

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

July 2021

President's Byline



In Cuba, brave young people are risking their lives to protest for freedom; they are waving American flags and shouting, "Freedom, Homeland, and Life!" After about 60 years of Communism the people have had enough. Interestingly, it is the young generations that are leading the call. What led the people to finally rise up and protest?

About two years ago Cuba got the internet. When the young people were able to get online they saw what life was like for their Cuban American cousins, and they got to see what freedom and capitalism looks like. Seeing what freedom and capitalism looked like opened the young peoples minds to the lies that the government had been telling them. Musicians made YouTube videos of songs calling for the end of the Castro government and Communism. One video that became very popular is

Patria y Vida and can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/pP9Bto5IOEQ> with English closed captions. Other people started criticizing Communism online.

The other thing that brought these protests on is the lack of food. Cuba is having a major food shortage, and people are going hungry.

What I find amazing is that while the young people of Cuba are trying to fight Communism, young Americas are for it. The Marxist organization Black Lives Matter has come out to defend the Cuban totalitarian government. President Biden only sent out a short statement on the protests. AOC blames the US for the protests and Cuba's problems, even though the Cubans protesting seem to be very pro American. Perhaps we need to send all the American Marxist to Cuba for a year, and have them live like the poor Cubans. They can get a real taste of what it is like to really live under Communism. I don't think they would last a month.

I don't know if the protesting in Cuba will help the people gain freedom. The government has already started arresting protesters and people who speak out against the government. The Castro family has held power for 60 years, and they are not going to give that power up without a fight.

Jennifer Groszman

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Calendar of Events

- August Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 3rd
11:30 am
Napolis in West Plano
- PRC Meeting -August 17th
11:30 am
Saltgrass Steakhouse
Plano East

PRW August Meeting



PRW August Meeting

August 17, 2021

Speaker: Cody Weaver

PISD Board Member, Place 7, 2019-2023

Critical Race Theory in Schools

Cody Weaver was elected to serve his first term as trustee in May 2019. He graduated from Texas A&M University with a bachelor of science in agricultural leadership and development and minor in business administration. Mr. Weaver was the recipient of the 2009 North East ISD Humanities and Social Sciences Award that recognizes academic achievement, leadership and community service.

Mr. Weaver is a residential real estate associate broker at JP & Associates Realtors and has been practicing real estate since 2014. He currently sits on the Texas Association of Realtors Professional Standards Committee and Education Sub-Committee.

Mr. Weaver and his wife Marny have been Plano residents since 2017, and Marny is a proud graduate of Plano Senior High. They welcomed their first child in August 2019.

Location : Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074

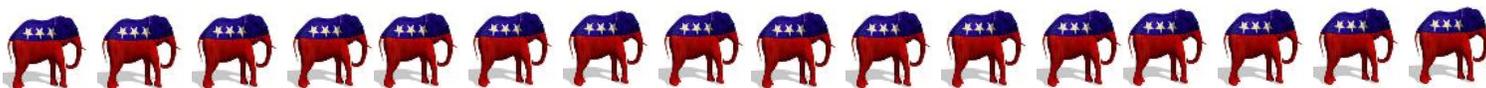
Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

**Lunch is available for \$25.00 with RSVP, cash or check payable to PRW on arrival
RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, August 13, 2021**

RSVPs to attend without lunch may be made up to 5pm the Monday before the Tuesday meeting
We welcome guests and visitors to our General Meeting. Members, please bring a friend!

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

Include your name in your email and specify whether you will/will not be having lunch



Legislative Report



21.5 million. That's how many lethal doses of fentanyl Texas law enforcement seized from illegal immigrants trying to cross the border in just the first four months of 2021. This is the equivalent of 95 pounds. 2.2 pounds of fentanyl can kill **500,000 people**.

Biden's open border policies are deadly, and the crisis is only getting **worse**. Illegal border crossings have increased every single month since Biden became President.

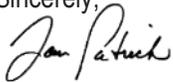
Reports indicate that in the month of June alone, 188,829 illegal immigrants were apprehended trying to cross the U.S.-Mexico border. That is a **471% increase over last June**.

