



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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TRUMP SWORN IN AS 47TH PRESIDENT; PLEDGES RETURN OF AMERICAN GREATNESS

By Space Coast Tusk Editor Stuart Gorin

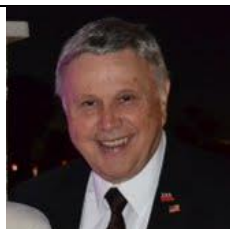
FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

MY TWO CENTS

By Stuart Gorin

It was a different January 6 this year from when the U.S. Capitol building was stormed four years ago – as Congress formally certified Donald Trump's election as the 47th President of the United States.

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In his last month in office, President Joe Biden saw fit to present a number of people with the nation's highest civilian honor – the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The list of honorees included former First Lady and Secretary of State Hillary

Rodham Clinton – and billionaire globalist George Soros. Honoring Democracy? I wonder why he didn't include Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and Benedict Arnold on the list. Days later, Biden added Pope Francis to the list, granting him the Presidential Medal of Freedom with Distinction.

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The weekend before leaving office, President Biden – in the latest in his series of pardons – announced he is commuting the sentences of nearly 2,500 prison inmates throughout the United States who are serving time for nonviolent drug offenses. Earlier, Biden commuted the sentences of nearly all prisoners on federal death row, and he set a single-day record of 1,500 commutations for individuals moved to home confinement during the COVID-19 pandemic. And, of course, he also issued a sweeping pardon to his son, Hunter, for any crime that he may have committed.

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Donald Trump on January 20 swore that to the best of his ability, he will “preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States,” as the nation's 47th President. **John Roberts**, the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, conducted Trump's swearing-in ceremony.



Extremely cold weather in Washington, D.C. forced the inaugural ceremony activities inside the Capitol building, which greatly reduced the number of people able to watch it live. The last time it had to be indoors because of the weather was in 1985 for the beginning of **President Ronald Reagan's** second term.

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The New Year's Day terrorist tragedy in New Orleans delayed the Sugar Bowl game. The next day, when ESPN did televise the Notre Dame-Georgia game, network officials chose to ignore both the playing of the National Anthem, and the moment of silence called for at the stadium for the terrorist's victims. Many viewers were disgusted, but that's ESPN for you. The Entertaining and Sports Network. ESPN. Perhaps the better name for the primary subsidiary of the woke Disney Company would be "Extremely Sickening Progressive Numbskulls."

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"Human Events Daily" reports that nearly half of federal employees are openly planning to resist President Trump. As a retired federal worker myself, I would be happy to see the whole bunch of them released – without a pension or continued health insurance. Not only would this greatly reduce the bloated government work force, it also would help bring down our massive debt.

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When it comes to outgoing Vice President Kamala Harris, podcaster Todd Starnes points out how really classy she is – NOT. He points out that Harris has not extended an invitation for a formal sit-down or tour to the Vance family of the Naval Observatory official residence of the Vice President. When Vance, his wife Usha and their three young children moved into the residence on January 20, it was their first time inside.

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On his way out the door as President on January 20, Joe Biden granted more pardons to people – namely Anthony Fauci, the former head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases; former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, retired General Mark Milley, and the members of the congressional select committee investigating January 6, including former RINO Congresswoman Liz Cheney. Donald Trump condemned these pardons as "disgraceful," because "many of them are guilty of major crimes."

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More Two Cents next month.



Preceding President Trump's swearing in, former **Ohio Senator J.D. Vance** took the Oath of Office as Vice President which was administered by **Supreme Court Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh**.

Delivering a 30-minute inaugural address after being sworn in, Trump said that we have a "national emergency at the southern border," and all illegal entry will be immediately halted. Millions of illegal aliens will be deported, he added, and the "remain in Mexico" policy is being reinstated for immigrants wishing to enter the U.S. legally. Also, the "catch

and release" policy is ending. Cartels, he added, are being designated as "foreign terrorist organizations."

Trump declared that inflation will be defeated, he will declare a national energy emergency, and America once again will be a "manufacturing nation. He also spoke about establishing the External Revenue Service and the Department of Government Efficiency and called for stopping all government censorship and bringing free speech back to America.

Calling also for bringing Law and Order back to our cities, Trump said he will end the government policy of trying to socially engineer race and gender into daily life – forging a society that is "colorblind and merit based."

There were loud cheers from the audience when he said that service members who were ejected from the military for refusing the COVID vaccine will be reinstated "with full back pay." Cheers came too, when he said he would revoke the electric vehicle mandate.

Other topics covered in Trump's remarks were his plans to rename the Gulf of Mexico as "the Gulf of America," restoring the name Mount McKinley to Alaska's Mount Denali, taking back the Panama Canal, and planting the American flag on the planet Mars.

Following Trump's inaugural address, Florida's new **Republican Eighth District Congressman Mike Haridopolos** issued a statement that the speech "would have made both Teddy Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan proud." He said that Trump "outlined a bold vision of American strength and greatness that promises to lift the fortunes of every American. His speech resonated deeply with the values and priorities of hardworking families across the country." Haridopolos added that the President ".is giving voice to the American people and answering their call for a secure border, a strong military, a lower cost of living, and a return to common sense and accountability in our government."

Music in the ceremony consisted of opera singer Christopher Macchio's renditions of "Oh, America" and "The Star Spangled Banner"; Carrie Underwood singing "America the Beautiful"; and the U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club performing "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

When the ceremony concluded, Trump then joined a large group of supporters who were unable to enter the packed room for the actual inside swearing in, and he spoke with that group even longer than he first talked.

Trump also reviewed the troops inside the Capitol building, interacting with members and bands representing all branches of the U.S. military.

Then the new President and Vice President attended the traditional luncheon in the Capitol Building, hosted by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

Even though former Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama did attend the swearing-in ceremony, all three declined to attend the inaugural luncheon, breaking from

the long-standing tradition where past-presidents set aside differences to support the peaceful transition of power. The luncheon dates back to 1897, and skipping it shows that personal grievances and political agendas take priority over national unity,

Michelle Obama – Barack’s wife – actually was a “no show” for the entire ceremony. According to American Patriot Daily, a medical condition kept her from attending the inauguration. So what was it? The news network reported the serious condition was that her Trump Derangement Syndrome was out of control.

After lunch, Trump traveled to the Capital One Arena to view the weather-condensed traditional Inauguration Parade – which still included marching college bands, where he also spoke with family members of Israeli captives held by Hamas.

The President signed a number of executive orders at the parade and then traveled to the White House, where he answered questions from members of the media and signed dozens more executive orders.



Just a few of those orders were:

--Revoking 80 executive orders signed by former President Joe Biden

--Pardoning nearly 1,500 January 6 defendants

--Declassifying assassination files on John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King

--Ordering federal employees back to work in-person and full-time.

--Removing the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accord

--Ending birthright citizenship.

--Declaring a national emergency on the southern border.

--Restoring the federal death penalty.

and

--Designating cartels and gangs as foreign terrorist organizations.

Hitting back at the 51 former intelligence officials who signed the bogus letter claiming that Hunter Biden’s “Laptop from Hell” was a Russian “disinformation” campaign, Trump also revoked all of their security clearances.

After changing into formal wear, the President and First Lady Melania Trump – and Vice President Vance and Second Lady Usha – attended three inaugural balls late into the evening to close out the long day. Trump also spoke at each of the events -- the Commander-in-Chief Ball, which was geared toward military service members; the Liberty Ball, attended by Trump supporters; and the Starlight Ball, involving big donors to the president.



The tradition of inaugural balls dates back to 1809, when the first one was held to honor President James Madison and his wife, Dolley.

At their first stop, the President and First Lady danced to “An American Trilogy” by Elvis Presley. "I've had no higher privilege in life than to serve as your commander in chief, not once but twice," Trump said to the cheering crowd. During his speech, he gave shout-outs to Space Force, the branch of the U.S. Armed Forces focused on military operations and defense in space, and thanked service members whom he said are some of his biggest supporters

The day before his January 20 inauguration, Trump held another signature "Make America Great Again Victory Rally" before 20,000 enthusiastic supporters at the Capital One Arena in Washington, D.C., as well as nationally televised audiences.

"We won, we won!" Trump said, as he began addressing the boisterous crowd.

The rally featured performances by several celebrities who appeared during Trump's 2024 presidential campaign, including the disco band Village People -- the '70s group behind Trump's beloved "Y.M.C.A." and his rally dance -- and country singer-songwriter Lee Greenwood, whose signature song "God Bless the U.S.A." has served as Trump's rally walk-on song.

Longtime Trump supporter and rock musician Kid Rock, country musician Billy Ray Cyrus and Liberty University's Praise Choir also performed.

STILL MORE TRUMP NOMINATIONS

U.S. Agency for Global Media Director: **Brent Bozell**

Deputy Special Presidential Envoy for Middle East Peace: **Morgan Ortagus**

State Department Spokesperson: **Tammy Bruce**

U.S. Ambassador to Estonia: **Roman Pipko**

U.S. Ambassador to Spain: **Benjamin Leon, Jr.**

U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands: **Joe Popolo**

U.S. Ambassador to Panama: **Kevin Marino Cabrera**

U.S. Ambassador to Sweden: **Christine Toretta**

Justice Department Senior Counsel to Civil Rights Division Assistant Attorney General: **Leo Terrell**

Director of the U.S. Secret Service: **Sean Curran**

Deputy Veterans Affairs Secretary: **Paul Lawrence**

Deputy Energy Secretary: **James Danly**

Deputy EPA Administrator: **David Fotouhi**

Deputy Transportation Secretary: **Steven Bradbury**

Special Ambassadors to troubled Hollywood: **Jon Voight, Mel Gibson and Sylvester Stallone**



POLITICAL JOTTINGS AND DOTTINGS

--The U.S. Senate met on Inauguration Day January 20 and voted unanimously 99-0 to confirm President Trump's first Cabinet nominee – **Marco Rubio** as the new U.S. Secretary of State. With Rubio's pending withdrawal as a Florida Senator, **Governor Ron DeSantis selected Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody** to complete Rubio's term in office. DeSantis praised Moody for her work as a staunch fighter against illegal immigration, the drug epidemic, and federal government overreach.

