



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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Number 187

July 2025

CELEBRATING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S "ONE BEAUTIFUL, BIG BILL" FOR AMERICA

By Space Coast Tusk Editor Stuart Gorin

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK: MY TWO CENTS

By Stuart Gorin

--In the wake of the Texas flooding tragedy, there has to be a special place in Hell for Houston pediatrician Dr. Christina Propst, who outrageously posted on social media that the children of Trump supporters who died in the floods "got what they deserved." Following massive negative reaction, her employer -- Blue Fish Pediatrics -- said she no longer works for them.

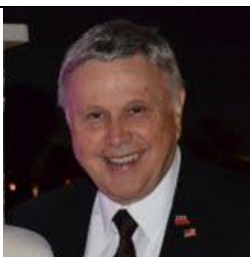
Podcaster Todd Starnes wrote that he "can't even begin to imagine the sort of demonic evil that would cause a person to celebrate the deaths of children. The lack of humanity in this woman is beyond the pale. She's a monster with a stethoscope." Here's hoping she never has the opportunity to use it again, and that her medical license is revoked. Hippocratic Oath? No, she believes in the Hypocritical one.

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--Last month, after watching a TV show about the late, great journalist **Edward R. Murrow**, I reminisced in this column about my interaction with him. Now, this month, after watching another TV show, I can reminisce about when I met the late, greatest-ever athlete, **Jim Thorpe**, a member of the Sac and Fox Native American Tribe. Track and Field, Baseball, Football, Basketball -- he excelled in them all.

It was in the early 1950's, when as a high school student, a family friend who worked as a ticket taker for wrestling matches at the Baltimore Coliseum, had me sell programs to the audience. One day he told me to be sure to attend next week, because Thorpe was going to be a special guest at the matches. After he was introduced to the cheering crowd, I went right up to him, with my autograph book and pen in hand. He smiled and signed the book for me -- which all these years later, I still cherish.

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What a week it was -- June 30-July 4, 2025. It started with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis on the last day of the last fiscal year signing the state's \$117.4 billion budget. Then Congress passed President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill," by close margins in the Senate and House, followed by his holding of a victory rally in Des Moines, Iowa on July 3. And it all culminated on July 4 Independence Day, with a nationally televised bill signing ceremony.



Regarding the Congressional legislative sessions, the Republicans were unified in support of a permanent extension of tax cuts for individuals and small businesses, but there were holdouts in both chambers who were split on whether the spending cuts in the bill went too far or not far enough.

On the other side of the aisle, every Democrat in both chambers voted in opposition. In the House, Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries even kept control of the floor by speaking for

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Several months after I met him, Jim Thorpe passed away from a heart condition. There never was another athlete like him.
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--At press time, we were saddened to learn that Terry Bollea – a wrestling legend known world-wide as Hulk Hogan – died of a heart attack in his Clearwater, Florida home on July 24. A star speaker at last year’s Republican National Convention, the Hulkster was a supporter and good friend of President Trump.

We will miss him and the antics for which he was famous.

Perhaps the best tribute paid to him was by **Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth**, who posted a photo of Hogan standing in the wrestling ring proudly waving the American flag, and the total caption was “RIP.”

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More Two Cents next month

just shy of nine hours – unsuccessfully – in order to delay the vote. His droning-on was effective, though, in causing one of his colleagues to fall asleep – and be removed from the room.

In the Senate, where Republicans hold a three-seat majority, Vice President J.D. Vance was needed to break a 50-50 tie because three Senators – Thom Tillis of North Carolina, Rand Paul of Kentucky and Susan Collins of Maine – voted against the measure.

In the House, where Speaker Mike Johnson succeeded in pushing the bill across the finish line, the vote was 218-214, with the two Republicans in opposition being Congressmen Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Brian Fitzpatrick of Pennsylvania.

In Johnson’s remarks prior to the House vote, he said, “If you’re for a secure border, safer communities, and a strong military – this bill is for you.”

Just some of the measures in the massive bill include no tax on tips and overtime, funding for military and illegal immigration enforcement, rollbacks in green-energy tax credits, an increase in funding for a border wall, increase in state and local tax (SALT) deductions, and new spending for shipbuilding and “Golden Dome” missile defense.

Taking a victory lap over passage of his “One Big Beautiful Bill,” President Trump traveled to Des Moines, Iowa, later on July 3, to address supporters in an hour-long televised address to also kick off a yearlong celebration of America’s 250th anniversary next year.

Speaking at a “Salute to America” event on the eve of Independence Day, he mused about the mutual “hate” between him and Democrats, a potential exemption for farmers to avoid the deportation of their workers who are in the country illegally, and the recent exchange of missiles between the U.S. and Iran.

“This is a declaration of independence from a really national decline. We had a national decline,” Trump said. “We were a laughingstock all over the world. We had a man as president who shouldn’t have been there.”



Then, sitting on the White House lawn on Independence Day -- with hundreds of U.S. military personnel and their families, as well as dozens of Congressional legislators looking on – Trump, joined by his wife, Melania, officially signed his “one big beautiful bill” that Congress approved the day earlier.

Addressing the crowd, Trump said, “As we approach the 250th anniversary of America’s founding exactly one year from now, we are creating an economy that delivers wealth for the middle class, a border that is sovereign and secure, and a military that is unmatched, unequaled anywhere in the world. We have made the Trump tax cuts permanent; that’s the largest tax cuts in the history of this country.”

The signing ceremony also included a flyover of F-22s, F-35s, and a B-2 Bomber, and the President spoke about how U.S. Air Force pilots attacking Iranian nuclear missile sites last month conducted one of the most successful military strikes in all of history.

Governor DeSantis Signs Florida’s 2025-2026 Budget

On June 30 – the last day of the last fiscal year, when the state would run out of money – **Florida Governor Ron DeSantis** signed the \$117.4 billion budget for FY 2025-26, after first vetoing \$567 million line items placed there by the State Legislature, which needed a special session after the regular 60-day session ended in order to complete the task.



Continuing DeSantis’ commitment to fiscal responsibility, the budget maintains \$15.7 billion in reserves. It also includes \$830 million in funding for Florida’s accelerated debt

repayment program, which will enable the state to this year pay off nearly 50 percent of Florida's tax-supported debt accrued since statehood, totaling more than \$7.3 billion retired since 2019.

Florida has achieved record economic and educational success under Governor DeSantis' tenure – ranking first in the nation for education, entrepreneurship, and new business formations – with more than 3.7 million new businesses established since 2019. These accomplishments have been realized while reducing government spending and safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

This budget continues strong support for the governor's key priorities, including teacher pay increases, law enforcement bonuses and pay raises, funding for civics in schools, a record amount of per-pupil K-12 funding, \$1.4 billion for continued Everglades restoration and water quality initiatives, and over \$15 billion to continue Florida's decades-ahead-of-schedule transportation and infrastructure projects.

"Once again, Florida is spending less than the previous year," DeSantis said. "Since I took office in 2019, we have also tripled Florida's Rainy-Day Fund. With this year's additional commitment, the fund is maxed out. Additionally, under my administration, this year we will have repaid almost 50% of Florida's historic debt – and we're now requiring a repayment of \$250 million in all future budgets. This year's budget continues our commitment to repaying our debts ahead of schedule, saving money for Floridians, and delivering tax relief for Florida families.

DeSantis also strengthened Florida's fight against anti-Israel boycotts, targeting universities and cultural organizations, and forcing state institutions to cut ties with any group that discriminates against Israel, as well as blocking taxpayer funding from flowing to anti-Israel causes. Under the new law, he said, "an educational institution, a nonprofit organization, an agency, a local governmental entity or unit thereof, or a foreign government" that takes anti-Israel actions will be classified as engaging in an "academic boycott."

The budget also mandates cessation of state contracts and grants with those entities if they don't change their ways. These groups will be added to Florida's official blacklist called the "Scrutinized Companies or Other Entities that Boycott Israel List." Once they're on that list, the state cuts them off completely.

Included in the new budget are \$2 billion in tax relief, focused on permanently repealing the business rent tax, renewing and expanding several sales tax holidays, and providing additional tax holidays to help keep more money in the pockets of Florida's families.

The tax holidays will include a permanent Back-to-School sales tax one every August; a permanent sales tax exemption on event tickets, state park admissions, life jackets, sunscreen, bike helmets, and insect repellent, so families can enjoy outdoor fun; permanent exemptions for disaster preparedness

items such as batteries, portable generators, tarps, gas cans, smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors; and a "Second Amendment: sales tax holiday from September 8 through December 31 for relief on purchases of bows, firearms, ammunition, tents, sleeping bags, camping stoves, fishing rods and reels, tackle boxes, and bait and tackle.

The budget builds on the state's record investments in education, providing a historic \$15.9 billion in funding for the K-12 public school system. It also will cover the costs of over 429,000 students who are projected to participate in Florida's school choice program – the Family Empowerment Scholarship.

Leading the nation in higher education, Florida's new budget will fund student enrollment for the Bright Futures Scholarship program as well as additional funding for Florida's four Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

To support state's transportation network and infrastructure, the budget invests \$15.1 billion in the Florida Department of Transportation; to help support business development, \$50 million for the Job Growth Grant Fund; to assist the rural communities, \$92.2 million for repairing infrastructure; to support workforce housing, \$163.8 million for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership program; and to enforce immigration laws, \$1.9 million for the Office of Secure Florida in the Department of Commerce.

DeSantis has always recognized the invaluable contributions made to Florida by its law enforcement and military communities. They risk their lives every day to protect Floridians and are on the front lines of combatting illegal immigration into our state.

Additional budget items for these groups include \$49 million for pay increases to more than 16,200 state law enforcement officers; \$3 million for local jails under construction that have contracted with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to support immigration enforcement efforts; \$20 million for the Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program; and \$1.5 million for the Military Base Protection Program.

Just a few more of the massive number of programs covered in the 2025-26 budget are investing in Everglades restoration; water quality and supply; disaster response, recovery and mitigation; and investing in a healthier Florida by supporting those struggling with mental health and substance abuse, human trafficking victims, seniors, mothers and children, and research for cancer treatments.

The Governor also used his veto pen on line items valued at \$557 million.



SOUNDS FROM THE TRUMP-ET

--Despite Elon Musk's recent falling out with President Trump over opposition to his "One Big, Beautiful Bill," the South African business entrepreneur applauded

his foreign policy peace efforts, saying the President “successfully resolved several serious conflicts around the world.” Musk issued a social media post giving “credit where credit is due,” accompanied by a Trump Truth Social post on a ceasefire in Gaza.”

But then Musk announced he was starting a new, third political party – the American Party – and that did not go over too well.

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On July 9, the President announced he was naming Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy to temporarily serve as NASA Administrator in a second role. “Sean is doing a fantastic job in handling our country’s transportation affairs, including creating a state-of-the-art Air Traffic Control System, while at the same time rebuilding our roads and bridges,” he said. “He will be a fantastic leader of the ever more important Space Agency, even if only for a short period of time.”

Earlier, Trump withdrew his original nomination of tech entrepreneur Jared Isaacman to lead NASA. Citing his past associations with Democrats, as well as being a close ally of Musk. The President said it was “inappropriate that a close friend of Elon, who was in the Space business, run NASA when it is such a big part of Elon’s corporate life.”