This is the sad result of Biden's own actions. By ending President Trump's Remain in Mexico policy, halting construction of the border wall, instructing border agents to release adult migrants from custody without set court dates, etc., Biden has ended effective border policies and caused the crisis.

Biden's actions reversed progress almost immediately and it is now imperative that Texas takes action. In Texas, we are doing everything we can to keep our communities safe. This includes increasing border security funding to \$1.2 billion and allocating a \$250 million down payment for a border wall.

Border security has always been a top priority for me, and we will do all that we can to fix the crisis and return stability to our border communities.

Please continue to keep our state and our nation in your prayers. May God bless you and your family, and may He continue to bless the greatest state of all—Texas.

Sincerely,


Dan Patrick, Lieutenant Governor of Texas

Governor Abbott Orders Texas National Guard To Assist Texas Department Of Public Safety In Making Arrests Related To Border Crisis

July 27, 2021 | Austin, Texas | [Press Release](#)

Governor Greg Abbott today [sent a letter](#) to Major General Tracy R. Norris, Adjutant General of the Texas National Guard, ordering guardsmen to assist the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) with arresting individuals for state charges related to the border crisis.

During the [Governor's Border Security Summit in Del Rio in mid-June](#), the Governor announced that individuals who commit criminal trespass or other state offenses will be subject to arrest and confinement. This order builds upon the [Governor's disaster declaration](#) that directs DPS to enforce all federal and state criminal laws including for criminal trespassing, smuggling, and human trafficking.

"To respond to this disaster and secure the rule of law at our Southern border, more manpower is needed—in addition to the troopers from DPS and soldiers from the Texas National Guard I have already deployed there—and DPS needs help in arresting those who are violating state law," reads the letter. "By virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, I hereby order that the Texas National Guard assist DPS in enforcing Texas law by arresting lawbreakers at the border."

[Read the Governor's letter to General Norris.](#)



Legislative Report



CONGRESSMAN VAN TAYLOR

JULY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

I. District Update:

- **Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC):** The Congressional Youth Advisory Council offers students a unique opportunity to learn about the federal government, discuss public policy and local Collin County issues, and work with their federal representative and congressional staff while serving their community. This highly competitive program, consisting of six separate events over the course of the 2021 – 2022 school year, is open to high school students residing in Texas' Third Congressional District. Applications must be received by Congressman Taylor's Collin County office by the Thursday, August 5, 2021 deadline.
- **Congressional Veteran Commendation:** The Office of Congressman Taylor is currently accepting nominations for the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation. This nominations-based program honors veterans from TX-03 for their wartime sacrifices and peacetime community involvement. Completed applications are due no later than Monday, August 9.
- **Passports:** Due to drastic increases in demand, the U. S. Department of State is dealing with increased passport processing times. It is recommended individuals in need of a new or renewed passport apply six months in advance of travel plans. Currently, routine passports are taking 18 weeks and expedited passports are taking an estimated 12 weeks for processing. Those experiencing Life or Death Emergencies or passport processing times exceeding normal processing times are encouraged to reach out to the Congressman's Plano office at (972) 202-4150.

2. Congressman Taylor Appointed to the House Committee on Financial Services Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets

- On June 14, 2021, Representative Taylor was named to the influential Financial Services Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship, and Capital Markets.
- The subcommittee maintains jurisdiction over policy and programs related to the securities industry, investor protections, and U.S. capital markets. The subcommittee also oversees the Securities and Exchange Commission and self-regulatory organizations, such as the New York Stock Exchange, that regulate securities markets.

3. Congressman Taylor Helps Pass Amendment to remove U.S. Highway 75 HOV Lane

- On June 30, 2021, Representative Taylor joined forces with Representative Colin Allred to help pass Representative Van Duyne's amendment to the House surface transportation reauthorization bill.
- The HOV lane built on U.S. Highway 75 was built using federal congestion mitigation and air quality (CMAQ) program funds. Currently, there is no way for states or localities to remove HOV lanes built with CMAQ funds even if the lanes end up being more harmful than helpful.
- This amendment would allow Texas to coordinate with the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to conduct a review of the HOV lane on U.S. 75 to determine if it is working as intended and, if appropriate, to remove the HOV facility.