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--The second member of Trump's national security team to be approved was **John Ratcliffe** to lead the Central Intelligence Agency, who received 74 Senate votes on January 23.

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--**Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth** became the third Trump nominee to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate late on January 24, but it took a tie-breaking 51-50 vote by **Vice**

President J.D. Vance to become official – because three RINOs joined all 47 Senate Democrats to oppose the nomination. The three so-called Republicans who voted against Trump's choice for the military assignment were Senators Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Susan Collins of Maine.

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--**South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem** became the fourth Trump nominee to earn Senate confirmation on January 25, being named the new Secretary of Home Security by a 59-34 vote.

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--**Ohio Governor Mike DeWine** has selected **Lieutenant Governor Jon Husted** to serve as Ohio's next U.S. Senator, replacing now-**Vice President J.D. Vance**.

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--**Vivek Ramaswamy**, who was named by President Trump to co-serve with **Elon Musk** as heads of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), has stepped down from that post in order to run for the soon to be vacant position of Ohio Governor.

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR FLORIDA HOUSE SEAT IN DISTRICT 32

Four Republicans to date have filed to fill the pending vacant seat for District 32 in the Florida House of Representatives:

The Republican primary election has been set for April 1.



BRIAN HODGERS, Florida native and lifelong conservative, **Brian Hodggers** is a business owner, husband, and father, but not a politician. Yet as a community leader, he is interested in serving to help people. He is the owner of both Complete Choice Insurance -- concerned with homeowner, auto, commercial, life and health insurance – and Complete Choice Realty – concerned with real estate sales of commercial and residential properties.

In earlier years, Hodggers owned Airshares, Inc., dealing with acquisition and resale of aircraft; owned and operated several gas station/convenience stores and a gas station/service repair shops.

He was born in Hollywood, Florida, and graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a degree in business administration.

Professional organizations that Hodggers belongs to include the Florida Association of Insurance Agents, the FAIA Government Affairs Board, Space Coast Realtors, Florida Association Realtors, and National Association of Realtors. He is a past member of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce

Government Affairs and the Chamber's Better Business Council.

His community/civic involvement includes being appointment by the Brevard County Commissioners first to the Marine Advisory Board, and then to the Planning and Zoning Board. Hodgers also is a member of the Citizens' Market Accountability Advisory Board.

Regarding recreational interests, when there is time, he enjoys flying, boating, travel, and being with his wife, Susan, and his children. His email address is:

brian@completechoiceinsurance.com.

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Dr. TERRY CRONIN, said he is running because the opportunity to represent our community is truly what makes the American Republic so great. "I'm not a politician" he said. "and that means I get to bring a fresh perspective to our district. I'm a doctor, a husband, a father, a business owner and I'm your neighbor."

He owns and operates Cronin Skin Cancer Center in Melbourne with his father and niece, who are also physicians. "I've dedicated my life to working as a physician, mentoring and teaching young doctors, leading state and national medical associations, and shaping health policy."

In 2021, he was honored to be elected the president of the American Academy of Dermatology representing over 22,000 physicians, and during his year as president, the organization raised the most money for philanthropy, broke records for political giving, and hosted the largest dermatology convention in history.

Cronin said many of his patients have had insurance and regulatory issues that haven't let them see their physician of choice or get the treatment they deserve. "I've been frustrated by the status quo, and I want to get the government out of our healthcare so my patients can get the care they need," he said.

"I hope to be the patient's voice in Tallahassee for the thousands of patients I serve every year and the thousands more that I can't," Cronin said. He said the issues that are important to him include improving access to quality medical care, restoring the Indian River Lagoon, promoting parental rights in our schools, driving economic growth, improving our infrastructure, and protecting our constitutional rights." I need you to help me fix healthcare in Florida by putting me on the front lines. I'm asking for your vote," Cronin said. He can be reached at <https://votedrterrycronin.com/>.

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BOB WHITE. For information on White, see the Heritage Isle Republican Club item in the THIS AND THAT section

on page 12 in this newsletter.

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MATT SUSIN. The Brevard School Board member did not respond to requests for information.

LACEY RE-ELECTED BREC CHAIRMAN



The Brevard Republican Executive Committee met on December 30 to elect a new slate of officers, and **Chairman Rick Lacey** retained his position by defeating challenger **Blaise Trettis**, the county's Public Defender, 140 votes to 110.

Lacey said he was running "to continue the great successes that you and I, working together, have accomplished. With my leadership, the membership in BREC has tripled, fundraising has been an overwhelming success topping \$100,000 for the first time."

He noted that in the November general election in Brevard County, "Republicans have prevailed in every partisan race (as well as all but two non-partisan races) and the get-out-the-vote (GOTV) effort has been unparalleled. The numbers of registered Republicans in the county have topped 200,000 for the first time, thanks, in large part, to our focus."

The membership committees -- such as the Election Integrity and IT Committees, Registration, Social Outreach and Fundraising -- he said, "have provided BREC membership and Brevard Republicans greater voter confidence and inclusion."

Lacey added that "Working together, we defeated constitutional Amendments 3 (marijuana) and 4 (abortion) on the ballot. Working together, we flipped Palm Bay from 4 Democrats and 1 Republican to 4 Republicans and zero Democrats. Most important, by working together, Brevard County once again became one of the best counties in Florida in creating a HUGE victory for President Donald J Trump and a Republican State Senate and House of Representatives."

New officers elected to the board were:

Dave Fosdick as Vice-Chair, defeating **Greg Loyd**, 127-105

Wayne Twiddy as Secretary, defeating **Jade Zalewski**, 135-95

And **Randy Stackhouse** as Treasurer, defeating **Alan Ross**, 113-106

In the individual District Chair races, in District 1, **Al Voss** defeated incumbent **Kim Osburn**; in District 2, incumbent **John Weiler** was unopposed for reelection.; in District 3, incumbent **Kathy Meehan** was unopposed for reelection.; in District 4, **Susan Hodgers** defeated **Karen Colby**; and in District 5, **Mary Sutphin** was unopposed for reelection.

LET ME BE FRANK

By Space Coast Tusk Designer
Frank Montelione

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. Let me introduce you to the man, who single handedly, enabled Donald J. Trump to ascend for the second time: President Joe Biden



We owe this man a HUGE thank you.



Here is a man whose approval rating, measured across all respondents in the poll, rose marginally to 37% from 36% in May when it tied the lowest reading of his presidency. Gallup reported on January 17 that Biden's Job popular approval rating is the second lowest among Post-WWII Presidents, which averaged 42.2% for his presidency, with near-record party

polarization.

Biden's unpopularity put him at great risk of being voted out of office by Americans had he not decided to end his re-election bid last summer. "Near-record party organization" leaves out the fact that Democrats hold an edge over Republicans nation-wide and his rating among Independents was a mere 39%.

Thank you for the disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal. Without that your devastating foreign policy we would never know what the art of the deal would have done considering the Taliban did not live up to the agreement to withdraw troops from the country.

Thank you for inflation almost as high as during Jimmy Carter's administration.

Thank you for the near record cost of fuel at the pump.

Thank you for all the gaffes that allowed us to be able to laugh at the Office of the Presidency.

Thank you for picking the most incompetent Vice President we ever had. (I think during the 4 years of administration, I saw Kamala Harris' photo on a milk carton.)

Thank you for reconstituting Iran's economy by releasing billions of dollars in frozen assets which had Iranians on their knees.

Thank you for allowing the invasion of our nation by millions of illegal aliens.



There were so many errors in his administration that I could spend the entire column listing them, DEI, trans surgeries for prisoners and military personal drones on your dollar. Thank you for Sam Britton and Rachel Levine,

who was arrested for stealing a woman's luggage. Both were a worldwide embarrassment.

The contempt of Supreme Court rulings on student loan forgiveness, and how can we forget Merrick Garland's weaponization of the Justice Department?

For those old enough to remember, Nikita Khrushchev, former Prime Minister of the Soviet Union, said in 1956: "We will take America without firing a shot... We will bury you. We do not have to invade the U.S. We will destroy you from within."



The Big Guy, the computer was Russian disinformation, "I will not pardon my son" (instead, he preemptively pardoned his entire family). Speaking of Russia, Putin's invasion of Ukraine. Then there is October 7.

On his first day in office, President Trump reversed hundreds of Biden's executive orders. The borders are now closed, birthright citizenship has thankfully come to an end, ending electric vehicle mandates, withdrawing from the climate change pact, the Paris Accords that put the onus on us and allowing the largest polluters to go scot free, leaving the World Health Organization.... It's going to be a superhuman task to right the Country.

I used to think that we survived Jimmy Carter and Obama so we can survive Biden. It was close and Biden did all he could to fulfill Khrushchev's pledge "to bury you!" Speaking to a fellow Democrat about Joe Biden being the party's nominee in 2020, Barack Obama famously warned, "Don't underestimate Joe's ability to f-k things up."

