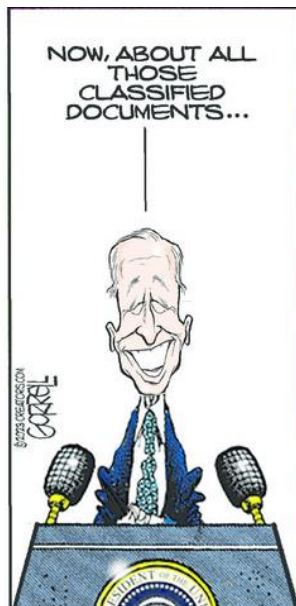
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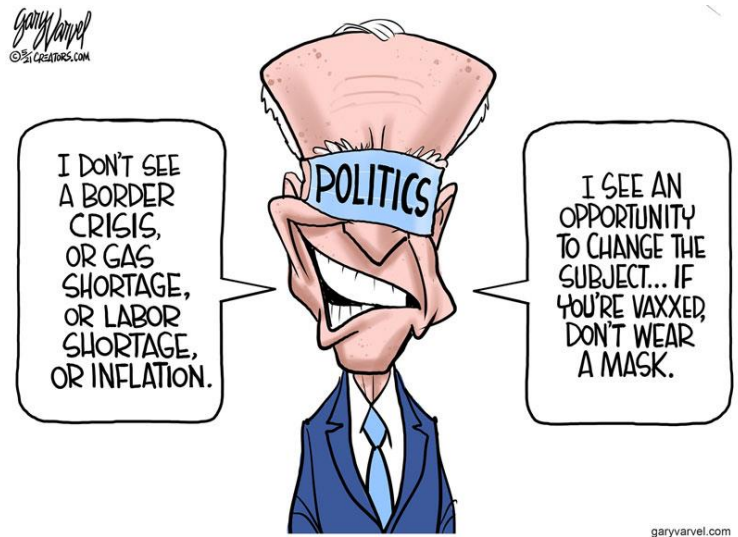
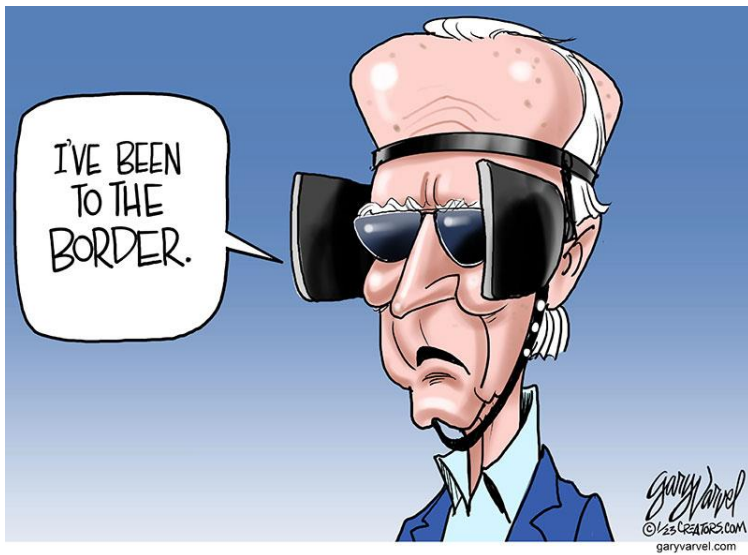
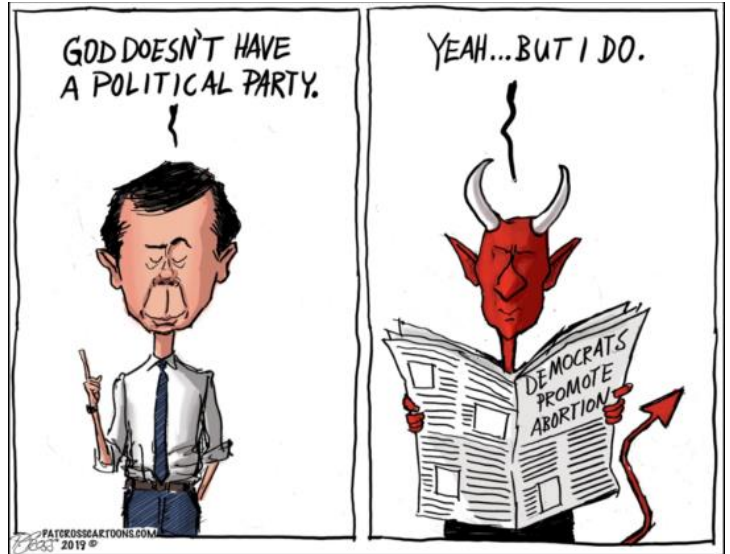
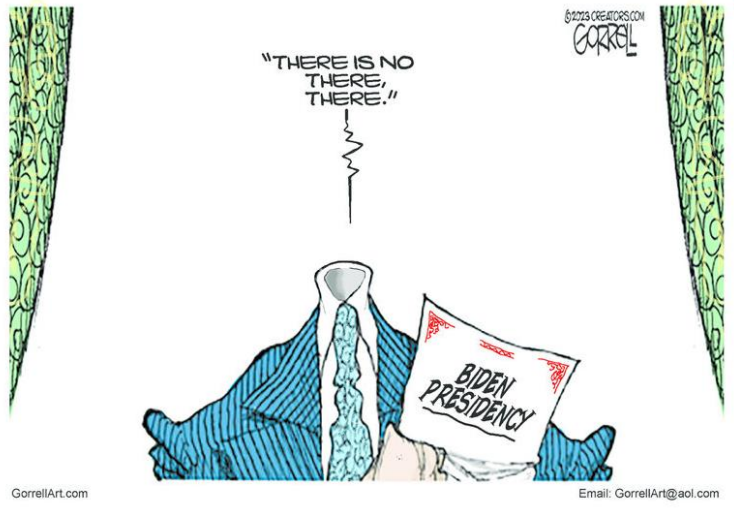
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