Duffy is not the only Cabinet official to be given multiple job titles. Secretary of State Marco Rubio also serves as interim National Security Adviser.

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--Unlike the previous President, who ignored visiting disaster areas in the United States, President Trump, accompanied by his wife, Melania, traveled to Texas on July 11 to meet with Governor Greg Abbott and tour the devastation left in the state by flash flooding that killed more than 120 people, including dozens of children at a Christian summer camp. More than 170 people were still missing in the tragedy.

“In the aftermath of this really horrific and deadly flood,” Trump said, “we mourn for every single life that was swept away in the flood, and we pray for the families that are left behind. It’s amazing, the incredible spirit from those families.” The President and the Governor met with first responders on the scene, and said he approved, and then expanded, a major disaster declaration for Texas. Abbott said the state “will continue to work with our federal and local partners to provide impacted Texans with the support they need to heal and recover.”

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--Trump has nominated Nick Adams, the founder of the Foundation for American Liberty and Greatness (FLAG), to be U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia.

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--On July 16, Trump signed the HALT Fentanyl Act into law, permanently classifying fentanyl-related substances as a Schedule 2 drug under the Controlled Substances Act.

Families who lost loved ones to the fentanyl scourge joined the President as he said the legislation is “delivering another defeat for the savage drug smugglers and criminals and the cartels”

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--White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt revealed on July 17 that after the President noted mild swelling in his lower legs and bruising on his hands, out of an abundance of caution, he was evaluated by the White House medical unit, which diagnosed him with chronic venous insufficiency, a blood circulation issue.

“Importantly,” Leavitt said, “there was no evidence of deep vein thrombosis or arterial disease.” She said an echocardiogram was performed and it “confirmed normal cardiac structure and function.” Regarding the hand swelling, Leavitt said “This is consistent with minor soft tissue irritation from frequent hand shaking.”

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--On July 18, the President signed the GENIUS Act, the first major cryptocurrency bill that establishes a regulatory framework for dollar-backed digital tokens called stablecoins, as “a giant step to cement the American dominance of global finance and crypto technology.” The measure passed 308-122 in the House of Representatives on July 17, and by a 68-30 vote in the Senate in late June.

Stablecoins are digital currencies tied to stable assets like gold or the US dollar to maintain consistent value. This allows for more stability in the cryptocurrency market.

"I pledged that we would bring back American liberty and leadership and make the United States the crypto capital of the world," he said during a signing ceremony for the bill. "And that's what we've done. And under the Trump administration, this is only going further."

Earlier in the day, the House of Representatives gave final approval to the President’s requested \$9 billion rescission page by a 216-213 vote. On the previous day, the Senate voted 51-48 for the bill – which cancels about \$8 billion in foreign aid and \$1.1 billion for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to fund National Public Radio and Public Broadcasting System over the next two years.



LET ME BE FRANK
By Space Coast Tusk Designer
Frank Montelione

For Democrats, violence is the answer. More than a few elected Democrat officials have called for blood to be spilled in an effort to stop the Trump agenda. This is Trump Derangement Syndrome at its most extreme.

During the Open Borders Policy of the Biden administration, many violent individuals and known terrorists were released into the country. Sadly, this is not the first time in recent

history that this has happened under a Democrat administration.

During another time, from April to September in 1980, when Democrat President Jimmy Carter was in office, 125,000 Cubans arrived on American shores in Florida. Under Communist leader Fidel Castro, thousands of Cubans went to the Peruvian embassy seeking asylum from the oppressive regime. Castro, trying to stop the unrest, opened the port of Mariel, west of Havana, to any residents who wanted to leave.

Cuban immigrants (nicknamed “Marielitos”) crossed the Straits of Florida to the United States, severely straining the capacity of U.S. immigration and resettlement facilities. (Britannica) Many of them settled in the Miami area and became legal U.S. residents under the Cuban Adjustment Act. Some were relocated to many areas of the United States.

As you may know, I was a Nassau County, New York Police Officer. My post covered Belmont Racetrack and the surrounding area. Parts of the racetrack are in New York City. Many of the Marielitos found their way to the track. Apparently, there was a code among the worst of the worst. Star tattoos were inked either behind their knees or in the web between the thumb and index fingers. At the time no one knew what they indicated. The tattoos could symbolize various things within Cuban jail subculture, including potentially representing years served in prison or even the number of killings committed in some gang contexts.

I had been in quite a few extremely dangerous situations. The last time I was shot at was during an incident involving a drug deal that had gone wrong. I could not return fire since the precinct I served in was very densely populated. I had to take into account, in a split second, what would happen if I missed. The perpetrator had no such qualms.

We eventually arrested 6 Marielitos and charged the shooter with two counts of attempted murder of a police officer.

As George Santayana said, ‘Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.’ Unfortunately, we see that happening today.

The First Amendment does not protect violent or unlawful conduct, even if the person engaging in it intends to express an idea. The First Amendment does not protect speech that incites imminent violence or lawlessness. Threats of violence, stalking, and harassing people, whether private individuals or public officials, are not protected by the First Amendment and may violate multiple federal and state criminal laws.

- Rep. Hakeem Jeffries implored people to “fight” the Trump Administration “in the streets” and declared ICE agents “will be unsuccessful” in protecting their identities “no matter what it takes.”
- Rep. Pramila Jayapal called ICE agents “deranged” and said it is “inspiring” to obstruct immigration enforcement.
- Rep. LaMonica McIver – who was charged with “forcibly impeding and interfering with federal officers” – incited

her supporters to “shut down the city” because “we are at war.”

- Minnesota Governor Tim Walz smeared ICE agents as the “modern-day Gestapo.”
- Boston Mayor Michelle Wu compared ICE agents to the neo-Nazi group NSC-131.
- Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson accused “secret police” of “terrorizing our communities.”
- Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders asked people to “figure out a way to stop ICE from what they are doing as soon as possible.”
- Representative Kweisi Mfume challenged the Trump Administration to “a street fight.”
- Representative Stephen Lynch smeared ICE agents as “the Gestapo” and “nondescript thugs.”
- Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said ICE “should not exist.”
- Representative Becca Balint called ICE agents “vigilantes” who can’t be trusted.
- Representative Eric Swalwell said it was his “priority” to ensure ICE agents “are no longer faceless,” comparing them to “some 1800s bank robber or some KGB officer in Russia.”
- Representative Dan Goldman compared federal agents to “secret police” who must be unmasked.
- Representative Jerry Nadler accused ICE agents of “hiding misbehavior because otherwise why would they be wearing masks?” (The White House Website)

Their rhetoric is not just inflammatory but are inciting those on the fringe of society to carry out violence and will lead to serious consequences. They are not exempt from the law and could potentially face various criminal charges, depending on the specific words used, the context of the statements, and the actions that follow. However, when the chant from the left when it came to President Trump is “no one is above the law”, these same officials are saying “unless it’s me”. Will charges be brought? Probably not.



One official is facing criminal charges, Congresswoman LaMonica McIver who was charged with two counts of assault after a confrontation with officers outside Delany Hall, an ICE Detention Center and was caught on video.

In Minnesota, State Representative Melissa Hortman and her husband were shot and killed, and Minnesota Senator John Hoffman and his wife were wounded.

In the past year, there have been several other incidents of politically motivated violence in the United States, including attacks on political figures and election officials, as well as acts of violence committed by extremist groups. These incidents highlight a growing trend of political violence, fueled by the extremist rhetoric of Democrat officials. They



have poked a hornet's nest that opened the doors for violent criminal behavior all due to Trump Derangement Syndrome.

While freedom of speech is a fundamental right, it comes with the responsibility to avoid inciting violence or obstructing justice. Government officials and citizens alike must adhere to legal standards and engage in respectful discourse to address disagreements. Promoting violence against federal employees not only undermines the rule of law but also poses serious legal consequences. It is crucial to seek constructive solutions and work towards a more harmonious society.



HIGHLIGHTING CAPITOL HILL

By Mike Haridopolos
Florida District 8 Congressman



Just over seven months ago, I took the oath of office with a simple mission: To deliver results for the people of Florida's Space and Treasure Coasts. Since then, I've worked every day to do exactly that.

In Washington, I've cast votes for some of the most consequential bills we've seen in years, legislation that puts America back on track. We passed the One Big Beautiful Bill, which protects your paycheck, secures our border, and restores common sense in government. I proudly voted for the SAVE Act to require proof of citizenship for voting, the No Rogue Rulings Act to rein in activist judges, and the HALT Fentanyl Act to crack down on the flow of deadly drugs into our communities. We also passed the Laken Riley Act, because protecting Americans from violent criminals who shouldn't be in this country is non-negotiable. And I supported the recissions package, which cuts billions in reckless and unaccountable Washington spending.

I've also gone to bat for bills that reflect our local priorities and shared values. I co-sponsored the Biological Fairness in Women's Sports Act, because girls shouldn't have to compete against biological men. I backed the Clear Communication for Veterans Claims Act in an effort to cut red tape for veterans dealing with the VA. I signed on to the SAFE Cities Act, holding sanctuary cities accountable, and the Secure U.S. Leadership in Space Act, making sure America, not China, leads the next chapter of space exploration. And I co-sponsored the Birthright Citizenship Act, to finally close the loophole that encourages illegal immigration.

Beyond voting, I've been working on bills that help Florida families and businesses. My Greenlighting Growth Act cuts red tape so small businesses can expand, hire, and thrive without Washington getting in the way. The bill passed out of committee with strong support, and just this week passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support. I also introduced the LEDGER Act with Senator Rick Scott, because the federal government shouldn't get away with hiding how your money is spent. The American people deserve full transparency, and this bill makes sure they get it.

Working alongside President Trump has been a highlight. It's been an honor to help turn his America First agenda into law. After years of politicians overpromising and underdelivering, isn't it refreshing to have a President who actually keeps his word?

Back home, my team has stayed focused on what matters most: Helping the people we represent. Since January, my office has solved over 1,100 constituent cases, returning \$4.6 million to local families and seniors—money they were owed but stuck in federal red tape. Whether it's a Social Security issue, a VA claim, or help with a passport, my staff is here to serve. If you need assistance with a federal agency, call my office at (321) 632-1776 and we'll get to work to help you.

With just over seven months down, I'm just getting started. Please never hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions, comments, or concerns that you have about the direction of our country. Thank you for the trust you've placed in me. I'll keep fighting for our community every step of the way.



THE MAYFIELD MINUTE

By Florida District 19 State Senator
Debbie Mayfield

To ensure seniors in our community are properly prepared for any potential storms, Aging Matters in Brevard partnered with Florida Power and Light to deliver 2,200 meal kits filled with three days of non-perishable items, including water, nutritious food and snacks, and essential supplies.

Volunteers from both organizations helped assemble and deliver the kits to homebound seniors and those in areas that may be hard to reach after a significant storm.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts the 2025 Atlantic hurricane season to be above average. It is critical that vulnerable seniors have a plan and access to support through local organizations, including Aging Matters in Brevard.

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Insurance Commissioner Mike Yaworsky announced additional growth in Florida's insurance market with two new companies approved to write residential policies. Since historic legislative reforms, Florida's market continues to stabilize and now has 14 new companies doing business in the state.