It will take the Trump administration and the following Vance administration to right this ship. The press and Congressional Democrats will continue to demean and disrupt the new administration. If anyone can right the ship of state, Donald J. Trump is the man for the job.

As President Trump said in his inauguration speech, "The golden age of America begins right now." The 4-year nightmare is over; let the healing begin.

MAYFIELD MINUTE

BY Florida District 32
State Representative
Debbie Mayfield



As I begin the 2025 legislative session, I am honored to have been appointed by Speaker Daniel Perez to serve on the following committees and subcommittees for the 2024-2026 term:

The State Affairs Committee, Agriculture & Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee, Education Administration Subcommittee, Industries & Professional Activities Subcommittee, and Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee.

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In 2024, a record number of space launches took place from Cape Canaveral, with a total of 88 rockets launched compared to the old record of 72 set last year.

“We are seeing launches at a rate that would be stunning even just maybe five years ago,” said Don Platt, an associate professor with the Florida Tech College of Engineering and Science.

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In the last three months, the Florida Attorney General's office has shut down six Cyber Crime Schemes. Three of these schemes targeted elderly Floridians and the other three were cases of identity theft. In a press release, the Attorney General warned that these types of crimes are becoming increasingly more common, Floridians must stay vigilant to avoid falling victim.

Attorney General Ashley Moody stated "As technology evolves, so do the tactics of scammers, but my office is constantly working to protect Floridians and hold these cybercriminals accountable."

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At the last cabinet meeting of 2024, **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** and his cabinet approved \$317 million for natural resources conservation. The Cabinet consists of **Attorney General Ashley Moody, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services Wilton Simpson, and Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis.**

The Florida Forever Program was approved for \$111 million to secure 24,113 acres of critical lands, including seven key acquisitions that will connect vital conservation areas, with five located within the Florida Wildlife Corridor. Two of the acquisitions expand existing state parks, and one will create a new state park in Northwest Florida. And \$206 million was approved to preserve over 62,000 acres of Florida farms and ranches through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Rural and Family Lands Protection Program.

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The Department of Education continues to prioritize students, expand opportunities, and empower educators. From workforce education and teacher quality to school safety and academic progress, Florida remains steadfast in delivering a world-class education system. **Florida Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz Jr.** said, "This year's achievements reflect our commitment to Florida's students by upholding parental rights, focusing on fundamental education, and equipping students with the tools they need to succeed. Thanks to Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida continues to lead

the nation as the Education State, and we are proud to deliver on the promise of a brighter future for our students."

The Department of Education's notable achievements from 2024 include:

- Adopted new campus safety rules, requiring locked gates and classrooms, annual inspections, and unannounced compliance checks to enhance security measures.
- Florida experienced record-breaking Career and Technical Education (CTE) enrollments, including over 800,000 K-12 CTE students, 480,000 postsecondary CTE students.
- Florida was ranked first in Education by U.S. News & World Report for the second consecutive year, ranked first for Higher Education by U.S. News & World Report for the 8th consecutive year, and ranked first in Education Freedom by the Heritage Foundation for the third consecutive year.

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Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis established the Hope Florida Office within the Executive Office of the Governor, to oversee and administer the growing Hope Florida Pathway to Prosperity Initiative.

Hope Florida was initially established in 2021 and assists Floridians seeking government assistance by providing them with a Hope Navigator. This navigator connects individuals in need with resources to assist them on their pathway to economic self-sufficiency.

“Hope Florida is the alternative to government dependency,” DeSantis said. “Thanks to Hope Florida, Floridians will receive better services that lead to self-sufficiency through this one-of-a-kind program.”

Erik Dellenback, who currently serves as the Governor's Liaison for Faith and Community, will lead the Hope Florida office as Executive Director.



**AN UPDATE FROM MY OFFICE
By Florida District 8 State Senator
Tom Wright**

As we begin a new year, I am excited to share updates and insights from our recent work in Tallahassee and across District 8. January marks the start of a pivotal time in our legislative calendar as

we prepare for the 2025 Legislative Session.

With our first committee week of the year behind us, I want to highlight key developments and priorities for the months ahead. One of the most impactful moments of this month was chairing the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security. This committee is

central to addressing issues that resonate deeply with our district – a hub of aerospace innovation and a proud home to many veterans and military families.

During our meeting, we welcomed Megan Wilson Green, Director of Government Relations for Blue Origin, who provided an exciting update on the company’s advancements in Florida. It’s clear that our state remains a leader in space exploration, and I’m committed to ensuring that our policies support this vital industry’s growth.

We also heard from Deputy Executive Director Keith Pruett of the Florida Department of Emergency Management, who shared updates on long-term hurricane recovery efforts. These efforts are a testament to the resilience of our communities and the importance of continued investment in disaster preparedness and recovery.

As we look ahead, one of my top priorities is Senate Bill 138, which targets the devastating impact of repeat DUI offenders. Every story of a life lost to these preventable tragedies strengthens my resolve to act. This bill seeks to hold repeat offenders accountable and protect Floridians from senseless harm.

Additionally, I’m focusing on securing funding for local projects that enhance the quality of life for our residents. These projects – from health services to infrastructure upgrades – are the backbone of our district’s development and well-being. My goal is to advocate for initiatives that reflect the values and needs of our community.

Beyond legislative work, I had the honor of attending several community events recently, including the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Florida University Space Research Consortium. This transformative alliance, uniting UCF, Embry-Riddle, UF, and NASA, represents a bold step forward for space research and innovation. The collaborative energy fueling this initiative is truly inspiring, and I look forward to the groundbreaking advancements that will stem from this partnership. Florida remains at the forefront of aerospace exploration, and this consortium highlights the remarkable achievements we can accomplish through teamwork and shared vision.

As always, my team and I are here to serve you. Whether it’s addressing statewide challenges or supporting initiatives close to home, I remain dedicated to representing the voices of District 8. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to my office at 386-304-7630 or email me at wright.tom@flsenate.gov with any concerns, ideas, or feedback.



**Brevard
Federated
Republican
WOMEN**

**RENDEZVOUS WITH
REPUBLICAN WOMEN
By BFRW President
Xiaoqi Wang**



Barbara Price, President of the Florida Federation of Republican Women, led the installation of Brevard Federated Republican Women’s 2025-2027 officers at the BFRW luncheon on January 8.

The new BFRW officers are: President **Xiaoqi Wang**; First Vice President **Connie Cavazos**, Second Vice President

Patricia Moore-Carroll, Third Vice President **Claudette Bish**, Treasurer **Jackie McLaughlin**, and Recording Secretary **Dixie Riepl**.

The BFRW’s 2025-2027 Board is a dynamic, hardworking team. During the last year, they ran BFRW’s Republican Victory Office, held monthly voter registration drives, manned polling place tents from dawn to dusk, hosted candidate forums, made tens of thousands of phone calls and knocked on tens of thousands of doors in support of Republican candidates. They are the backbone of BFRW’s grassroots efforts in Brevard County.

Following the Installation Ceremony, Price gave an inspiring talk on how Federated Republican Women are leading the political charge in our states, communities and nation and, in doing so, living up to the Club’s motto: Engage, Unite, Achieve, our success comes from hard work.

During the meeting, the Club expressed its gratitude to immediate **Past President Jill Gentis** for her leadership and tireless efforts throughout the year. They also expressed their gratitude to **Ken Gentis**, Jill’s husband, citing the crucial importance of family support.

Former Executive Board members, and sixteen longtime club members, were recognized for their service. **Deanna Reiter** said that she joined in 1993 and has been a member for almost half of BFRW’s distinguished 75-year history!

BFRW’s 2025-2027 Executive Board is committed to the task at hand and asked that like-minded Republican women and men support BFRW’s mission by becoming a member or associate member. You can apply for membership, and reserve your spot at BFRW’s Monthly Luncheon, through the website: www.brevardfederatedrepublicanwomen.org.

Brevard Federated Republican Women’s Biennial Veterans & Military Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, March 8, 2025, at the Space Coast Convention Center. This year’s guest speakers are retired **U.S. Marine Corps Colonel. Lawrence Miller**, **Congressman Mike Haridopolos** and **NRA Board Director member Barbara Rumpel**, **Clerk of Court Rachel Sadoff** will be the Master of Ceremony. For more information, go to BFRW’s website: www.brevardfederatedrepublicanwomen.org.

BFRW’s Veterans & Military Appreciation Dinner honors the brave men and women who have served our country, and all proceeds go to supporting BFRW’s initiatives benefiting veterans. You can purchase Tickets, Sponsorships and program Advertising through BFRW’s website.

The February 5 luncheon meeting speaker will be **retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Tim Thomas**, who will discuss President Trump's impact on leadership around the world.



NORTH TO THE PARTY By NBRC President Robin Ricker

North Brevard Republican Club members are still reveling in the Trump 2025 win!! We talked about all the amazing things our President is doing and the changes that are coming soon! We are all enjoying the feeling of living in the Golden Age of America!!

Our speaker for the January 21 meeting was **Brevard Supervisor of Elections Tim Bobanic**. He is getting things ready for the Special Elections coming up, with all of the vacancies and movement of our Representatives, it will be very interesting. Bobanic reminded us that all mail-in ballot requests were cancelled as of January 1, 2025. Anyone who wants a mail-in ballot has to put in a new request for this year.



You can make your request here:
<https://www.votebrevard.gov/Ballots-by-Mail/Request-A-Mail-Ballot>.

We also honored our past President, **Pat Deen**, with a beautiful plaque which included a heart-felt inscription thanking her for her many years of service past, present and future. She has decided to spend more time with family instead of on officer's duties in our club. She has been an inspiration to all of us, but we will still enjoy her company at our monthly meetings.