4. Congressman Taylor Joins Letter to Reopen the House of Representatives

- On June 14, 2021, Representative Taylor joined a group of colleagues in urging Speaker Pelosi to fully reopen the House of Representatives.
- While the city of Washington, DC has fully reopened and businesses, venues, and institutions across America have all welcomed back people, the U.S. Capitol and the House of Representatives remain closed to the public. This letter urges for the reopening of the U.S. Capitol and House of Representatives in order to get back to serving the American people.

To stay up to date on legislation or to let Congressman Taylor know your thoughts on critical issues,

please sign up for Congressman Taylor's e-newsletter at VanTaylor.house.gov and follow him on social media @RepVanTaylor

Lincoln Day Dinner Photos





AMERICANISM REPORT

by Jessica Bartnick



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE COAST GUARD

August 4th is when the United States celebrates the founding of the Coast Guard. On August 4, 1790, the Coast Guard was formed to protect our coasts from smugglers entering the country by way of the sea, to enforce the payment of tariffs and trade laws. Today there is much more expected of the Coast Guard's great men and women who fight to defend our coast. They are the oldest continuous maritime service in the country. Their motto is *Semper Paratus*, or Always Ready, Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty are the values of the Coast Guard.

On August 4, 1790, Alexander Hamilton requested Congress to approve funding for the construction of ten vessels to protect the coast of the United States. On the same day, President George Washington signed the Tariff Act that authorized the construction of these vessels. Until 1798, when the Navy was reinstated, these ten vessels were the only naval force in America. At this point in time the Coast Guard was called The Revenue Cutter Service.

In 1915, The Revenue Cutter Services merged with the U.S. Life Saving Service, and together they were officially renamed the Coast Guard! The Coast Guard serves in the Department of Homeland Security.

The Coast Guard defends more than 100 miles of the United States' coastline and inland waterways. They also safeguard an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which encompasses 4.5 million square miles. The Coast Guard has an expansive amount of land that they cover and do so with America on their mind.

On an average day the Coast Guard can perform the following:

- Conduct 45 search and rescue missions
- Save 10 lives
- Save over \$1.2M in property
- Seize 874 pounds of cocaine and 214 pounds of marijuana
- Facilitate movement of \$8.7B worth of goods and commodities through the Nation's Maritime Transportation System

And so much more

Call your friends and family that have served or currently serve in the Coast Guard and wish them a happy birthday. And make sure to tell them how thankful we are for their service.

(Reference- gocoastguard.com)





Constitutional Minute Series

Necessary and Proper, Not Anything and Everything

By: Mike Maharrey | Published on: Sept. 3, 2014

Often called the “elastic clause,” the necessary and proper clause simply states that Congress has the power, “To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

In Federalist 33, Alexander Hamilton asserted that the necessary and proper clause (along with the supremacy clause) merely stated a truism and gave no additional power to the federal government.

It may be affirmed with perfect confidence that the constitutional operation of the intended government would be precisely the same, if these clauses were entirely obliterated, as if they were repeated in every article. They are only declaratory of a truth which would have resulted by necessary and unavoidable implication from the very act of constituting a federal government, and vesting it with certain specified powers.

Of course, that was before he pulled a classic bait-and-switch after ratification and used it to justify the power to charter a national bank. Thomas Jefferson vehemently opposed Hamilton’s suddenly loose construction.

The Constitution allows only the means which are ‘necessary,’ not those which are merely ‘convenient’ for effecting the enumerated powers. If such a latitude of construction be allowed to this phrase as to give any non-enumerated power, it will go to everyone, for there is not one which ingenuity may not torture into a convenience in some instance or other, to some one of so long a list of enumerated powers. It would swallow up all the delegated powers, and reduce the whole to one power, as before observed. Therefore it was that the Constitution restrained them to the necessary means, that is to say, to those means without which the grant of power would be nugatory.

During the Virginia ratifying convention, George Nicholas testified to the fact that the necessary and proper clause does nothing to expand powers, attempting to soothe the minds of those who feared the federal government would take it that way.