"I am pleased to announce two additional property and casualty companies doing business in our state, with more companies to be announced in the near future. Our market is becoming more and more competitive, and we continue to see great progress," Yaworsky said.

The new insurance companies are Incline National Insurance, headquartered in Texas, and Florida Insurance and

Reinsurance Company, which will primarily focus on writing coverage for condominiums and condominium associations.
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Brevard County officials are urging residents and visitors to be informed about the Florida Beach Warning Flag system; The five warning flag colors are uniform throughout the state to keep travelers visiting various beaches informed of local conditions.

They are:

Green – Low hazard; calm conditions, but exercise caution

Yellow – Medium hazard; moderate surf and/or currents

Red – High hazard; strong surf and/or dangerous currents

Double Red – Water closed to the public due to extremely hazardous conditions

Purple – Dangerous marine life present, such as jellyfish or stingrays

These flags are flown daily at all lifeguarded beach locations in Brevard County. They are also posted on the Brevard County Fire Rescue Facebook page and the Cocoa Beach Fire Department's website. Many local beachside hotels and surf shops will also have updated conditions available.

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"Operation Dragon Eye" was spearheaded by the U.S. Marshall's office with assistance from Florida's Office of Statewide Prosecution and 20 law enforcement agencies. The mission resulted in the rescue of 60 missing children, ages nine to 17, and the arrest of eight adult suspects. The suspects are facing multiple charges including human trafficking, child endangerment, drug trafficking, and drug possession.

"The real heroes behind this operation are the law enforcement who built and executed this mission. As your Attorney General and a father of three young kids, protecting children is my top priority," said James Uthmeier, Florida Attorney General. "If you victimize children, you're going to prison, end of story."

"Sixty kids saved. That number sends the message that Florida will never be a safe place for traffickers," said FDLE Commissioner Mark Glass. "At FDLE, we will continue to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves. And to any family still missing their child, we will never stop searching until we make sure they are brought home safely."

All of the rescued children are receiving physical and psychological care.

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The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is cautioning consumers to be aware of email subscription scams. FDACS stated that cybercriminals are targeting Floridians with phishing emails posing as legitimate streaming services like Netflix, Hulu, and others, to steal personal information and credit card numbers.

"These scams look real – but they're designed to trick you into taking the bait and handing over sensitive information," said Commissioner of Agriculture Wilton Simpson. "We want Floridians to recognize the red flags and protect themselves before they click."

One tip is to check the sender's email address. Scammers often use addresses that look official but aren't. If it doesn't come from the service's verified domain, don't trust it.

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The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has awarded the Melbourne Regional Chamber of Florida's Space Coast a 5-Star Accreditation for its sound policies, effective procedures, and positive community impact. To receive 5-Star status, a chamber must meet standards in governance, government affairs, communications, and technology. The rigorous process can take six to nine months to complete.

"To put this achievement in perspective, out of more than 7,000 chambers across the country, only 149 hold this prestigious designation and we are proud to be just one of 12 in Florida," said Anne Conroy-Baiter, President and CEO of the Melbourne Regional Chamber.

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The Brevard Schools Foundation's "Take Stock in Children" program is seeking mentors to serve middle and high school students. Mentors meet with students once a week and provide the needed encouragement, guidance, and support to help students realize the dream of a college education.

Mentoring may take place at school during school hours, on TSIC-monitored Zoom sessions, or on the TSIC app. Mentors are provided with training, background checks and support from the full-time TSIC staff. To donate, volunteer, or to learn more about becoming a mentor, please contact Mentor Coordinator, Krista Petty at 321-633-1000 X 11415 or petty.krista@brevardschools.org.

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--With the official opening of the Caloosahatchee Reservoir, one of the most significant Everglades restoration projects in Florida history, the 10,000-acre reservoir will improve **water quality and protect coastal ecosystems**

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis said the reservoir is "a landmark achievement in our broader mission to restore the Everglades, expand Florida's water storage capacity, and leave this state better to God than we found it." Nearly \$8 billion has been invested since 2019 in Everglades restoration and water quality.

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--[FloridaCommerce](#) announced that the state's total private sector employment increased by 128,100 (+1.5%) over the year in June 2025. CNBC also ranked Florida as the #1 economy in the nation for the third consecutive year.

"Florida's strong economy continues to lead the nation," said Secretary of Commerce J. Alex Kelly. "Building on this

momentum – from targeted infrastructure investments to reducing regulatory burdens and supporting workforce innovation – Florida remains focused on long-term growth that benefits families, entrepreneurs and businesses across the state.”

The state’s private sector job growth rate has exceeded the national rate for 49 of the last 51 months since April 2021. The industries that gained the most jobs in June 2025 were the education and health services sectors, adding 1,300 jobs.



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

On June 30th, **Governor Ron DeSantis** brought the budget process to a close by signing Florida’s budget for the 2025–2026 fiscal year, a \$117.4 billion spending plan that maintains Florida’s reputation for fiscal responsibility with a commitment to paying down debt, maintaining reserves, and strong investments in infrastructure, public safety, and economic development.

Since the close of the Legislative Session, I’ve been traveling across District 8 for post-session legislative wrap ups, community events, and planning meetings with local partners. Over the next few months, we’ll be holding check presentations to mark the success of appropriation projects that are now fully funded and to highlight the teamwork that brought them across the finish line.

This year, I was proud to help secure several targeted investments for entities in Brevard County that reflect our local priorities. That includes \$700,000 for the City of Rockledge’s Public Safety Regional Training Facility, which will provide enhanced capabilities for first responders throughout the region. We also secured \$350,000 for the Astronauts Memorial Foundation to support K–12 STEM outreach at Kennedy Space Center and \$300,000 for Brevard Achievement Center to expand job-training and support services for adults with disabilities.

The state budget includes \$250,000 for National Veterans Homeless Support, which provides transitional housing and wraparound care to Brevard’s veterans in need. Additionally, three major projects that I sponsored for the County of Brevard itself received funding: \$1.26 million for the West Central Avenue Bridge Replacement, \$1.76 million for Indialantic Stormwater Drainage Improvements, and \$2.9 million for Indian River Lagoon Countywide Sewer Connection Expansion.

These are more than just budget wins – they’re investments in safer communities, stronger families and a more resilient future for the Space Coast. In addition to these local victories, the state budget also includes funding that will benefit our region in significant ways. As Chair of the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic

Security, I was especially proud to continue advocating for the importance of Space Florida and their funding. Space Florida has done a tremendous job supporting the growth and vitality of the space industry, not only on the Space Coast, but throughout the entire state.

The budget also provides \$49 million for state law enforcement salary increases, a 10% increase for entry level officers and a 15% raise for veteran officers with at least five years of service. Florida is also continuing its investment in public safety by dedicating \$20 million to the fourth consecutive year of the Law Enforcement Recruitment Bonus Program. This program provides a \$5,000 signing bonus to law enforcement officers transferring from another state to Florida or any newly certified law enforcement recruit. These actions send a clear message that Florida backs the men and women who wear the badge. Whether it’s our veterans, economic development, or public safety, I’ll continue fighting for the priorities that matter most to Brevard County, and I’m proud of the progress we’re making together.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at 386-304-7630 or email me at wright.tom@flsenate.gov. Until next time – stay safe, stay engaged, and stay informed.



**Brevard
Federated
Republican
WOMEN**

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

For our July 2 luncheon meeting, we had a full house of ladies wearing patriotic gear in celebration of the upcoming Independence Day celebration. It was beautiful.

We were touched by a recent letter from our 2023 Lillian Banks Scholarship recipient, **Chloe Nason**, who reminds us of who we are and what we fight for.

Sadly, our planned speaker, **Congressman Mike Haridopolos** could not make our Luncheon in person, but we are glad he remained in Washington, D.C., to help pass President Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill. While he was not here in person, he did speak to us via Zoom. The Congressman talked about the success enjoyed by Republicans and President Trump during his first six months in office. He explained the highpoints of the One Big Beautiful Bill and talked about how our Republican Congress is determined to advance the President’s agenda.

Pam Persse, District Director for Congressman Haridopolos, briefed us on the functions and services provided by the Congressman’s local office.

BFRW was thrilled with the success of our 75th Anniversary Tea Party and Fashion Show that was held on July 19. It was A Joyful Celebration Honoring Decades of Conservative Leadership and The Women Who Shaped It.

This special gathering brought together 150 Republican women from across the county for an afternoon of fun, reflection and pride in their shared values. Thank you to our hard-working Tea Party Committee, Table Hostesses and Models. Thank you to our special guests – **Florida Federation of Republican Women President Barbara Price, National Federation of Republican Women Faith Coalition Coordinator Tarasa Snipes, Indian River County Tax Collector Carole Jean Jordan**, and our very own **Katie Posey**, our former Congressman’s wife, for joining us.



And a Very, Very Special thanks to all our attendees. The Celebration would not have been the same without you; because of you the mood was elegant, fun, purposeful and, most of all, proud. Your grace showed the next generation what our conservative legacy looks like.

We ask that each Table Hostess convey BFRW’s thanks, from bottom of our hearts to your guests, and ask that you let them know that we look forward to them joining our journey to a big Republican win in 2026!

Brevard Federated Republican Women is the fourth largest Federation Republican Women Club in Florida. At the end of June, BFRW’s membership increased over 2023 levels by 29% (and over 50% compared to December 30, 2024).

BFRW also qualifies for the National Federation of Republican Women 2025 Diamond Award for its excellence in all the six aspects: Club Function, Leadership Development, Membership Development, Programs, Campaign Activates, and Community Relations.

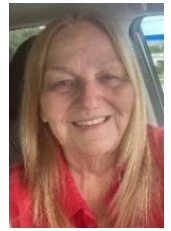
For our August 6 Luncheon meeting, **Brevard County Property Appraiser Dana Blickley** will be our guest speaker. She will give us an overview of property tax exemptions and legislative changes.

Ryan Barrack also will speak to us about Brevard County Fire Rescue’s 40 year plus Protecting Life & Property program. August is BFRW’s Honoring Firefighter Month; and we will honor two great female firefighters during our August Luncheon.

Palm Bay Mayor Rob Medina will join BFRW for an Evening with the Mayor on Thursday, August 28 at 6 pm (location to be announced). There is no charge, but food and drinks will be available.



By Club President
Erika Orriss



and
Secretary
Charlene Horton

The Club had a wonderful meeting July 11 – it was our quarterly evening meeting – and we were blessed to have as our speaker **Maija Hahn**, who comes with an impressive list of credentials. She is active in Research and Education for Autistic Children’s Treatment (REACT) as its Vice-President



and is the owner of Encore Speech and Wellness. Finally, she leads Children’s Health Defense and has even been helping **HEW Secretary Robert Kennedy, Jr.** with his efforts to Make Florida Healthy Again (MAHA).

Hahn gave out some startling statistics:

- We Americans have the lowest life expectancy in the developed world at 76-78 years of age
- Forty percent of adults have 2 or more health conditions
- One in 31 children are considered autistic
- Twenty percent of our children are obese

It is now known that many toxins contribute to autism, she said, the most injurious being aluminum, which is also in our vaccines along with mercury.