We are currently getting word out that **Sarah Stoeckel**, Titusville City Council member, has made a motion to open government meetings in prayer again.

We also want to congratulate our Board Member **Al Voss** on his election as District 1 Chairman for the Brevard Republican Executive Committee. He is a staunch Republican who is a very capable and knowledgeable person who will represent our District well. Congratulations Al; we know you'll do a great job.



By President Kevin Jeffrey

The guest speaker at our January 16 meeting was **Patricia Weeks**, Deputy Mayor of the city of Cocoa, who was appointed to office last September to finish the term for District 3 councilman **Matt Barringer**. He resigned in July, citing family reasons.

Weeks spent over 40 minutes answering questions and providing information about the city. Among the topics discussed was a \$4.9 million grant given to the city to cover the cost for several double railroad crossing gates for the Brightline high-speed passenger train line. Weeks also announced that a Brightline train station is expected to open along the U.S. 1 route in 2028. Development of the Brightline station is in the planning stage as well. In addition, according to Weeks, expansion of Clearlake Road and State Road 524 are expected in the near future. Both roads are expected to be expanded to four lanes. The planning is currently underway and expected to be finished consistent with the opening of the Brightline station. Power Sports and BP are scheduled to expand on 524 west of Interstate 95.

Weeks also discussed the State mandate that residents along the Indian River in the water shed area will have to convert to advanced septic systems or to sewer by 2030. She stated that there is currently funding available to aid residents in the conversion process. Weeks, a realtor, believed that the conversion is a win for homeowners in that the connection to sewer will increase the value of the home. She noted that there is reluctance to proceed due to questions over assessments provided current funding for the conversions from sewer to septic runs out.

District 1 County Commissioner Katie Delaney answered questions that some county residents had concerning road pavement in some unincorporated areas of Brevard, stating that she is reaching out to public works concerning what roads are in line to be paved and gaging which roads residents want paved. Delaney also fielded questions concerning land field issues and waste management concerns. She urged that anyone with concerns should contact her office at: D1.Commissioner@brevardfl.gov

The January meeting also included an update of the Republican Party of Florida's attempts to block any Florida Republican Assembly members from attending Republican Executive Committee meetings across the state. At issue is the use of the name "Republican". The Florida Assembly filed a lawsuit against RPOF chair Evan Power concerning the matter. A hearing on the case was scheduled for January 27.

The assembly unveiled plans to raffle off an AR15. The drawing will take place at the February 20 meeting. Only 50 tickets will be sold. The price per ticket is \$25.00 (cash) and \$26.00 (online). Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code below. All online purchases will be provided with a

ticket number.

In addition, it was also revealed in the meeting that the assembly is making plans to host the state Republican



Assembly Convention in Brevard County. Plans for the event are pending.

The February 20 meeting speaker will be Alex Newman, an award-winning international journalist and CEO of Liberty Sentinel Media. He has traveled America and beyond, speaking on crucial subjects and has been interviewed on notable broadcasts, such as Steve Bannon's "War Room."

For more information on the Brevard Republican assembly, Visit our social media sites:

links.brevardrepublicanassembly.org



REMEMGER WHEN
By Heritage Isle Republican Club
President Mike Hoagland

Remember how good we felt on November 6, the day after the election? There is a feeling of great positivity throughout the country by "We the People." Donald Trump has affected the

entire globe as people across the world are adopting our mantra of America First. People are looking to replicate our populist message.

Every day we see our president remaking our corrupt government. He has done more in his first week than any president in my lifetime. He has fulfilled more than half of his campaign promises in his first two days. It is truly exciting to witness our corrupt government being dismantled. Trump said he was going to drain the swamp, and he is.

While we witness all the positive changes taking place daily, we have to observe the obstacles to the remaking of our government to reflect the preferences of "We the People." The Marxists, Democrats, globalists, Trump haters, lobbyists and media are working overtime in an attempt to thwart Trump's agenda. Almost every one of Trump's cabinet nominees is going through hell. There are delays and character smears. Truth is irrelevant with the haters. McConnell and Murkowski are worse than RINOs. But we are fortunate in Florida that we have a great group of political representatives in Washington. They represent the America First agenda, and we can be proud.

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Remember when we thought we were finished with the November 5 general election? I want to address one race in particular. If you recall, years ago we determined that we would support Brevard County school board candidates who would reverse all of the liberal WOKE policies that existed in our schools.

As a result, we supported Republican candidates and the board flipped from liberal progressive to traditional conservative. Matt Susin then was selected as the Chairman of the board. Many positive changes were implemented, and a new superintendent was hired. Our school board made the difficult decisions that have placed our government school system on the right track which is to educate and not indoctrinate.

Our club worked hard to support Matt Susin in his reelection campaign, which he won on November 5. He campaigned on a platform that he needed to be reelected in order to complete his agenda ensuring our school system remained on a path established when he was chairman. He asked the Brevard Republican Executive Committee for additional funding for his campaign. He was concerned that the Democrat was gaining ground. Virtually every Republican club or organization came to Matt Susin's defense and his re-election was not even close. We all felt that Matt deserved to finish what he started within our government school system per his request.

Fast forward. Donald Trump selects Mike Waltz to join his cabinet. This has led to musical chairs. Randy Fine is running to fill that congressional seat. Debbie Mayfield is giving up her Florida House seat to run for what will be the vacant Florida Senate seat. Matt Susin has filed to run for the Florida House seat which will be vacated by Mayfield.

So, all the time, effort and funding that we expended in the effort to get Matt Susin re-elected to the school board was in vain. Matt Susin, as it turns out, is nothing more than a political opportunist. How disappointing. We must learn which political candidates are more statesman than politician.

Brevard County is rife with politicians but short on principled statesman. I could have supported Matt Susin for another office in four years after he completed his commitment to us.

At this point. I can no longer support or endorse Matt Susin for public office. He has proven he is no different than most of our other Brevard County Republican politicians.

THIS AND THAT

THE LAKEN RILEY ACT. The U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives passed the first bill in the 119th Congress – the Laken Riley Act, which addressed illegal immigration and requires that illegal aliens charged with theft or burglary be detained. The landmark legislation was named for the 22-year-old nursing student who was brutally murdered by an illegal alien while jogging at the University of Georgia. Praising the legislation, **House Speaker Mike Johnson** said it will "ensure criminals like Laken's murderer are detained and deported before they can commit such evil acts. President Biden never apologized to Laken's family for allowing her killer into our country, but he DID apologize for calling that monster an illegal."

PARDON ME. Just moments before he left to attend the inauguration ceremony for incoming President Donald Trump, outgoing President Joe Biden signed "a full and unconditional pardon" for James Biden, Francis Biden, Sara Jones Biden, Valerie Biden Owens, and John T. Owens, for any crimes they committed – or may have committed – dating back to 2014. But it is interesting that his pardoning spree did NOT include either himself or Doctor Jill Biden!



JIMMY CARTER DIES AT AGE 100. Democrat Jimmy Carter, the 39th President of the United States and the only one to live past the century mark, died on December 29 and was interred in Plains, Georgia, next to his wife, Rosalynn, who passed away last year at the age of 96. Carter had been on hospice care at home for more than one year. A former Georgia governor and peanut

farmer, Carter had a relatively unsuccessful one-term in the White House – notable for its economic challenges and foreign policy struggles, which included seeing Iran hold more than 50 members of the U.S. Embassy staff hostage for 444 days. But an effective post-presidency time frame included creation of the Carter Center, devoted to preventing and resolving global conflicts and promoting freedom and democracy, and that led to him being honored in 2002 with the Nobel Peace Prize. Carter also worked with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for the needy. Tributes came from throughout the world and across the political spectrum. Donald Trump said that “While I strongly disagreed with him philosophically and politically, I also realized that he truly loved and respected our Country, and all it stands for. He worked hard to make America a better place, and for that I give him my highest respect. He was a truly good man and, of course, will be greatly missed.”

RESTORE THE REPUBLIC 2025. Members of several Brevard County Republican Organizations gathered in Cocoa, Florida on January 11 for a panel discussion on how to Restore the Republic in 2025. Moderator **Bill Mick** of radio station WMMB served as the group’s moderator, calling on **Bob White**, chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus of Florida; **Tyler Sirois**, the Florida State House Majority Leader; **Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey**; and gun rights advocate **Royce Bartlett** for their opinions. The panelists were in agreement on the issues, especially that the Republic cannot be restored from the top down, because Washington, D.C. is a “lost cause,” and as far as Florida is concerned, must begin locally, and then continue in Tallahassee with the State Legislature. They called for “protection of the three C’s – citizens, councils, and the Constitution.” In voting for officials, they added, it was critical to ensure that “the right people” are chosen, and not ones who campaign on issues but then once elected, change their minds. Watch how they vote, the panelists agreed, and if necessary, to look for someone else to support. Asked by Mick to name government organizations at the federal level that should be abolished, the panelists came up with the Department of Education; the Federal Reserve; and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Everyone needs to “wake up,” the panelists agreed, and “fight to uphold the Constitution, no matter what.”

“NATIONAL REVIEW” MAGAZINE. This year marks the centennial for William F. Buckley Jr., the conservative

political commentator and writer, and founder and long-time editor-in-chief of “National Review.” He passed away at the age of 82, and the magazine still thrives today. This February’s issue is devoted to Buckley at 100. One article includes a delightful quote in 2005 by the writer George Will, who declared on the magazine’s 50th birthday that “Without Bill Buckley, no ‘National Review.’ Without ‘National Review,’ no Goldwater nomination. Without the Goldwater nomination, no conservative takeover of the Republican Party. Without that, no Reagan. Without Reagan, no victory in the Cold War. Therefore, Bill Buckley won the Cold War.”