Suppose it had been inserted at the end of every power, that they should have the power to make laws to carry that power into execution; would this have increased their powers? If therefore it could not have increased their powers, if placed at the end of each power, it cannot increase them at the end of all. This clause only enables them to carry into execution the powers given them, but gives them no additional power.

So what exactly does “necessary and proper” mean?

Legal documents delegating power commonly contain a necessary and proper clause, and it has a precise, specific definition that was well-understood in the founding era. Basically, it allows an agent to exercise powers not explicitly spelled out in the legal document, but necessary to exercise the specific authority given to him.

For example, let’s say I write out a contract granting you the authority to run my grocery store. I don’t need to specify that you have the power to pay a guy to clean the floors, or hire a mechanic to fix a freezer when it goes down. Those powers are necessary and proper to running a grocery store. But necessary and proper powers don’t give you the right to give away all of the food items in my store and turn it into a pornography shop.

According to constitutional scholar [Rob Natelson](#), as the framers understood the concept, any necessary and proper power remains constrained by specific criteria. The power must be: Necessary to carry out the original purpose – like purchasing corn from a farmer to sell in the grocery store.

A customary way of carrying out the original purpose. The guy running my grocery couldn’t get rid of all the food and sell porno because that would clearly not constitute a customary way of running a grocery store

An incidental power can never rise to a level greater than the original power delegated. My grocery store manager would have the authority to pay a mechanic for fixing the broken freezer. But he wouldn’t have the power to sell the building and invest the money in the stock market for me.

The necessary and proper clause does not add anything to the authority already delegated to Congress. It does not allow for the creation of new powers. The clause simply reaffirms that the federal government possesses the flexibility to exercise the enumerated powers already delegated.

Nothing more.

Nothing less.

In Memory
BJ Correu
April 24, 1934 - April 13, 2021



It is with great sadness that we have just learned of the death of BJ Correu, a member of Plano Republican Women since 2012. I knew she was having some health problems, but she often commented on emails that I sent out and unfortunately due to COVID she was unable to attend our meetings in 2020. She was a great lady and she will be missed.

Catherine Gibb

Beverly Joan “BJ” (Blanchard) Bankston-Correu formerly of Fairview, Texas passed away on April 13, 2021, in Cypress Texas at the age of 86. She was born on April 24, 1934 to Joseph Adrian Blanchard and Bonnie Beverly (Jones) Blanchard in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. BJ married James Marshall Correu on March 6, 1993 in Dallas, Texas. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in McKinney, Texas and was the founder and active member of the Republican Club at Heritage Ranch. BJ and her late husband Jimmy moved to Heritage Ranch in 2003 where she actively participated in the Theater Guild and numerous other activities.

BJ is survived by her daughters, Bronwyn “Paige” Bankston and husband, Adam Villa of Houston, Texas and René Michele Bankston and husband, Chris Parks of Dallas, Texas; grandchildren, Cody Christopher Connaughty and wife, Tori of Hockley, Texas and Shane Lawrence Connaughty and wife, Devyn of Katy, Texas; great-grandchildren, Wesley Austin Connaughty, Owen Connaughty, Beau Connaughty, Peyton Connaughty, and Levi Connaughty to be born in in October; nephews, Adrian “Kim” Valentine and wife, Sherry of Peel, Arkansas, David Blanchard, Frank Blanchard and wife, Kristie, all of Malakoff, Texas and Michael Blanchard and wife, Kate of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; sisters-in-law, Merseni Blanchard of Malakoff, Texas and Rosel Blanchard of Baton Rouge, Louisiana;

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Bonnie Blanchard; husband, James Marshall Correu; brothers, “Nap” Blanchard, Frank Blanchard, “Skipper” Blanchard and sister, Elsie.

BJ was laid to rest on Saturday April 24, 2021 in Ridgeview Memorial Park.

Big Tech Isn't A Public Health Issue, It's A Public Health Emergency

By Emily Jashinsky, July 8th, 2021

What's so dangerous about this particular emergency is that the source of the emergency is dulling our senses, coaxing us into complacency with a carefully curated stream of colorful notifications.