Also discussed were the effects of plastics, pesticide, and electromagnetic fields (EMFs). Hahn went into great detail on the effects of EMF’s on our children. While we are trying to fight this at the state level, eleven health freedom bills were put forth this session and only two passed. We need to be proactive in protecting ourselves and our families. Our legislative committee was actively taking notes and will be working on this for the 2026 session, Hahn said.

In conclusion, she said, along with education and legislation, the best way to protect ourselves and our families is to ban processed foods from your diet. Try to eat organic fruits and vegetables and wash them off well as some pesticides may still be on them or in them. Finally, as always, pray, get plenty of sunshine, rest, love.

Many questions were fielded, and it was a very informative meeting, well attended. We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members!

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On June 14, the Federated Republican Women in Action, with enthusiastic support from the Brevard Republican Executive Committee, hosted a patriotic celebration in Melbourne honoring **President Donald Trump’s** birthday, Flag Day, and the 250th anniversary of the United States Army.



Councilwoman Helen Voltz began the program with a heartfelt prayer, followed by former **Councilwoman Mindy Gibson**, who led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. Your FRWA President delivered opening remarks and shared the historical significance of Flag Day.

Although unable to attend in person due to Congressional votes in Washington, **U.S. Congressman Mike Haridopolos** contributed a recorded video message. In it, he celebrated the recent surge of young Americans enlisting in our Armed Forces and reaffirmed his commitment to supporting Brevard constituents at the federal level.

Public Defender Blaise Trettis gave an impassioned tribute to the U.S. Army, emphasizing its legacy of honor and service. Several elected officials also joined us to share updates and reflections. **Florida House Representative Monique Miller** highlighted new legislative efforts, while **Bob White** – widely recognized for his leadership within the Republican Liberty Caucus – offered his insights. **BREC Chairman Rick Lacey** rounded out the speakers by commending Trump's many accomplishments.

A particularly moving moment came when Voltz shared her late husband's military service and the profound impact of Agent Orange exposure, while holding the flag presented to her at his funeral. Her words deeply touched all in attendance.

FRWA Second Vice President Karen Colby and **Third Vice President Theresa Holland** played key roles in organizing the successful gathering. Following the program, participants marched proudly across the Melbourne Causeway. It was truly a memorable and uplifting event – one that reaffirmed our shared values, honored American heritage, and celebrated community spirit.

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The next FRWA meeting will be on August 1 at McMaws BBQ, and our speakers will be **State Representative Monique Miller** and **School Board Member Katie Campbell**.



PUMPING UP WITH PATRIOTS **By Chairman Michael Wilson** **Space Coast Patriots Club**

Florida House of Representatives Majority Leader Tyler Sirois addressed the Space Coast Patriots on July 14 on the budget, Illegal Immigration enforcement, and Merritt Island

incorporating. Sirois is our 31 District State Representative as well as Majority Leader.



He gave a thorough review of the new Florida State budget and insights into how the House arrived at a budget of \$115.1 billion. This budget is less than last year's and less than the governor's original proposal. Sirois said he is committed to reducing spending and that the legislature is now less compliant with Governor DeSantis. He said he is dedicated to property tax relief and further commented that property insurance is not coming down fast enough and he will work diligently to improve the problem.

In covering the hot topic of illegal immigration enforcement, Sirois said Florida is doing an excellent job and our state is leading the nation in deportations. He was challenged hard by an audience member who felt Florida was being too harsh but firmly stood his ground by pointing out the many unseen costs associated with illegal immigrants. He also said that their entry was breaking the law in the first place.

Sirois was asked what he thought about Merritt Island incorporating, and his first comment was, "As long as I'm in my current seat, Merritt Island will not become a city." He further said, "Those who want a city, want more government." In addition, he said creating a city creates innumerable ways for officials to levy more taxes, fees and financial burdens on residents.

He generously spent almost 1-1/2 hours of his time with the Patriots and mentioned he wants to change the horrible Red Flag law to one that is just somewhat bad before it can be replaced entirely. He also said he is opposed to the LNG storage and regasification plant proposed for Merritt Island along the barge canal. Sirois was well received by the membership and was thanked for all of his efforts on behalf of the residents.



REMEMBER WHEN **By President Mike Hoagland** **Heritage Isle Republican Club**

Remember at our July monthly meeting, our guest speaker, Alan Ross, explained what is occurring within the current corrupt campaign contributions environment. It is difficult to determine who or what organizations are contributing to the political PACs. It is further difficult to track because these PACs contribute to other PACs. It is just a sophisticated money laundering scheme. There exists a total lack of transparency or accountability. Through Alan Ross's efforts, it was determined that two extremely large contributors to PAC funding are FPL and Duke Energy.

I bring this up now because through their efforts, we will end up with our energy costs increasing by as much as 40%. Why you may ask. Well, as you can witness from their ads on television, they explain to us how they are good stewards of the environment and as such, are focusing on solar and wind

as sources of renewable energy. Florida does not have enough land mass for solar panels or wind mills to generate sufficient electricity to meet our current needs much less in the future. Nuclear or natural gas require much less land and are much more affordable. Who is making this decision?

The Public Service Commission (PSC) of Florida is going to make the decision. Public meetings are jammed with FPL and Duke Energy supporters. There is no way for opponents to either get on the agenda or make their argument in the allowed 2 or 3 minutes in the public forum. FPL and Duke Energy proponents dominate the time. Will the Governor intervene? Who knows? His political ambitions may require him to go along. Just be prepared for a 40 % increase in utility bills.
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President Trump's successes are truly generational if not historical. I heard the president of Hillsdale College say he thought Trump was as important to this country as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The 4th of July celebration of our country's 249th birthday reminded me of how blessed we are to be Americans. We live in a period of time that will allow us to witness so many positive changes not only in America, but the world.

I saw a poll that stated that 50% of Democrats feel patriotic and 85% of Republicans feel patriotic. If true, that means well over 50% of Americans are patriots. I often wonder why those who are so unhappy with America don't move to another country. How many people do you think are trying to immigrate to Russia, China, North Korea or Iran?

Well, the Big Beautiful Bill has become law. We won't see the benefits fully for some time, but it will generate positive results for Americans. Of course, Elon Musk's personality is now on full display. He said he would form a new political party if the BBB was enacted. He said he is doing this because Republicans did not do enough to curb government spending. He may be a genius in some areas but not everywhere. What the House and Senate did was pass a bill which would preclude them having to comply with Senate rules that would require 60 votes. There is no way that the Democrats would pass anything put forth by the Republicans.

Musk has now formed the America Party. He is upset not because this bill passed, but because the Electrical Vehicle mandates are now gone. The EV subsidies are gone. The rebates to buyers of EVs are gone. More importantly, Musk's pal who was scheduled to become NASA Director was removed for consideration by Trump. Why? He was a liberal Democrat that funded only Democrats. There was an ideological gap between Trump and this man. Musk has now lost influence with our president.



Alan Ross, the chair of "We the People" of Brevard as well as the South Beaches America First Conservative Coalition, told the Heritage Isle Republican Club on

July 3 about honoring Brevard County's Grassroots Patriots in Florida's fight for political power.

Ross asked the members if they remember President Donald Trump's 2017 inaugural address, when Military Intelligence and Judge Advocate Generals came to the stage and stood behind him, and he stated what the MAGA movement was all about.



If you do not remember, here is what Trump said: "Today's ceremony, however, has very special meaning, because today we are not merely transferring power from one administration to another, or from one party to another, but we are transferring power from Washington, D.C., and giving it back to you, the people."

Still quoting the President, Ross said, "For too long, a small group in our nation's capital has reaped the rewards of government, while the people have borne the cost. Washington flourished, but the people did not share in its wealth. Politicians prospered, but the jobs left, and the factories closed. The establishment protected itself, but not the citizens of our country. Their victories have not been your victories. Their triumphs have not been your triumphs, and while they celebrated in our nation's capital, there was little to celebrate for struggling families all across our land. That all changes, starting right here and right now, because this moment is your moment --- it belongs to you. It belongs to everyone gathered here today, and everyone watching, all across America. This is your day. This is your celebration, and this, the United States of America, is your country. What truly matters is not which party controls our government, but whether our government is controlled by the people. January 20, 2017, will be remembered as the day the people became the rulers of this nation again."

Today, Ross said, Trump has done his part, and here in Brevard County, "I honor and commend with pride the Patriots in the Brevard Republican Executive Committee (BREC) and numerous conservative organizations for their efforts to reclaim power from Tallahassee and restore it to Florida's people. The Problem: Political Committees and Dark Money."

Ross pointed out that in 2013, Florida House Bill 569 removed the \$500 contribution limit for Political Committees (PCs), allowing unlimited donations. This change has undermined election integrity more than any other issue, including mail-in ballots or voting machine concerns. PCs have since funneled hundreds of millions of dollars to promote special-interest agendas, sidelining grassroots candidates and reducing accountability to Florida's citizens.

These committees, their chairs, registered agents, and treasurers appear to operate like a coordinated orchestra, he said, funded by donors prioritizing their interests over the public's. Grassroots candidates face overwhelming financial opposition, with "dark money" obscuring funding sources.

This system diminishes the people's livelihoods, incomes, and spirit.

In the 2024 Florida Republican Primary, he said, a PC sent misleading -- potentially fraudulent -- mailers to high-propensity Republican voters. Patriots in seven counties, including Brevard, took notice, exposing a larger issue: organized PCs use dark money for select candidates aligned with Florida House and Senate leadership, silencing grassroots voices.

The Solution, Ross explained, is "Restoring Accountability. The path forward is clear. We must reinstate a \$1,000 contribution limit on PCs and eliminate transfers between PCs to prevent dark money flows." The people of Brevard County's elected Republican representatives serving BREC passed a resolution (95-16) supporting these reforms, as did so many other conservative organizations throughout the county. A coalition is forming across Florida to demand change in Tallahassee! Will our Brevard congressional delegation to Tallahassee support "We the People" or back "We the Money" and Tallahassee leadership with respect to this issue?

The consequences of inaction are clear, Ross said: soaring electric and insurance bills, stalled election integrity reforms, eroding county home rule, and unchecked development with underfunded infrastructure, clean water shortages, and inadequate public safety.

Reread Trump's speech, replace "Washington" with "Tallahassee," and the parallels are undeniable, he said. Join this statewide patriot movement to restore power to Florida's people. Demand reforms to end dark money's influence and put the people on an even footing by restoring a Political Committee contribution cap. "Will you stand with us and join President Trump's movement to restore power and accountability to the citizens of Florida?," Ross asked.

For more Information, visit the Political Committees in Florida section of the www.ultramagapatriots.com website and read the investigatory reports and articles presented there by clicking or using the following link.