Addressing the Leadership Institute’s Wednesday Wake Up Breakfast in Virginia on January 8, **Tyler O’Neil**, managing editor of the conservative website The Daily Signal, said the “real power” in Washington, D.C. lies not in the White House, but with “the Left’s dark money

and influence network that props up woke policies.” And this supports 438 different agencies that the federal government has. Using an octopus to explain the process, O’Neil said the “Woketopus” consists of big money funders, other funders, and individual campaigns, which together are demonizing conservative and Christian organizations that want to



make America a better place. The most influential of these groups, he said, is the Southern Poverty Law Center. The four pillars of this wokeism are 1), Critical Race Theory, 2) the burning of fossil fuel, 3) gender ideology, and 4) preference for technocrats and bureaucrats over American voters. O’Neil also said that unions are working against the interests of their own members by pushing for wokeness projects instead of supporting them. Also behind the movement, he said, are businesses in the U.S., which provide a long list of woke agenda items – at least 75 percent of which, O’Neil said, were adopted by the Biden Administration. Just one, he said, was asking the Border Patrol not to refer to illegal aliens as “he” or “she,” but to wait until they learn their “preferred agendas.” Referring to the “Green Revolving Door” in the United States, O’Neil said this centerpiece of Biden’s Green Movement, heavily involving John Podesta, lobbies for Democrat politics as a slush fund network. One other woke project in O’Neil’s presentation was the Anti-Israel Pressure Campaign, which like the others, involves cash flowing from donors to influencers.... The first Youth Leadership School of 2025 class consisted of 396 young leaders who had two action-packed days of training and then celebrated President



Trump’s historic inauguration. **LI President Morton Blackwell** reported that they received valuable lessons about how to organize winning activities on their campuses and run winning campaigns in their communities. They came to Washington, D.C. as students -- and they left as leaders. Now, he said, “they head back to their campuses ready to inspire their fellow students and win the fight for America’s future.” Demand for this LI training is so high, Blackwell added, that the wait list had more than 600 young people on it.... Referring to the U.S. Congress now in session, Blackwell also pointed out that Leadership Institute graduates now hold 37 seats in the House of Representatives, and 4 seats in the Senate – the most in LI history. The new members, he said, are **Indiana Senator Jim Banks, Alaska Congressman Nicholas Begich III, Colorado Congressman Gabe Evans, and Virginia Congressman John McGuire.**



Isle Republican Club meeting on January 2 that he is a candidate for the special election to fill the District 32 seat in the Florida State Legislature because he “sees himself as a reformer looking for changes.” He is one of four Republicans running for the seat – which was won in the November election by Debbie Mayfield, but she is giving it up in order to return to the State Senate instead. White said he is waiting for the Supervisor of Elections to announce when the special election will be held. White, who has numerous endorsers for the House seat, pointed out that the Republican Liberty Caucus grades all state legislators every term on how they vote on 20 specific pieces of legislation. Even though in the 2023 session Republicans had super majorities in the Senate – 27 of 40 members -- and the House – 86 of 120 members – he said, only three legislators earned A’s for their support of key issues. The legislative leaders work with “the donor class and lobbyists,” White said, and do not always support issues that the RLC favors. Explaining that legislators are limited in the amount of campaign money they can receive from individuals, when it comes to political committees, “there are no limits.” In his campaign, White defines himself as having “a platform of faith, family, freedom and Florida.” His key issues, he said, are “to defend the border, combat inflation, stop over-development, and fix the insurance rates.” And, he said, his campaign is “a call to action for all who believe in liberty, accountability, and a government that serves its people – not the other way around.” White, a fourth-generation Floridian

Bob White, the chairman of the Republican Liberty Caucus of Florida for the past decade, as well as the RLC Brevard for 16 years, told the Heritage



and a proven champion of liberty and freedom, is devoted to his wife, Flo, his three children, and five grandchildren. His website is www.bobwhiteforflorida.com.

AUDACITY AND IDIOCY

“Winners” for the month are:



--Unhinged co-host of the Left-leaning television show “The View,” Sunny Hostin, for bizarrely ranting a comparison between the January 6 rioting at the U.S. Capitol building four years ago and slavery, as well as the World War II Holocaust.

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--Costa Mesa, California postal supervisor Joivian Tjuana Hayes, for reportedly pocketing more than \$281,000 of personal checks stolen in the mail and forging signatures on them but was caught when surveillance footage captured her using ATMs to deposit them.

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--Now former FedEx contract delivery driver Latavion Lewis, for illegally dumping several dozen packages in wooded areas and along roadsides instead of delivering them during the Christmas holiday season. Arrested by Holmes County, Florida officials, he admitted abandoning the packages because “it was late, and he didn’t want to return them to the FedEx.” Officials said they recovered 44 of the packages.

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--TV host Lawrence O’Donnell, for claiming on MSNBC that U.S. military personnel are a greater threat to America as instigators of domestic terrorism than are illegal aliens who have crossed the southern border.



YOU CAN’T MAKE THIS UP

--Left-wing groups such as the Tides Foundation and the Arabella Advisors Network, are funding a “Free Speech For People” legal non-profit organization advocating for the impeachment of

President Donald Trump, pouring more than \$1 million into the organization. The organization alleges that the President has violated the Emoluments Clause of the Constitution, supposedly engaged in “unlawful” and “corrupt” behavior while campaigning in 2024.

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--For Left-wing cartoonist Darrin Bell – a Pulitzer Prize winner known for syndicated woke comic strips containing race grifting, pro-illegal immigration views, LGBT issues, and anti-Trump material in his content, and who has repeatedly depicted conservatives as perverted sex abusers – turnabout is fair play. Ironically, Bell has been arrested in Sacramento, California, for sharing on an online account 134 files of child sex abuse. Police also found child pornography videos at Bell’s home.

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--In the wake of President Biden’s disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, CNN reported on the work of U.S. Navy veteran Zachary Young in aiding in high-risk evacuations from that country by alleging he was “the poster boy for exploiting desperate Afghans who wanted to flee from the Taliban-controlled country. Now a jury in Panama City, Florida, has determined that CNN defamed Young intentionally without concern for the impact of its actions. The jury determined that CNN had “demonstrated expressed malice, actual malice, and outrageous behavior,” and ordered the network to pay him \$4 million in economic damages and \$1 million in emotional damages, and a determination of punitive damages still to come.

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--Residents in Nevada and California are furious because state government officials, in the name of “the green revolution,” are bulldozing thousand-year-old Joshua trees to make room for “green solar farms.” And in Michigan, they are cutting down 400 acres of forest for a solar farm. What is this concept? Destroying nature in order to save it?

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--All it took for Massachusetts Democrat Governor Maura Healy to change her tune from being a staunch opponent of President-elect Donald Trump’s immigration policies, was to be hit in the face with reality – when illegal immigrant Leonardo Anduiar Sanchez was caught holed up in a taxpayer-funded shelter with nearly a million dollars’ worth of fentanyl, cocaine, an AR-15 rifle, and high-capacity magazines. He set up shop in a Revere hotel-turned-shelter and built a criminal operation large enough to push the deadly narcotics onto Massachusetts streets – all while living on the taxpayer’s dime. That’s not exactly the image of the “huddled masses yearning to breathe free” that sanctuary state advocates like Healey love to champion. She is now grappling with the ugly realities of her own open-arms approach to illegal immigration – and is calling for shelter inspections and demanding Congress act on border security. How the mighty rhetoric crumbles when reality kicks down the door.

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--New Yorker Kyle Fernandez has been sentenced to prison for stealing a car and driving it while high on drugs, wounding seven people as he tried to evade pursuing police officers. He turned the wrong way down a one-way street, struck a bicyclist, hit another car, drove onto the sidewalk, and rammed multiple pedestrians. Asked in court why, Fernandez mumbled “stuff happens, man.”



EXPERTS’ EXCERPTS

Media Research Center Founder and President Brent Bozell, writing on the 2024 election campaign in the MRC publication “The Watchdog”:

“Take it from me: The Media Research Center did not get Donald Trump elected

president. He’s a generational political talent backed this time by a top-flight campaign. Besides, his opponent was weak and disorganized, and MRC is a nonpartisan organization that doesn’t work to get candidates elected. But what he did do – in a way that should make all of us in the MRC family proud – was make sure voters had the information they needed to make informed decisions at the polls. We know that didn’t happen in 2020 – we proved this with our own reporting and survey data analysis – so we dedicated 2024 to fighting censorship, election interference and anti-Americanism. MRC’s reporting disrupted schemes within the Department of Homeland Security to attack and undermine conservative views and media. It identified the seven federal agencies most engaged in anti-American suppression of information that taxpayers have a right to know.... MRC raised awareness of the media’s attempts to repeat its 2020 blackout on information with a study that showed three-fourths of Kamala Harris’ supporters knew nothing about her radical positions, such as her support for gender surgery for prisoners and illegal immigrants. When the debate approached, MRC proved that the networks could not have found a pair of moderators more biased against Trump than ABC’s David Muir and Linsey Davis, Elon Musk twice retweeted our findings – garnering 123 million views collectively. Trump himself took the rare step of visiting the Spin Room after the debate specifically to discuss MRC’s findings. Throughout election season, MRC documented the relentless hostility of news operations to Trump and free passes to his opponent. We exposed the far-left campaign bias in Google’s responses and, the laughably leftist guest lists and high percentage of anti-Trump jokes on late night TV talk shows. MRC alone took on George Soros’ efforts to buy a string of radio stations and convert them to leftist outposts in the weeks before the election. I personally endorsed Brendan Carr, the FCC Commissioner who took up our cause for free speech on the Big Tech platforms, to become chairman of the commission when Trump takes over, and Trump appointed him to the post one week later. We’re a first read not just for influencers such as Mark Levin, Chris Plante and Dan Bongino; we’re creating news that Donald Trump, Elon Musk, and their teams follow and respond to. We fulfilled our promise to provide important information to voters this year, and the results suggest that being informed made all the difference for American voters.”