The following is a transcript of my radar on June 30th's edition of "Rising" on Hill TV.

Too often we think of Big Tech as primarily an antitrust issue or primarily a censorship issue, with little regard for the interplay between both those problems. What's worse, the politics of Big Tech drags us into convoluted legalese and dense policy discussions that distract from the more immediate concern, which is both more important and easier to win on. It's a major public health threat on a scale we've never seen before.

A ruling against Facebook this week struck "a blow to Big Tech's claims of complete immunity from liability under Section 230," as "the Texas Supreme Court ruled last week Facebook can be held liable for state civil claims of sex trafficking on its platform," per my friend Rachel Bovard's take in The Federalist.

"Section 230 does not withdraw from states the authority to protect their citizens from internet companies whose own actions — as opposed to those of their users — amount to knowing or intentional participation in human trafficking," Judge Blacklock wrote.

It's as good an example as any that Facebook and Mark Zuckerberg's lauded promises to facilitate societal harmony with their technology have fallen flat.

To focus narrowly on Zuckerberg, it's pretty stunning to search interviews he gave back in 2007 and 2008, which seems like ages ago but proves how dramatically life has changed in such a short period of time. Listen to what he told Wired exactly 12 years ago, on June 29, 2009.

When I started Facebook from my dorm room in 2004, the idea that my roommates and I talked about all the time was a world that was more open. We believed that people being able to share the information they wanted and having access to the information they wanted is just a better world: People can connect better with the people around them, understand more of what's going on with the people around them, and understand more in general. Also, openness fundamentally affects a lot of the core institutions in society — the media, the economy, how people relate to the government and just their leadership. We thought that stuff was really interesting to pursue.

To call Zuckerberg's utopian technocratic fantasy naive would not do it justice. Now, that naivete has morphed into cynicism as Zuck and his fellow oligarchs mine the carcass of their long-gone fantasy for profit.

The Backpage example Rachel wrote about in the context of 230 is an instructive one. They never anticipated how their inventions would be used. But now they know, and they're completely at a loss for how to deal with it. That's because dealing with it meaningfully would involve taking a huge hit.

The excesses of the openness Zuckerberg and his fellow travelers promised, like the Backpage case Rachel highlighted, are really the tip of the iceberg.

Tech can be abused, sure, but it's also fundamentally abusive. Yesterday, GQ published an interview with Aza Raskin. Raskin invented the infinite scroll. He doesn't use social media much. "For many people," he said, "it's become part of their job or the way they support themselves. Part of the way they stay in contact with their friends or their family, or loved ones around the world."

"That's what's inhumane—that we are forced to use systems which are fundamentally unsafe for the things that we need," Raskin added. "Technology is not just ripping apart the social fabric, it's replacing our social fabric with something much more brittle."

TikTok is a good example. Surely you've encountered an example of the trendy explainer videos that gain viral momentum. They expose many of our students and our teachers and our parents as vapid clowns with an incredible amount of self-confidence. But TikTok rewards it because social media engineers have consciously programmed us to react in ways that increase engagement on bad content, thereby incentivizing the bad mindsets that create and reward it.

This, again, is downstream of the public health point. Raskin co-founded the Center for Humane Technology along with Tristan Harris, who you may remember from the Netflix documentary, The Social Dilemma. Harris has compared tech to "Big Tobacco for our brains," in the sense that it's addictive and the industry profits off our addiction. But tobacco wasn't a major mode of communication, political discourse, professional life, and social life all in one.

"Three billion people have a brain implant that's a remotely controlled brain, because — especially in the coronavirus times — we are relying on these things to makes sense of what's reality out there in the world," Harris said last fall. "They have become the fabric for our sense-making and the fabric of our choice-making, the fabric of how children develop."

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Continued from Page 9

University of Michigan Professor Daniel Kruger told The Guardian, "There are whole departments trying to design their systems to be as addictive as possible. They want you to be permanently online and by bombarding you with messages and stimuli try to redirect your attention back to their app or webpage."