<https://www.ultramagapatriots.com/political-committees-in-florida/>



The Brevard Republican Assembly meeting on July 17 featured as guest speaker **Gene Trent**, chairman of the Brevard

County School Board, who touted the accomplishments of the board over its transformation the last couple of years. Among them were:

- Replaced the Superintendent
- LGBTQ guidelines removed permanently
- Brevard County Schools are a purple star school district, only one of 6 in the state



- Reviewed 5,000 Brevard County School System policies and went through rule making
- procedures to make changes where necessary
- Suspended the book committee
- Instituted a cell phone ban throughout the district (can't be used in hallways or at lunch)
- Escalated penalty for vaping in the bathrooms
- Returned authority for running individual schools from the district back to the principles
- A district for 2 years in a row, up from 37th
- Increased pay for bus drivers in order to attract and retain drivers
- 67 percent of the schools in Brevard County are now in the A or B category
- Vacancies are down
- Instituted discipline diversion program

Trent noted that the LGBTQ guidelines not only pertained to the students, but also coaches. It was possible under the guidelines for a coach, janitor or anyone to enter the locker room of the opposite sex if they desired. "The Board passed that, and that was a shame. There were some conservatives on that board that didn't raise a stink when that was being passed," said Trent. "Right is right, wrong is wrong."

"The book committee was a fraud," he said. "So, we had 11 members, and if the parents had an issue with a book, it had to go to the book committee. They didn't remove the book. When it was challenged, it sat in the library until it was looked at. And my question was, when does it get looked at? And I was told there was a back log. You have to read each book cover to cover, and you can only read 50 pages a week. That would take 15 years to get through the book list."

Trent gave context to the Satellite Beach controversy in which a teacher was fired for breaking the law by calling a student by a name other than their legal name without the signed permission of the parent. "They just didn't think that we would do what we said we would do," he stated. "That's it. It wasn't many parents of kids. I would take that to heart. They were bringing in professional agitators from the Tampa area, having their own cameras. They were choreographed outside. They would never talk specific that what she did was wrong. They just said she was connecting to a student and she's a good teacher."

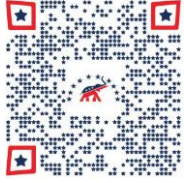
The next meeting for the Brevard County Republican Assembly is September 18. The speaker will be **State Representative Chase Tramont**.

In lieu of our August meeting, the Brevard Republican Assembly will be hosting the state Florida Republican Assembly Convention on August 23 from 8 am to 3 pm at the Space Coast Convention Center.

Speakers include **U.S. Congressman Cory Mills**; FRA & Medical Freedom attorney **Rachel Rodriguez**; political activist **Roger Stone**; **Florida State Representative, Berny Jacques**; Voter Integrity Expert **Dr. Douglas Frank**; Family physician **Dr. John Littell**; Florida Right to Life's **Lynda**

Bell; political activist **Trevor Loudon**; **Director of Villa Healthy Dr. Marivic Villa** and Founder & Chairman of M-Cam Inc. **Dr. David Martin**.

Tickets and convention information can be obtained by clicking <https://links.brevardrepublicanassembly.org/con> or, using your phone's camera, scan the QR Code below:



THIS AND THAT

FLORIDA CABINET. With **Jimmy Patronis** resigning as Florida's Chief Financial Officer for his successful bid to become the new District 1 U.S. Congressman, **Governor Ron DeSantis** filled the Cabinet vacancy on July 16 by naming **Florida State Senator Blaise Ingoglia** to the position, calling him "a warrior" and "the most conservative Senator in the state." Ingoglia said getting the position is an honor and he vowed to be a fiscal watchdog. "I've had a history of calling out wasteful spending, whether it was Democrats or Republicans, because I truly believe that government is accountable to the people, and our job is to make sure that we deliver that promise," he said. Ingoglia listed his priorities as property tax reform, investigating local government spending, and creating a "more vibrant" property insurance market. At his swearing-in on July 21, Ingoglia said, "You are not going to see anyone fight harder for the taxpayer, for the consumer, than I will, and I'm planning on hitting the ground running."



FLORIDA REDISTRICTING MAP. The Florida Supreme Court, in a 6-1 decision, upheld the state's 2022 congressional redistricting plan on July 17, ruling that enforcement of a state constitutional provision designed to protect minority voting strength would conflict with federal equal protection requirements. The court found that while the previous configuration of Congressional District 5 allowed Black voters in North Florida to elect candidates of their choice, the state was not required to maintain that district because doing so would amount to an unconstitutional racial gerrymander under the U.S. Constitution. The court determined that the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment overrides the state's Fair Districts Amendment when the two are in conflict. Litigation stemmed from the Legislature's post-2020 census redistricting cycle. After **Governor Ron DeSantis** vetoed a congressional map that preserved the former District 5, the Legislature adopted a new configuration that divided the area across multiple districts in which Black voters no longer had the ability to elect preferred candidates. The decision leaves the 2022 map in place for the upcoming election cycle.

REMEMBERING ED FEULNER. The founder and longest-serving president of the conservative think tank Heritage Foundation, Edwin Feulner – a statesman who devoted his life to the defense of our Nation's first principles – died July 18 at age 83. Numerous politicians and conservative institutions have remembered him as a courageous and wise



defender of truth. Feulner served for 37 years and Heritage's president before moving into an advisory role. Most recently, he helped organize and co-write Project 2025, the Heritage Foundation's policy recommendations for President Donald Trump's second term. Heritage's current president, Kevin Roberts, said Feulner's "unwavering love of country and his determination to safeguard the principles that made America the freest, most prosperous nation in human history shaped every fiber of the conservative movement – and still do. Whether he was bringing together the various corners of the conservative movement at meetings of the Philadelphia Society, or launching what is now the Heritage Strategy Forum, Ed championed a bold, 'big-tent conservatism.'" Feulner also had a lifetime association with the Delaware-based Intercollegiate Studies Institute, where he was a trustee emeritus, former chairman, and alumnus. In 2009, he received their lifetime achievement award. Believing that ISI's mission was indispensable to the future of the Republic, he said the organization "changed my whole life trajectory." He is survived by his wife, Linda, and their two children, and will be missed by conservatives nationwide.

REMEMBERING BILL TOLLEY. Retired businessman, author, and Republican Party enthusiast **Bill Tolley** passed away peacefully on July 13 at the age of 91. A graduate of West Virginia University, where he met and married his late wife, Patricia, Tolley subsequently moved to Melbourne, Florida, and worked for 32 years for a small company that became Harris Semiconductor. He was very active in the Republican Party and a long-time member of the Ronald Reagan Club and twice ran for Congress. Though unsuccessful in those efforts, his passionate campaigning on key issues prompted several other candidates and elected officials to address his concerns. The first time the Editor met him was at Tolley's home, where a large crowd of people had gathered to hear then-retiring seven-term U.S. Congressman Dave Weldon introduce his choice for a replacement – then Florida State Senator Bill Posey, who went on to serve eight terms in Congress. With a small group of friends, Tolley started and served as president of Heritage Communication. He wrote a book called "Don't Say I Can't," which he said was "The American Spirit in my life." Tolley had become an expert of government procurement policy and securing government contracts, and his book is the history of a man devoted to faith, family, business and politics, showing that God and country belong hand-in-hand. Tolley is survived by his son Jim, daughter Kim, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



IMMIGRATION SCAM. Three Louisiana chiefs of police – Chad Doyle in Oakdale, Glynn Dixon in Forest Hill, and Tebo Onishea in Glenmora – have been arrested by federal authorities and charged with helping hundreds of illegal immigrants gain legal status during the past decade. The illegals were charged \$5,000 apiece for bogus reports that they had been victims of armed robberies and thus could apply for “U” visas to give them and their families legal status. Also indicted were Chandrakant Patel, owner of convenience stores in Oakdale, who authorities said was the coordinator who recruited the migrants and paid the chiefs for the bogus reports; and Michael Slaney, a member of the Marshal’s Office in Oakdale.

IN SUPPORT OF TITLE IX ATHLETICS. Bowing to pressure from the Trump Administration and following an investigation by the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights – which found that the school violated Title IX by “allowing a male to compete in female athletic programs and occupy female-only intimate facilities” -- the University of Pennsylvania has agreed to strip transgender swimmer Lia Thomas of all of the titles won over female competitors. The university also will issue formal apologies to every biological female competitor who lost an event to Thomas. The resolution agreement signed by the university will require it to undertake a host of additional actions, including adopting “biology-based definitions for ‘male’ and ‘female’ under Title IX” and issuing a public statement that it will no longer allow biological men to compete in female athletic programs or occupy women-only locker rooms. Female athletes who were impacted by the inclusion of trans athletes in women’s sports in recent years cheered the decision. This includes outspoken former University of Kentucky swimmer Riley Gaines, who said, “It is my hope that today demonstrates to educational institutions that they will no longer be allowed to trample upon women’s civil rights and renews hope in every female athlete that their country’s highest leadership will not relent until they have the dignity, safety, and fairness they deserve.”



“60 MINUTES” LAWSUIT. Paramount Global, the parent company of CBS News, has agreed to settle a high-profile lawsuit brought by President Trump over a “60 Minutes” interview with former Vice President Kamala Harris that aired last fall. The agreement, worth a reported \$16 million, will be paid to Trump’s future presidential library and not to him directly. As part of the agreement, Paramount said “60 Minutes” will release transcripts of future interviews with eligible U.S. presidential candidates after they air, subject to redactions as required for legal or national security concerns. In the suit, the president’s attorneys argued producers for the program intentionally edited portions of the interview to cast Harris in a more positive light. “To paper over Kamala’s ‘word salad’ weakness, CBS used its national platform on ‘60 Minutes’ to cross the line from the exercise of judgment in

reporting to deceitful, deceptive manipulation of news,” the lawsuit read. After Trump and his allies repeatedly attacked the network over the edit, “60 Minutes” released a transcript of the interview and conceded the full version of an answer Harris gave to a question on the war in Gaza did not appear during the broadcast but instead online.”

AUDACITY AND IDIOCY



This month’s “winners” are:

--Former President Joe Biden, for admitting to the “New York Times” that while four large sets of pardons were issued with the use of the autopen in the final months of his term of office, he did not individually sign off on them but delineated the project to his staff. The “Times” noted that then-White House Staff Secretary Stefanie Feldman – not the President – was in charge of the autopen.

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--Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, for solo dissents in cases that have drawn attention for their sharp criticism of the Court’s majority, raising questions about her judicial approach and alignment with colleagues. Her opinions often stand apart, even from other liberal justices, suggesting a divergence that critics argue may weaken her influence on the bench.

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--Woke University of Houston History and Business Professor David McNally, for rambling in a panel discussion in Chicago about his ideas to not only abolish tuition and grades but also rename his school “George Floyd University.” These aren’t reforms; this is ideological insanity. Apparently in McNally’s mind, a university’s job is not education, but activism.

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--Officials at Bilton School in Rugby, England, for encouraging students to dress for a “Cultural Diversity Day,” wearing traditional clothing that reflected their nationality or family heritage, and participate in activities promoting inclusion and cultural appreciation – but traditional British clothing was not allowed. Some students did wear burkas or traditional Nigerian clothing. One girl, however, who proudly wore a Union Jack flag dress, was punished and even sent home. The incident, of course, quickly sparked public outrage, prompting school officials to issue an apology and pledge reforms. Regretting the situation, the officials said their goal was to ensure that every student, regardless of background, feels respected, and that pride in one’s heritage should never be suppressed.

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----The East Baton Rouge, Louisiana Parish Library, for firing Luke Ash, the lead pastor at Stevendale Baptist Church, from his library technician position because he refused to call a female trainee co-worker by her preferred male pronouns.