Podcaster **Todd Starnes**, writing at his toddstarnes.com website on a Texas school district attempting to ban the Bible:



“A Texas school district felt the wrath of every church-going citizen in the Panhandle after they compared the Holy Bible to pornography and banned God’s Word from school libraries. Canyon Independent School District Superintendent. Darryl Flusche told parents in an email that he had ordered librarians to remove the Good Book in compliance with a new state law called the ‘Restricting Explicit and Adult-Designated Educational Resources’ Act. The law is aimed at removing sexually explicit material from school libraries – especially materials

that ‘describe or portray sexual conduct...in a patently offensive way. The superintendent wrote in a letter to parents: This standard for library content prohibits books that have one instance of sexual content as described above, therefore, HB 900 doesn’t allow numerous books, including the full text of the Bible, to be available in the school library.’ Parents and preachers showed up at a recent school board meeting to voice their extreme displeasure. ‘In a day when we are needing security guards and bulletproof windows and doors, I think having the Word of God available to our children cannot only be preventative to violence but also provide comfort and a sense of security in a chaotic world,’ parent Regina Kiehne told the school board. ‘It seems absurd to me that the Good Book was thrown out with the bad books.’ State Representative Jared Patterson, a Republican co-author of the bill, blasted the superintendent’s decision to yank the Bible from the bookshelves. ‘The superintendent’s position here was indefensible and appeared to be a result of open hostility toward folks who want sexually explicit content removed from public schools. HB 900 clearly protects the Bible and all religious texts,’ he wrote on X. Patterson then fired off a letter to the school superintendent warning that his actions may have violated the law.’ The Bible is the most important and most read book in history, and removing it does a grave injustice to the students in your care,’ the lawmaker wrote. ‘Let me be very clear: the Bible and other religious texts are protected under HB 900. Any assertion to the contrary is either rooted in ignorance of state law or an open hostility to the will of the people.’ That letter left the superintendent and school board members sweating like sinners in church. And after that ‘Come to Jesus” board meeting – they reinstated the Bible.... Needless to say, banning the Bible in Texas was one of the biggest boneheaded decisions made in the Lone Star State. It ranks right up there with letting men become Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders or saying brisket really isn’t barbecue.”



“The Federalist” national correspondent **Tristan Justice**, writing on the top ten lies of Liz Cheney and the January 6 Committee four years after the Capitol demonstrations:

“Disgraced ex-Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney was awarded one of the highest civilian honors last week -- after House

Republicans referred the vice chair of the since-disbanded Select Committee on January 6 to the Justice Department for criminal charges....In December, the House Administration Subcommittee on Oversight led by Georgia Republican Barry Loudermilk, released a nearly 130-page review of the January 6 Committee’s work, concluding that Cheney should face a criminal investigation for “witness tampering’....The top ten lies are: **1. January 6th Was An ‘Insurrection’....**The term was used as nothing but a charged political phrase to frame Trump and his supporters as existential threats to democracy itself. **2. Democracy Almost Died.** Such hyperbolic claims never had any merit. Lawmakers were promptly escorted to secure locations after security at the Capitol was compromised, and Congress was able to reconvene just hours

after. The continuity of government was never jeopardized, despite what the January 6 Committee convinced themselves and their supporters to believe. **3. Trump Incited The ‘Insurrection’.** The recommendation for criminal charges rests on the conspiracy peddled by the January 6 Committee that because Trump spoke at the White House on the day of the riot, he must have inspired his supporters to take over the Capitol during the joint session of Congress. An honest examination of the transcript from Trump’s Ellipse speech, however, shows the president explicitly demanded that his supporters protest ‘peacefully and patriotically’....**4. Trump Was Enthusiastic About The Violence....** The panel’s star witness, former White House aide Cassidy Hutchinson said in her public testimony, that Trump approved of demonstrators who were demanding to ‘hang’ the vice president. But House investigators who reviewed the Committee’s charges found ‘no evidence that President Trump agreed with rioters chanting. **5. Trump Tried To Hijack Limousine To Riot At The Capitol Himself.** One of Hutchinson’s most hysterical claims was that President Trump assaulted Secret Service personnel to take over a government vehicle and drive himself to the Capitol where he could join the rioters. Hutchinson, however, was immediately discredited by her own sources following her public appearance and was further undermined in the nearly 130-page review of the Committee’s conduct.... **6. Trump Dismissed Need For National Guard.** In her memoir, Cheney characterized Trump as negligent in his role to deploy the National Guard ahead of electoral certification.... Except Trump was adamant about local and congressional officials preparing for mass demonstrations by demanding pre-emptive deployment of 10,000 troops from the National Guard....**7. Demonstrations Were Mostly Violent.** Former Fox News host Tucker Carlson flipped the Committee’s narrative of an excessively violent demonstration on its head when he aired additional footage from the Capitol released to his team by then-House Speaker Kevin McCarthy two years ago....Carlson’s producers reviewed more than 40,000 hours of security footage kept under seal by House Democrats revealing a far different demonstration at the Capitol than the few scenes exploited by the Committee to depict what they claimed was an eruption of domestic terrorism.... **8. Capitol Police Officer Was Killed In Riot.** The New York Times quietly corrected a story blaming Capitol rioters for the death of deceased officer Brian Sicknick, but members of the Committee never have. In fact, during a hearing months after a report from the D.C. medical examiner’s office concluded Officer Sicknick died of natural causes, then-Representative Elaine Luria claimed he ‘succumbed to his injuries’ from the riot the night of January 7th....**9. Loudermilk Gave Rioters ‘Reconnaissance Tours’.** In the summer of 2022, House Democrats accused Representative Loudermilk of giving these ‘tours’ ahead of the ‘attack on the Capitol’ after viewing security footage of the Georgia lawmaker escorting constituents around the building. ‘The FBI totally cleared them,’ Loudermilk told Carlson when the network host aired the January 6 tapes....**10. The January 6 Committee Was Legitimate.** Then-Speaker Pelosi violated House rules when she banned minority representation on her Select Committee to

investigate January 6. The unprecedented move to bar Republican lawmakers from the committee meant Cheney had misled witnesses and federal agencies about the panel's legitimate bipartisanship. Because House rules dictate that ranking committee members must be appointed by the minority party, Cheney, who was appointed by the Democrat speaker at the time, served as the panel's vice chair.... Pelosi's commission targeted private citizens who exercised their constitutional right of free assembly. The legitimacy of the committee's actions has always remained in question, since Congress is not one of the branches of government tasked with investigating alleged crimes of private citizens."



Journalist **Ben Zeisloft**, writing on a teacher suing her school over refusal to use trans pronouns, in "The Western Journal":

"A Christian middle school teacher from Ohio will receive a sizable payout from her government school employer after administrators tried compelling her to call two self-described transgender students by their preferred names and pronouns. Jackson Local School District settled with the teacher, Vivian Geraghty, for \$450,000 in damages and attorney fees following a lawsuit in which she argued that her First Amendment rights were violated, according to the Alliance Defending Freedom, which represented her. She had been forced to resign from her position as English teacher for refusing to comply with a demand to enable the 'social transition' of two students who did not want to be called by their names and pronouns as listed on the school roster. Geraghty could not fulfill that request because it violated her Christian convictions....'If that is your final decision, then we need a letter of resignation effective today,' the teacher said she was told..... Logan Spena, legal counsel for the Alliance Defending Freedom, said in a statement, 'The First Amendment prohibits that abuse of power, and Jackson Local School District officials have learned that comes at a steep cost.' The legal nonprofit added that Geraghty's religious beliefs and understanding of science 'govern her view that a person is male, or female based on sex, not personal identity, and participating in a student's social transition violates those beliefs by forcing her to communicate messages she believes are untrue and harmful to the student. She has received just vindication for taking this stand'.... Attorneys for the Alliance Defending Freedom also won a \$575,000 settlement for Peter Vlaming, a teacher in Virginia who faced a similar crackdown. They likewise won religious accommodation for teachers Deborah Figliola, Kristine Marsh, and Laura Nelson in their battle with Harrisonburg, Virginia, City Public Schools for a similar case. The legal victory of Geraghty, not to mention these other teachers, shows that doing what is right always pays off in the end, maybe in a very literal sense. These students, who are often confused and on a search for their own identity, wanted to convince others to lie about them amid that search, and most adults went along with the charade. But their Christian

teachers loved them and feared God too much to lie about them in this way."