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP

--It was a too quick trip to America for Hamed Ramadan Bayoumi Aly Marie. His visit from Cairo ended very shortly after his arrival in the Washington, D.C. area, once a Customs and Border Patrol beagle named Freddie sniffed his luggage and more than 100 pounds of undeclared and prohibited agriculture products were found inside. That led Marie to violently kick Freddie and bruise his ribs, needing veterinary care. Handcuffed and arrested, Marie soon pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court "to harming animals used in law enforcement," was ordered to pay the vet bill, had his contraband seized, was banned from remaining in the United States, and was quickly placed on a flight back to Cairo.

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--Seven years ago, Washington Post journalist Thomas Pham LeGro won a prestigious Pulitzer Prize for exposing sexual misconduct by then-Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore. The media was full of praise for their colleague. Ironically, just last month, LeGro himself was arrested by the FBI for possession of 11 explicit videos of child pornography on his computer, and pieces of a smashed hard drive scattered around. So, what does the media say now? It's conspicuously quiet about one of its own.

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--On the anniversary of Roe v. Wade's overturn, former First Lady and Senator Hillary Clinton, took to Facebook to spin a sob story blaming President Trump's "far right Supreme Court majority" for the death of a woman named Amber Thurman, claiming she was denied emergency abortion care. But ironically, other Facebook participants explained Thurman died from sepsis after taking abortion pills and seeking hospital help. The problem, Facebook reported, was that doctors waited nearly 20 hours to perform a life-saving procedure, and that was too long of a waiting period.

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--Alleged Chrisrians Chip and Joanna Gaines – who gained a huge following when they created the popular "Fixer Upper" program on HGTV – are turning the tide by now creating a new program called "Back to the Frontier" that is set to appear on HBO. This program features same-sex marriage and surrogacy and has shocked many of their fans. In response, the Gaineses have doubled down by calling American Christians "hateful."

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--A trial in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, involved a woman charged with burglary and possessing burglary tools who forcibly entered her stepmother's home in an attempt to reclaim a number of items she was not allowed to have, including her late father's ashes. What makes the case newsworthy is that the defendant is Minnesota State Senator Nicole Mitchell, a Democrat and former television meteorologist. Following her conviction, Mitchell reportedly announced she would be resigning her seat in the State Senate.

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--Perhaps officials at the nation's largest teachers union, the National Education Association, need to go back to school themselves – to learn how to spell. At the group's annual convention, it pledged to "defend democracy against President Trump's embrace of 'facism' in NEA materials to correctly characterize his program and actions." Facism? Of course, the correctly spelled word – "fascism" – is not correct in Trump's case either.

EXPERTS' EXCERPTS



National Rifle Association newly elected President William Bachenberg, writing in "America's First Freedom" magazine on "It's a New Day at the NRA":

"I write my first column as President of the National Rifle Association with both great pride and humility. I'm proud of the enduring spirit of the millions of NRA members who have stood strong with the organization through the challenges of recent years, and I'm equally humbled to be tasked with helping you, as members, advance the organization into a future we can all take pride in. With Doug Hamlin's re-election as executive vice president and CEO and a new leadership team on the Board of Directors, it's time to make significant progress. Before we discuss that future, however, let me briefly introduce myself. I grew up on a farm in rural New Jersey. Consequently, I spent a lot of time in the field with my .22, plinking and chasing groundhogs. I moved from New Jersey to Pennsylvania in 1999. As a founder and successful businessman in industries ranging from high-tech to energy to life sciences, two keys to my success have been surrounding myself with outstanding individuals and building strategic relationships and partnerships. I am passionate about America's heroes – military y and first responders – and I have a strong interest in involving youth, women, minorities and disabled Americans in the shooting sports. I recently got involved in politics and stay attuned to important issues at both the federal and state levels. I've collaborated closely with President Donald Trump's elections and helped launch several of his initiatives involving sportsmen and women...I jump into any task with both feet, and this new role is no different. After the officer election results were announced, I, along with new First Vice President Mark Vaughan and Second Vice President Rocky Marshall – two honorable businessmen who have the Association's best interests at heart – immediately created a new vision statement for the NRA Board of Directors. That mission is: 'To restore the National Rifle Association as a trusted leader in firearms and hunter education, firearm safety, shooting competitions and constitutional advocacy through transparency, accountability and a renewed commitment to responsible gun ownership.' In my acceptance speech, I also announced several presidential directives for the initial months of my presidency. Among other things, these include forming a Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) to evaluate the NRA's operating structure, programs, funding methods and communications; holding monthly informal virtual meetings with the board, as three

meetings a year are insufficient to achieve our mission; and creating a Skunk Works-type group to develop cutting-edge solutions for new membership acquisition programs, improve member communications, enhance large donor engagement and leverage information technology for the good of the entire association. As you are well aware, we are at a pivotal point in our association's history as we reach out to new members, build on the trust of existing members and provide the gold-standard programs that American gun owners expect. As the nation's oldest civil-rights organization, the NRA plays a critical role in protecting and advancing freedom in America. With your help, we will restore this association to greatness and fulfill our task of perpetuating American liberty for our children and grandchildren. I'm keenly aware that actions speak louder than words, which you'll see as we move forward. Please trust me when I say it's a new day at the NRA."

Former U.S. Ambassador Stanley Escudero, writing on Democrat Self Demolition for his Volusia County, Florida, Republican audience:



"The Socialist left wing of the Democrat Party currently has the upper hand, the establishment leadership is hanging by a thread, and the clever, more moderate leaders are hunkering down. But the battle for power continues, and it looks as though it may not be over until we see the results of the midterm elections next year. The far left socialist/communist wing of the Democrat Party has seized upon the size of President Trump's victory and the nearly unbroken string of successes he has enjoyed since his inauguration to demand total control of Democrat opposition to our President and his MAGA agenda. Rallying behind the rhetoric of media savvy figures like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Jasmine Crockett and metastasizing their message via the enthusiastic coverage of the leftist legacy media, they have magnified their own political clout and that of their supporters to actually drive the direction of the Democrat Party. Even right-wing media like Fox News provides massive coverage to the pronouncements of the Democrat Left, if only to maximize conservative opposition to what has become the Democrat/Socialist Party. With the emergence of the communist New York mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani and the colossal propaganda barrage which surrounds him, the radical left is doing what it always does – demanding more – while pushing the Party's cowering leadership even father to its knees. Faced with a challenge from an intraparty juggernaut whose influence threatens to submerge all other elements of the Democrat coalition, a submergence which would destroy the Party as it has traditionally existed, the establishment leaders are caught between a rock and a hard place.... Right now Mamdani and the Left have the momentum. But he is not popular outside of New York City and, as a clear antisemite, he is anathema to most Jews and New York has the second largest Jewish population of any city in the world.... As Minority Leader of the Senate and a Jew, New York Senator Chuck Schumer is in even a more dangerous position. Although he is a

vociferous opponent of President Trump, he is not popular at home and he is up for re-election in 2028....If Schumer withholds his support for the communist anti-Israel candidate, he all but guarantees that AOC will oppose him in 2028 and he is likely to lose. But if Mamdani wins and Schumer has not supported him he will probably lose his position as Minority Leader and he will have to shift so far to the left that he will become vulnerable to a 2028 challenge from a more moderate Democrat or possibly even a Republican....As the energized Left and the fearful establishment engage in the cut and slash and the dodge and weave, the really clever Democrat leaders are quietly laying low. Consider Governors like Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania, Andy Beshear of Kentucky, or Wes Moore of Maryland. Any of these could be the Democrat nominee in 2028, and each is far more centrist than the Squad and their supporters, not to mention Biden Administration figures like Kamala Harris, Pete Buttigieg or Gretchen Whitmer. But they have to be careful. The smart move for them, and the move they are following, is to remain focused on their respective states and as silent as possible on national issues of Democrat Party leadership. They must avoid making enemies within their party at all costs because the final battle for leadership has yet to be fought and its winner will not become apparent until after the midterm elections next year...At this point it looks as though the Democrats will be pushing far left policies and candidates in those midterms. If they do so and lose, they will be discredited, even within their party, and there will be another leadership struggle.... It seems that the bloodletting for Democrat Party leadership will continue through the midterm elections with the basis for the outcome to be provided by Donald Trump and the votes of the people."



News Editor Bob Unruh, writing in "World Net Daily" on the Federal Government requiring warning about irreversible heart damage from COVID-19 shots:

"This update follows studies confirming persistent cardiac abnormalities months after vaccination, especially among males ages 12-24. The evidence has been plain since they were mandated by so many government agencies and private corporations during the reign of the COVID-19 pandemic: those mRNA shots could cause major heart troubles, especially in young men, by triggering myocarditis and pericarditis. Now the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has updated the safety labeling on all mRNA COVID-19 vaccines to warn those who take them to beware. COVID erupted, according to most measured assessments, from a Wuhan, Chinese, lab experimenting on horrific bat viruses late in 2019. It circled the globe and millions died. Robert F. Kennedy Jr., President Donald Trump's Health and Human Services secretary, has charged that ex-White House coronavirus adviser Anthony Fauci probably played a large role in the creation of the infection, and has called for a commission to investigate its origins. Kennedy, in an interview with talk show host Tucker Carlson, said Fauci, as chief of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, funded potentially dangerous research at the Wuhan

Institute of Virology in China. Asked why Joe Biden issued a pre-emptive pardon to Fauci in his last day in office, Kennedy said, 'I would be speculating, but I think that he had a lot of liability on creating coronavirus. He was funding precisely that research, and he was giving them the technology.' The FDA, in fact, now announced it has required and approved 'updates' to the prescribing information for mRNA shots from Pfizer and Moderna. The warnings are 'to include new safety information about the risks of myocarditis and pericarditis following administration of mRNA COVID-19 vaccines'....A report at the Gateway Pundit said the development follows 'months of mounting pressure over transparency and accountability regarding the true risks of these experimental injections.' It said, 'The update stems from new studies and data showing persistent cardiac abnormalities months after vaccination – especially among males aged 12 to 24.' Dr. Vinay Prasad of the Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research detailed 'how FDA data reveals a myocarditis rate of 27 per million in young men – a figure that experts say is significantly underreported due to passive surveillance methods and political suppression of adverse event reports,' the report said. 'More troubling, Dr. Prasad cited late gadolinium enhancement (LGE) on cardiac MRIs as proof of sustained, potentially irreversible myocardial injury.' According to Prasad, in one FDA-funded study, 60% of patients who suffered post-vaccine myocarditis still showed signs of LGE five months later."

American Security Council Foundation Senior Analyst Laurence F. Sanford, writing on "Chaos destabilizes American democracy," in his "Sanford on Security" publication:



"Chaos is funded by organized ideologues opposed to the American civilization of personal freedoms, property rights, and free markets. Chaos organizers include Mexican cartels, Chinese Communist Party apparats, Marxists, Islamists, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), unions, and US taxpayers. The Los Angeles riots started when Immigration and Customs Enforcement served warrants on a Mexican cartel's drug money laundering operation in LA's fashion district. Pre-planned protests organized by the NGO The Indivisible Project quickly morphed into riots and chaos. Printed signs and expensive bionic face shields were distributed out of a pickup truck driven by 'Teamsters for a Democratic Union' member Alejandra Theodoro Orellana, a purported member of the Brown Berets, a Chicano paramilitary organization founded in Los Angeles in the 1960s, modeled after the Black Panther Party. Largely dormant since the 1980s, the Brown Berets have shown recent activity advocating for Chicano rights and the return of most of the southwestern United States to Mexico. The 750,000-member California Service Employees International Union President, David Huerta, was arrested in LA for allegedly obstructing federal officers. President Barack Obama bestowed the National Champion of Change award on Huerta in 2014. The Indivisible Project is a progressive movement formed in 2016 in reaction to the

election of Donald Trump as President of the United States. The founders are Leah Greenburg and her husband, Ezra Levin. Both are graduates of Carleton College in Minnesota. Greenberg worked on the congressional staff of Democratic Representative Tom Perriello during the Obama Administration. Perriello later served as Executive Director of George Soros's Open Society Foundation. TIP's website states, 'We are inspired by the 3.5% principle: It only takes 3.5% of the population engaging in sustained strategic protest against authoritarianism to achieve significant political change.' Other protests against ICE and 'No Kings' were financed by the dark money network of Arabella Advisors, which includes the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, the Immigrant Legal Resources Center, the Immigrant Defenders Law Center, and Catholic Charities. Two of Arabella's top benefactors – the godfather of dark money, George Soros, and his Open Society, and shadowy Swiss-billionaire Hansjorg Wyss – are anchor investors in Indivisible's operations. LinkedIn founder and big tech oligarch Reid Hoffman funded Indivisible's Truth Brigade (a project to combat supposed right-wing disinformation). In addition to dark money funding, the organizations receive millions in state and federal grants.... Islamists seek world domination. American civilization is the main enemy. Protestors wearing keffiyeh head scarves, symbolizing Palestine, shouting 'Death to Israel' are really shouting 'Death to America.' It is not a coincidence that American flags are burned in riots.... Action to be taken: 1) Follow the money! The FBI, IRS, and Congress should investigate dark money funding. 2) Arrest, identify, and prosecute violent rioters, especially those in Antifa; 3) Any foreign national participating in violent protests should be expelled from the United States. 4) When cities and/or states are unable to control riots, federal authorities should be invoked to maintain public order."

Another Sanford article, this one on "China – Smokeless War:"

'The Chinese Communist Party is waging a worldwide "smokeless war" campaign to undermine the United States and Western Civilization. Using cyberattacks, ideological infiltration, information warfare, legal warfare, and global influence, smokeless war is a strategy of subversion that avoids kinetic military confrontations. The book 'Smokeless War' by author Manoj Kewairamani of the Takshashila Institution in Pakistan, describes how the CCP controlled the narrative and turned COVID-19 from a health crisis in China into an opportunity to create chaos and destabilize the world. Simply by having the world refer to the virus as COVID-19 instead of the Wuhan Virus, the CCP demonstrated power and influence in controlling the narrative. The CCP attributed the Wuhan Virus to a local outdoor food market when, in fact, the virus originated in the Wuhan Institute of Virology. The CCP concealed the virus from the world for months, allowing it to spread globally. Flights in China to and from Wuhan were banned, while international flights to and from Wuhan were allowed. The World Health Organization support of the CCP's positions furthered the smokeless war efforts. The

Chinese model of virus control, including masks, social distancing, quarantine, and totalitarian government control, was implemented at significant economic and societal cost throughout the West. Until 2019, the West's standard medical protocol was the isolation of the sick and for society to continue to operate freely. With the Wuhan Virus, the West followed the CCP totalitarian model of lockdowns. The CCP's smokeless unrestricted warfare against Western Civilization also includes: 1) Support of Russia's war effort in Ukraine; 2) Partnership with Iran, and 3) Spread of disinformation.... The United Front Work Department of the CCP enlists social actors (primarily people of Chinese descent) throughout the world to work for the interests of the CCP. They seek to influence incremental changes without being noticed. Examples of actions in the U.S. are Secret police stations; Online trolls to influence culture with CCP propaganda; Elite capture of corporate executives, Wall Street leaders, politicians, and university presidents; and Intimidate enemies of the CCP rule....Action to be taken includes: 1) Ban Chinese-owned TikTok and other media/cyber organizations that operate in the U.S. American-owned media cannot operate in China. 2) Support independent Chinese-language media. 3) Recognize and understand the threat of the CCP to America. 4) Increase U.S. federal foreign agent registration requirements. 5) Enhance counterintelligence capabilities, not only against the CCP but also against Islamist and Russian entities."



Hillsdale College Distinguished Fellow and Author Victor Davis Hanson, writing on American Virtues as the school's commencement address, in the "Imprimis" publication:

"Has anyone noticed how the eyes of the nation have now turned to Hillsdale? This recent interest surpasses even the past considerable attention that Hillsdale has garnered. One reason for this, of course, is that Harvard University suddenly wishes to be free of Washington, D.C. – at least as long as the current administration remains in office. And yet, in its confusion, Harvard still wishes to maintain over \$9 billion in federal subsidies. In answer, the public has been directing Harvard to consult Hillsdale, whose model disavowal of federal funding is long-standing and principled. Hillsdale's declination of government money does not hinge on any particular administration, Republican or Democrat, being in power. Instead, Hillsdale has taken the position that the federal government should not dictate to private colleges, and that to ensure its independence, Hillsdale will neither seek nor accept taxpayer subsidies. Another reason for the attention being given Hillsdale is that the Department of Education, in seeking to restore civic and classical education, looks in Hillsdale's direction....I would like to reflect on these three sometimes-forgotten American virtues – honor, tradition, and optimism – which are embodied on the Hillsdale campus and will serve to guide today's graduates in the years ahead....

Honor. You students of the Class of 2025 have been instructed in, have absorbed fully, and will pass on a code of honorable conduct that has become a natural part of who you

are. And it will remain with you on the long road ahead. Hillsdale has taught you not to worry if you are not one with the current majority of youth, because you are certainly one with most of the past – and future – generations. Your confidence in your code of ethical comportment and personal standards will be your legacy to help guide future cohorts to come. Because your values are real, permanent, and ancient, you will not be won over by those who justify their lapses of behavior by situational ethics or feelings of victimization. Without such individual vows of honesty and compassion for others, civilization in aggregate cannot be sustained. It instead descends into the age-old banes of tribalism, disunity, and chaos.... **Tradition.** The character of the Hillsdale student is nurtured and sustained by tradition – a word derived from the Latin noun *traditio*, meaning a transmission or handing down. So often in the age of presentism, we in our narcissism and arrogance confuse our technical and material successes with automatic moral progress. We seem unaware that thinkers of the past – as early as the Greek poet Hesiod, some 2,700 years ago – worried about just the opposite: they worried that material progress and greater wealth would result in moral regress, given the greater opportunities to gratify the appetites with perceived fewer consequences and to use sophistry to excuse the sin....**Optimism.** Your generation is now witness to a counterrevolution of sorts. Millions of Americans are asking for a reexamination of our culture and society with an eye to restoring ancient decency and looking to the good of past generations. Critical to this restoration is your optimism. Such positivity is the child of gratitude for all that we have inherited and all that we wish to enhance and pass on to others not yet born. With optimism and confidence in the citizenry, a civilization grows rather than shrinks. It becomes secure, not depressed or beset by self-loathing. It looks to the future with reverence for the past, rather than with shame or hatred.... So, you, the Class of 2025, as Hillsdale graduates, will be asked by your peers to provide guidance as never before. And I am confident that by your education, your code of comportment, your reverence, and your optimism, you will become natural leaders and exemplars in whatever paths you follow – in the era to come that will be America's greatest renaissance and also, I think, its most decent. Thank you, and may God bless you all."

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

"His critics said President Trump would find it impossible to pass his tax cut mega-bill through Congress, let alone get it done before the July 4 recess. But this summer has provided Mr. Trump with a succession of wins that were capped by the 218-214 vote to send the measure, dubbed the One Big Beautiful Bill, to his desk. With the bill's passage, he's turned most of his campaign promises into law just six months into his second administration. The sweeping tax cut legislation checks off many of the most important items on Mr. Trump's agenda, not the least of which was permanently extending the tax cuts for individuals he enacted in 2017. The measure also ends most taxes on tips, overtime and Social Security for older adults. The measure also tackles Medicaid, which has exploded in size and cost over the past decade. The

bill reins in the entitlement to exclude unauthorized immigrants and those who do not qualify for the benefits, which will curb Medicaid growth by \$1 trillion over the next decade. The measure adds \$46.5 billion to finish Mr. Trump's No. 1 campaign promise in 2016, which went unfulfilled during his first term: Building a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico."

--"**Washington Times**" writer **Susan Ferrechio**, on the President's accomplishments

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"President Trump's rescission package – cutting \$1.1 billion from PBS and NPR – has officially passed. It's a landmark victory for accountability.... For nearly four decades, the Media Research Center has been the tip of the spear in exposing the bias – now open activism – of so-called 'public' broadcasting. PBS and NPR were chartered to provide objective journalism. Instead, we got drag shows for kids, gushing coverage of Democrats, and silence or smears for conservatives. The MRC made it our mission to hold them accountable – or end their taxpayer gravy train. Today, that mission has turned into measurable results.... This wasn't an overnight win. It was the result of decades of persistent effort – beginning in a modest Alexandria townhome, where my father, L. Brent Bozell III, with just a black-and-white TV and a couple of VCRs, began building the nation's most trusted media watchdog. From there, through thousands of studies, congressional briefings, national media appearances, and Capitol Hill strategy sessions, MRC's work became the gold standard for calling out liberal bias.... The Left, their media allies, and the Democrats who've long used PBS and NPR for friendly press and campaign cover are furious – and they should be. This wasn't just a budget cut. It was a strike **against** a taxpayer-funded propaganda machine."

--**Media Research Center President David Bozell**, on defunding PBS and NPR

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"Russell Kirk gave the conservative movement its conviction. William F. Buckley, Jr. gave the conservative movement its voice. Edwin J. Feulner, Jr. gave the conservative movement its ideas.....Ed Feulner knew the limits of ideas and the necessity of family. He knew a narrow band of ideological warriors who loved people could infect those outside the warriors with a love of liberty. He was unafraid to cross party lines to advocate for conservative ideals, and he set up an institution willing to battle not just the left, but also Republicans who preached the convictions of the right without actually believing those convictions."

--Podcaster **Erick Erickson**, on the death of Heritage Foundation founder Ed Feulner

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"The U.S. government allocates approximately \$800,000 to Planned Parenthood. However, the name 'Planned Parenthood' is arguably a misnomer. Rather than helping families plan for parenthood, the organization has become known primarily for offering abortion services – effectively removing 'planning' from the process of bringing life into the world. Today, the scope of services has expanded further to

include government-funded gender reassignment procedures. This shift raises serious ethical and religious concerns for many Americans. Margaret Sanger, the founder of what would become Planned Parenthood, coined the term 'birth control' in 1914 and established the American Birth Control League. While her efforts were framed as advancing women's health, critics argue that these initiatives have evolved into something far beyond their original intent.... Most troubling is the fact that this funding comes from taxpayer dollars -- without direct consent or a national referendum. When did 'We the People' agree to finance practices that many view as morally objectionable and spiritually damaging? This is not simply a political issue – it is a moral and cultural one. At the very least, the American people deserve a voice in how their money is spent, especially when the policies in question touch so deeply on questions of faith, life, and human identity."