American Security Council Foundation Senior Analyst Laurence F. Sanford, writing on "Tariffs are Taxes" for his "Sanford On Security" publication:

"A tariff is a tax placed by a government on goods that cross national borders. Countries do not pay tariffs; the importing purchaser pays tariff taxes to the government or the collecting government agencies. If a Chinese company sells a widget for \$100 without tariffs, the importing purchaser pays \$100. If the U.S. Government imposes a 50% tariff on the widget, the importing purchaser then pays \$150. China receives \$100, and the U.S. government receives \$50. Tariff taxes distort market efficiencies by causing the price of a product to be higher than it otherwise would be in a free market. However, there is no free market pricing with international trade. The price is determined by many factors, including the amount of government subsidies, restrictions, regulations, and political agenda. Tariffs can cause inflation, since prices usually rise, but not always. President Reagan negotiated import quotas (a tariff) on Japanese cars, forcing Japanese companies to invest billions of dollars in the non-union U.S. South to build cars. A few years later, the quotas were lifted, and prices returned to normal. Tariffs protect domestic industries from foreign competition that may have open or hidden government aid. China's state-owned enterprises receive government financing and other favorable treatment that U.S. companies do not receive. SOEs are frequently used to implement the Chinese Communist Party's centralized control policy of socioeconomic stability (police state), the building of infrastructure, and world economic and military domination. President Trump campaigned to impose blanket tariffs of 10% to 20% on all imports, with additional tariffs of 60% to 100% on goods from China. The U.S. trade deficit in 2023 totaled \$773 billion.... Trump also threatened additional tariffs on Mexico and Canada if they did not tighten border control to prevent illegal immigration and drug flow into the US. Imposing a 10% blanket tariff would raise \$2 trillion in revenue for the US government from 2025 to 2034. Tariff payments are now collected by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Often not mentioned is the benefit to society of tariffs on domestic manufacturing that has a value far beyond what market prices reflect. Yes, moving a factory to China or Mexico can lower the price of a widget, but it raises the price to society.... Manufacturing matters in a country's growth and innovation. Ancillary businesses form and provide jobs. Research and engineering know-how follow manufacturing. Silicon Valley high-tech companies grow and feed off each other. California does not allow non-compete agreements. Employees are free to move from one company to another - analogous to bees fertilizing flowers by moving from one to another.....In the late 1800s and early 20th century, the United States had some of the world's highest tariffs as it

developed its industrial base to become the world's economic power. After World War II, European and Asian countries developed their economies using tariffs and economic policies. The U.S. saw its economic base collapse when it left its domestic manufacturing unprotected with low tariffs, participated in the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement, and promoted China's entry into the World Trade Organization. China stole billions of dollars of American intellectual property, manipulated its currency, and erected trade barriers to prevent American companies from selling in China.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

"It is utterly shameful that the Biden administration on January 6 released 11 Yemeni terrorists from Guantanamo Bay and sent them back to Oman. Releasing Islamic terrorists who would kill every American in the name of their god is a dangerous endorsement of terrorism. It is wrong. It is reckless. And it IS an insult to the memories of those who died on 9/11; every terrorist attack against Americans; victims on January 1, 2025, in New Orleans; and our GREAT American military members who died fighting against terrorism."
--**Georgia Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene**, reacting to public outrage over Joe Biden endangering Americans days before Donald Trump assumes the presidency

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"The sentencing of President-Elect Donald Trump saw one of the most impassioned defense arguments given at such a hearing in years – from the judge himself. Acting Justice Juan Merchan admitted that the case was 'unique and remarkable' but insisted that 'once the courtroom doors were closed, the trial itself was no more special, unique, and extraordinary than the other 32 cases in this courthouse.' If so, that is a damning indictment of the entire New York court system. Merchan allowed a dead misdemeanor to be resuscitated by allowing Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg to effectively prosecute declined federal offenses.....Merchan knows that there is a fair chance this monstrosity will finally die on appeal, and he was making the case for his own conduct. The verdict, however, is likely to last far longer than the Trump verdict. It is a judgment against not just Merchan but the New York legal system, which allowed itself to be weaponized against political opponents.

--Attorney and legal scholar **Jonathan Turley**, on Trump's alleged "hush money" indictments

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"Raging wildfires in and around Los Angeles that still are far from controlled have left behind still-untabulated deaths and damages: 24 lives lost already and billions of dollars in burned up homes and businesses. But the lawmakers in California have picked a different situation to address in a special legislative session on which they have just worked: Fighting President Trump. They've adopted a plan to spend \$50 million to fight to have their state, and the nation, go in a different direction from what Trump has chosen.....The spending

allows \$25 million for the state to pursue legal complaints against the federal government, and other \$25 million to defend against the deportation of illegal aliens."

--Writer **Bob Unruh** on idiocy in the Golden State

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"George Soros has been imposing his insanity on the United States of America, and that is precisely why Joe Biden awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom: Soros has mightily helped Biden (and the neo-Marxist lunatics behind him) push a once-great nation ever further into social, economic, governmental, legal, moral and spiritual chaos....The 'normal-rules-don't-apply-to-me' philosophy has been embraced not only by Soros, but by the entire America-destroying leftist ruling regime, on top of which the puppet Biden has been precariously perched for four years."

--"**World Net Daily**" **Managing Editor David Kupelian**, on why President Biden has paid homage to Soros

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"In Congress, I have been appointed to two key committees: The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Financial Services. These roles will allow me to directly address the priorities that matter most to our district. Brevard County is the heart of America's space program, and I am committed to keeping it at the forefront of space exploration and economic growth. On this committee I will also champion policies that strengthen America's leadership in technology and innovation, ensuring that our nation remains the global hub for groundbreaking advancements that shape the future. On the Financial Services Committee, I will focus on strengthening our economy and unleashing its full potential. By fostering innovation in financial technologies like cryptocurrency and ensuring the security of our financial systems, we can drive growth and opportunity for all Americans. My goal is to help build a stronger, more resilient economy that benefits the district and country."

--New **Florida District 8 Congressman Mike Haridopolos**, on his congressional assignments

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"Mariya Rusciano, the owner of Menomale Pizza in Washington, D.C. – a registered Democrat – took to X with a post that should have been unremarkable: 'The people have spoken. @realDonaldTrump won the popular vote and the electoral college. Congratulations! Can we gift @WhiteHouse a nice Italian wood burning pizza oven?' Innocent enough, right? Well, not in D.C., where over 92% of voters threw their support behind Vice President Kamala Harris...The reaction was swift and venomous. Locals accused Rusciano of 'trying to go out of business,' threatened boycotts, and spewed the usual digital rage.... The irony is glaring. This is the crowd that prides itself on being champions of 'tolerance' and 'inclusiveness' – except when someone dares step even an inch outside the echo chamber. The venom isn't about Rusciano's message; it's about the rigid, suffocating demand for ideological conformity in places like D.C."

--"Trending Herald" writer **J. Ethan**, on Democrat venom against a business owner

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“When I was a young man, I was one of the leaders of the movement destroying America today. Fifty years ago, I was a Marxist revolutionary bent on bringing America as we know it to an end. I stood side by side with Huey Newton and the leaders of the Black Panthers. I edited *Ramparts* – radical Left's largest magazine. I marched, wrote manifestos, and attacked America whenever and however I could. Then the Panthers murdered my friend, and the Left helped the Communists win the war in Vietnam. My eyes opened to the incredible destruction and evil my ‘comrades’ made possible. So, I left and never looked back. I cast my 1984 ballot for Ronald Reagan – then I started the David Horowitz Freedom Center to fight the Left and I’ve dedicated the last 40 years to exposing them. Because I knew first-hand the threat our country was facing. I knew what was at stake and I knew if I didn’t tell the American people what I knew, we would lose our country forever.”

--Conservative activist **David Horowitz**, on why he started his Freedom Center

UPCOMING BREVARD COUNTY EVENTS

- February 5: Brevard Federated Republican Women meeting, Space Coast Convention Center, Cocoa, 11:30 am.
- February 6: Heritage Isle Republican Club meeting, Heritage Isle Clubhouse, 10 am.
- February 7: Federated Republican Women in Action meeting, Memaw’s BBQ, Palm Bay, 11 am.
- February 10: Space Coast Patriots meeting, Merritt Island library, 6 pm.
- February 11: Moms For Liberty Brevard Chapter meeting, Pizza Gallery, Viera, 7 pm.
- February 11: North Brevard Republican Club meeting, American Police Hall of Fame, Titusville, 6 pm.
- February 18: Florida Republican Assembly Brevard meeting, 705 Harrison Avenue, Titusville, 6:30 pm.
- February 20: Republican Women’s Club of Brevard meeting, Suntree Country Club, 11 am.
- February 20: Space Coast Young Republicans meeting, location TBD, 6:30 pm.
- February 22: Space Coast Republican Club meeting, Red Lobster, Merritt Island, 11:30 am.
- February 24: Ronald Reagan Club meeting, Oceanside Community Church, Satellite Beach, 6 pm

--February 24: Brevard Republican Executive Committee meeting, Space Coast Association of Realtors Building, Melbourne, 7 pm.

Republican Liberty Caucus of Brevard meeting TBD

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.

COMICAL CLOSERS



The satirical website “The Babylon Bee” reports that “An elderly dementia patient has been cruelly evicted from his home.” It’s sad news, yes, BUT that’s what happens in America when voters select a new president.