--Heritage Isle Republican Club member and dedicated civil servant **Alan Bergman**, writing on Planned Parenthood for ChristiansofBrevard.com

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There is a growing need for more electricity in the U.S. When you look at the greatest nations in the world, they all depend on large amounts of electricity. As we use new technology, the need increases, Moore's Law stated in 1965 When referring to the number of transistors used on Integrated circuits, he predicted they would double every two years. He was right. Along with this prediction, the need to power these chips would grow logarithmically. With the advent of AI, this has proven to be true at an accelerated rate. These devices create a great deal of heat and need constant cooling. One of the most effective ways to accomplish this is by running cool liquid through coils through circuit boards. Industry realizes this and is taking action to assure they will have enough electricity to meet this need. Google is investing in five nuclear reactors, while Microsoft is working to rejuvenate the Three Mile Island site. There is also a surge of interest in securing sites for proposed reactors, reminiscent of the land rush in the early American West. As technology marches on the automobile is changing its fuel to electric. This improves the air quality but puts a significant drain on the power grid. The power to charge the batteries comes from the grid which is already strained as exemplified by blackouts and brownouts. Wind and solar power are not the answer. They simply do not meet the demand and reliability needed. The next choice is nuclear power. Corporate America is investing in this need."

--Another Bergman thought, this one on the future of nuclear energy

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"In a bombshell revelation that the liberal media will undoubtedly downplay, former Biden aide Neera Tanden admitted under oath to the House Oversight Committee that she controlled Joe Biden's autopen during her tenure as White House Staff Secretary. This shocking confession confirms long-held suspicions about the Biden administration's rampant abuse of power and the deliberate concealment of the President's mental decline. While the left-wing press

scrambles to spin this as routine procedure, President Donald Trump has rightfully called it one of the ‘biggest scandals in American history,’ second only to the ‘rigged’ 2020 election. Tanden, a key figure in the Biden White House, testified behind closed doors on Tuesday, revealing she had authority over the autopen from October 2021 to May 2023.”

--**“The Patriot Chronicles” writer Daphne Moon**, on President Biden’s autopen scandal

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“Since my time as the Attorney General of Florida, fighting back against Big Tech’s influence on our children has been one of my top priorities. As a mother, I know how addictive some of these features and algorithms can be to our children, how simple our children can access unsafe material, and how easily these companies can use our children’s information to make apps even more addictive. Predators are currently using the internet to target our kids by exposing them to dangerous substances or age-inappropriate content through social media platforms – it cannot continue. I joined the Kids Online Safety Act to protect our children and hold these companies accountable. The bill requires social media platforms to put the well-being of children first by providing an environment that is safe by default. I’m proud to stand with the bipartisan group of colleagues who are advancing this bill in Congress and are committed to protecting future generations.”

--**Florida Senator Ashley Moody**, on Congress’ proposed Kids Online Safety Act

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“Baylor University will ‘rescind their acceptance’ of a \$643,000 grant to promote LGBT ‘inclusion and belonging’ in Christian churches, university President Linda Livingstone announced.... The school announced the grant in a June 30 press release (which has been deleted from their website), but nine days later, the Baptist university ‘voluntarily offered’ to return the money after pushback. The grant would facilitate LGBT-identifying young adults to discuss their experience of ‘institutional betrayal’ in churches, which ‘might involve exclusion from church activities, family estrangement, and painful conflicts.’ It would also aim to ‘nurture institutional courage and foster change. This dual purpose enabled Livingstone to provide a ‘nuanced rationale’ behind Baylor’s decision to cancel the project.”

--**“The Washington Stand” writer Joshua Arnold**, on “backlash” causing Baylor to cancel its LGBT grant

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“In what is considered to be a ‘slap on the wrist’ plea deal, Mary K. Brown, the Wisconsin nurse who amputated a patient’s frostbitten foot to allegedly display it in her family’s taxidermy shop, will avoid any prison time. She will only have to pay more than a little over \$400 in court costs.... The incident occurred back on May 27, 2022, at the Spring Valley Senior Living and Healthcare Campus. Doug McFarland, 62, the victim, was in hospice care at the center. McFarland had suffered a fall in his home in Couderay, Wisconsin. This resulted in his being admitted to the nursing care center. However, following his fall, his feet had frostbite and became necrotic.... Allegedly, Brown referred to McFarland’s feet as

‘mummy feet’ and proceeded to use bandage scissors to cut his foot. At the time, his foot was attached to his body by inches of tissue. However, Brown had no authorization to carry out the amputation. Furthermore, as per court documents, a nursing home administrator even directly told her not to perform the procedure..... Tragically, days after the amputation, Doug McFarland died.”

--**Suggest.com writer Alejandro Josan**, on nurse’s shocking amputation plot

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“The Trump administration said on July 18 that the United States is rejecting a World Health Organization (WHO) agreement that it says gives the global health body too much power. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced the formal rejection of the 2024 amendments to the International Health Regulations. ‘Nations who accept the new regulations are signing over their power in health emergencies to an unelected international organization that could order lockdowns, travel restrictions, or any other measures that it sees fit. In fact, it doesn’t even need to declare an emergency,’ Kennedy said. According to U.S. officials, there was a deadline this month to reject the amendments, or they would have become binding on the United States, even though the country withdrew from the WHO earlier this year at President Donald Trump’s direction.”

--**Epoch Times senior reporter Zachary Stieber**, on rejecting a World Health Organization agreement

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“With almost every day that passes, Britain is progressively embracing its own destruction by groveling to its mortal foes and dumping big-time on its most loyal friends. Prime Minister Keir Starmer’s Labour government is increasingly surrendering to Islamization while presiding over a poisonous culture of antisemitism that’s roaring out of control. For the past decade, more than 170,000 illegal immigrants have crossed the English Channel from France in small inflatable boats. Successive governments have failed to deal with this people-smuggling trade, which has provoked fury among the British public aghast at the unsustainable levels of immigration, both legal and illegal. Brits are also horrified by the impact of large numbers of Muslim migrants who refuse to integrate into British society.... Now the illegal immigrant trade poses an acute danger to British security. With MI5 issuing urgent warnings of an imminent threat of Iranian terrorism within Britain, there are indications the all-too-obvious risk of terrorists coming in across the Channel is real.”

--**“New York Post” writer Melanie Phillips**, on Britain waving the white flag to Islamization and illegal immigration

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“Good riddance to NPR and PBS, two institutions that, when faced with the real threat of Congress defunding their taxpayer-supported budgets, chose to double down on their blatant partisan bias rather than reform. Our relentless campaign helped deliver a decisive victory, forcing NPR, PBS, and their partisan allies into the private sector, where

they will face the consequences of their bias without the crutch of taxpayer dollars. As the walls closed in, their final act was not to seek balance or rebuild trust but to entrench themselves further in a singular, left-leaning worldview, proving they were never about journalism but about pushing an agenda.... For too long, these outlets have masqueraded as neutral stewards of public interest while peddling one-sided narratives that alienate millions of Americans on their dime.”

--**Act For America founder Brigitte Gabriel**, on the defunding of NPR and PBS

“What is in the newly declassified information is something we didn’t have before – and that is the fact that the intelligence community was concocting this narrative that the President colluded with the Russians; that the President’s son was holding secret meetings with the Russians. All of these lies that were never true.....The only people who are suggesting that the Director of National Intelligence would release evidence to try to boost her standing with the President are the people in this room, who consistently try to sow distrust and chaos among the President’s cabinet. And it is not working.... This is truly one of the greatest political scandals in American history. It’s well past time for those awards to be stripped from the journalists who received them. It is not journalism to propagate political disinformation in service of the Democrat Party.”

--**White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt**, on journalists receiving Pulitzer Prizes for the fake news of President Trump colluding with the Russians

UPCOMING BREVARD COUNTY EVENTS

- August 1: Federated Republican Women in Action meeting, Memaw’s BBQ, Palm Bay, 11 am.
- August 6: Brevard Federated Republican Women meeting, Space Coast Convention Center, Cocoa, 11:30 am.
- August 7: Heritage Isle Republican Club meeting, Heritage Isle Clubhouse, 10 am.
- August 11: Space Coast Patriots meeting, Merritt Island library, 6 pm.
- August 19: North Brevard Republican Club meeting, American Police Hall of Fame, Titusville. 6 pm.
- August 21: Florida Republican Assembly Brevard meeting, 705 Harrison Avenue, Titusville, 6:30 pm.
- August 21: Republican Women’s Club of Brevard meeting, Suntree Country Club, 11 am.
- August 21: Space Coast Young Republicans meeting, Whiskey Business in Melbourne, 6:30 pm.
- August 23: Space Coast Republican Club meeting, Red Lobster, Merritt Island, 11:30 am.

- August 25: Ronald Reagan Club meeting, Oceanside Community Church, Satellite Beach, 6 pm
- August 25: Brevard Republican Executive Committee meeting, Space Coast Association of Realtors Building, Melbourne, 7 pm.
- August 30: Republican Liberty Caucus of Brevard Constitution Day Dinner, Radisson at the Port, Port Canaveral, 6:30 pm.

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.



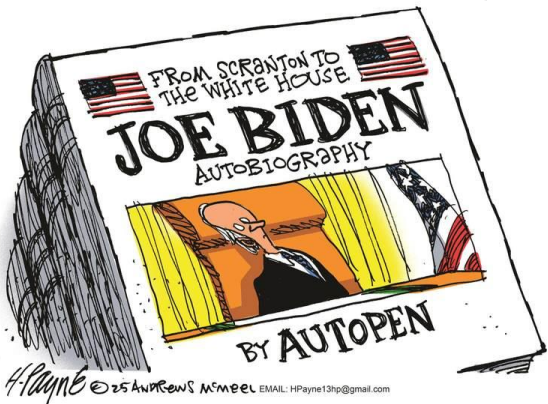
COMICAL CLOSERS

A politician running for office was asked about his policy on liquor. He answered, “If you mean the demon drink that poisons the body, ruins the mind, destroys the family and creates criminals, then I’m against it! But if you mean the beautiful drink used for a wedding toast, the foundation of a fun Friday night and the biggest source of tax revenue to fund needy orphans, then I’m for it! And I won’t change my mind, no matter what you say.”

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A worldwide survey was conducted by the UN. The only question asked was: "Would you please give your honest opinion about solutions to the food shortage in the rest of the world?" The survey was a huge failure. In Africa they didn't know what "food" meant. In Eastern Europe they didn't know what "honest" meant. In Western Europe they didn't know what "shortage" meant. In China they didn't know what "opinion" meant. In the Middle East they didn't know what "solution" meant. In South America they didn't know what "please" meant. And in the USA they didn't know what "the rest of the world" meant.

SEVERAL PAGES OF PERTINENT POLITICAL CARTOONS AND PHOTOS FOLLOW



The Newsom team's recommendation after Gavin's latest 4-hour podcast interview.



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PINOCCHIO, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP WRITING SPEECHES FOR GOV. NEWSOM ABOUT THE L.A. PROTESTS...

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"Our forefathers were smart to create three branches of government — so there's always someone else to blame."

Poll: Only 36% of Democrats say they're proud to be American



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