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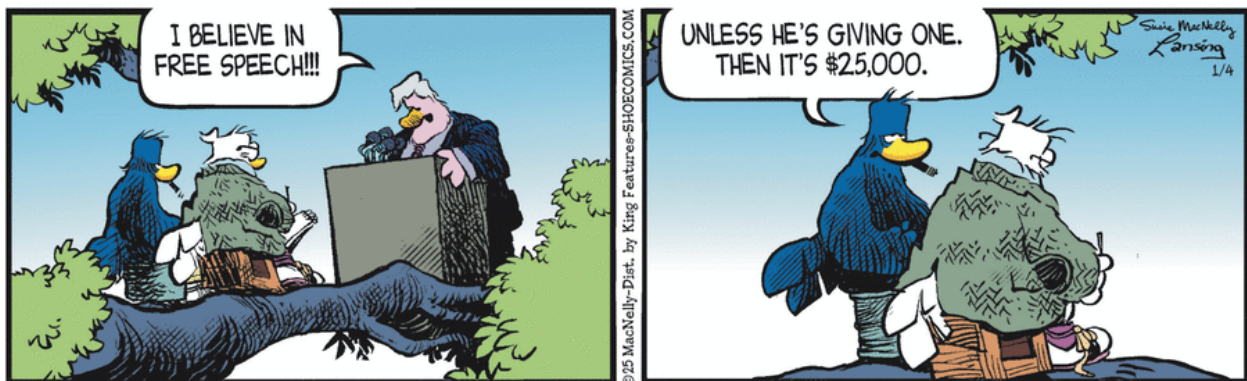
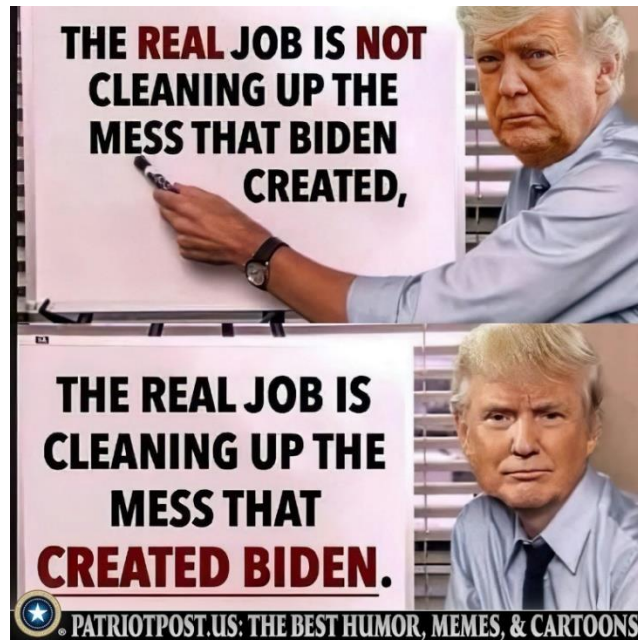
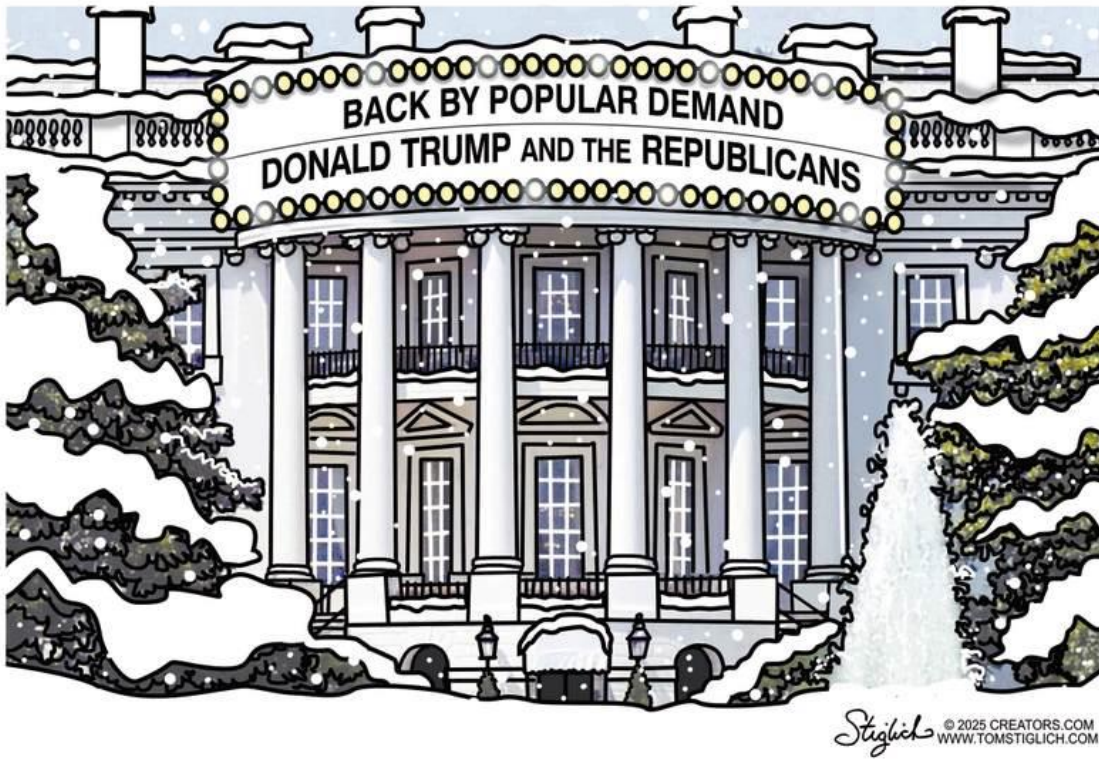
Also, according to “The Bee,” California Governor Gavin Newsom has announced that the response to the massive, devastating fires that broke out in his state, is that “fire will be outlawed.” The measure will prohibit fire in any and all forms, including pilot lights for gas-lit stoves, home fireplaces, and gargantuan wildfires – which Newsom said all have one thing in common – fire.

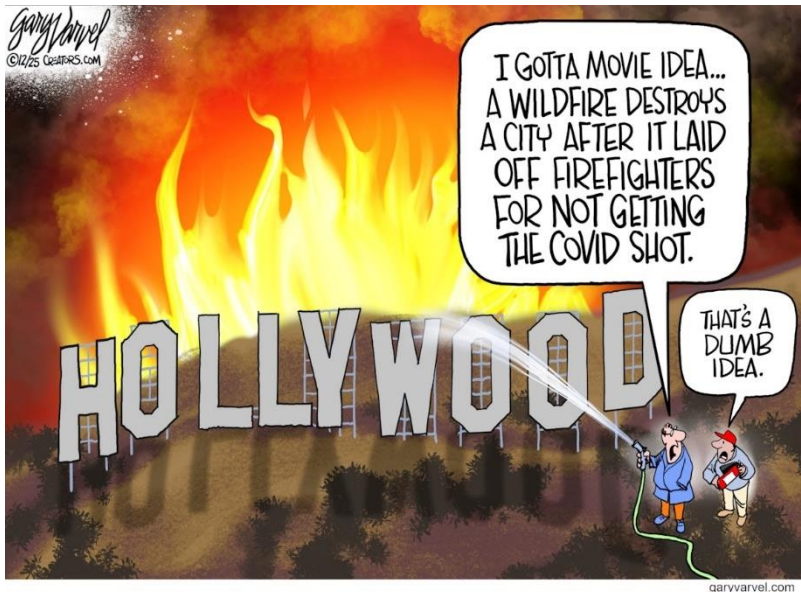
“No more lighters, people,” Newsom said. “From here on out, no one in California will be allowed to do anything as dangerous to public safety as making fire. Problem solved.”

However, following significant opposition from marijuana lobby groups, the Governor allowed a provision stating that Californians can make fire as long as it’s for doing drugs. And an additional amendment has been proposed to protect the rights of Antifa members to ignite city-wide race riots.

Meanwhile, Mayor Karen Bass has declared Los Angeles “a sanctuary city for any outlawed wildfires that felt discriminated against by the new ban.”

SEVERAL PAGES OF PERTINENT POLITICAL CARTOONS AND PHOTOS FOLLOW





The aliens returning the Liberal they abducted after 2 hours of listening to they/them explain they/them pronouns.



PATRIOTPOST.US: THE BEST HUMOR, MEMES, & CARTOONS



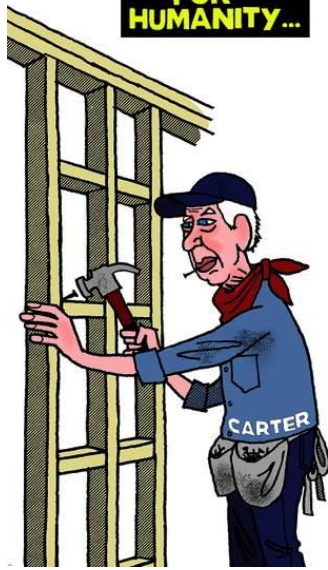


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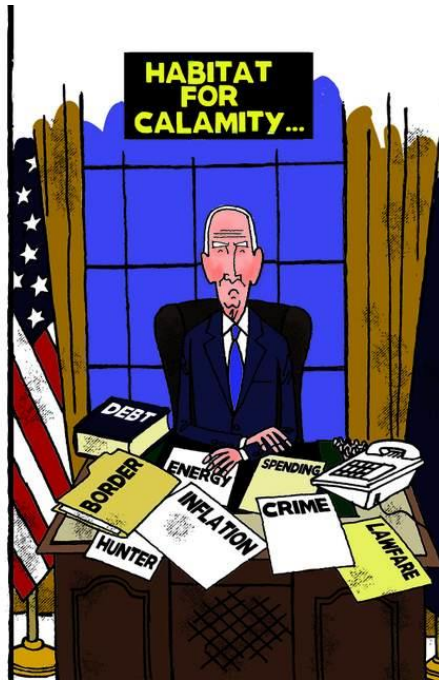


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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY...



HABITAT FOR CALAMITY...



THE JOE BIDEN MONUMENT CELEBRATING HIS LEGACY