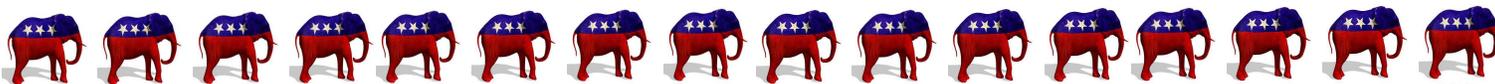
We're barely 20 years into this grand experiment and the guinea pigs aren't faring so well. Harris and Rakin's group keeps a ledger of harms on their website, summarizing peer-reviewed studies on tech's harms. I'm just going to read a few of them.

- The level of social media use on a given day is linked to a significant correlated increase in memory failure the next day."
- Three months after starting to use a smartphone, users experience a significant decrease in their mental arithmetic scores (indicating a reduction in their attentional capacity) and a significant increase in social conformity"
- The greater your level of Facebook addiction, the lower your brain volume."
- The mere presence of a mobile phone can disrupt the connection between two people, leading to reduced feelings of empathy, trust, and a sense of closeness."
- The more that someone treats an AI (such as Siri) as if it has human qualities, the more they later dehumanize actual humans, and treat them poorly."

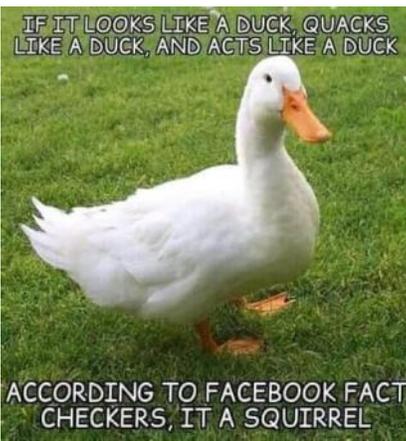
From the printing press to the mirror to the camera, human life has long been disrupted in dramatic ways by technologies and inventions, many of which we now recognize as positive creations. But smartphones and social media are rewiring our brains on an enormous scale, and not for the better. The research is mounting. This is bigger than Section 230. It's bigger than antitrust, although it's certainly still partially a consequence of market dominance.

This isn't just a public health issue. It's a public health emergency. But what's so dangerous about this particular emergency is that the source of the emergency is dulling our senses, coaxing us into complacency with a carefully curated stream of colorful notifications. It's sapping our ability to fight back, and that's why we're bickering about Facebook regulations on Facebook and I'm here whining about it on YouTube. They've already won, which means they're rich enough to get the hell off their own services. That's exactly what they're doing.

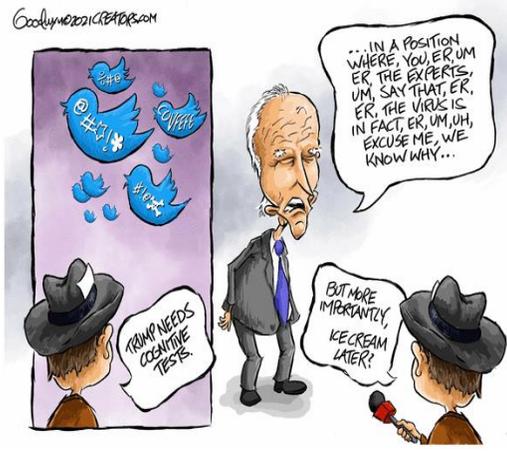
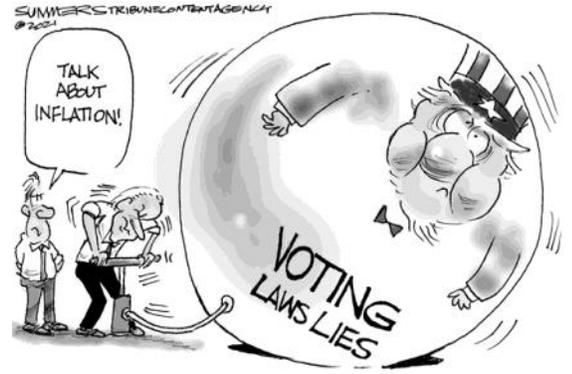
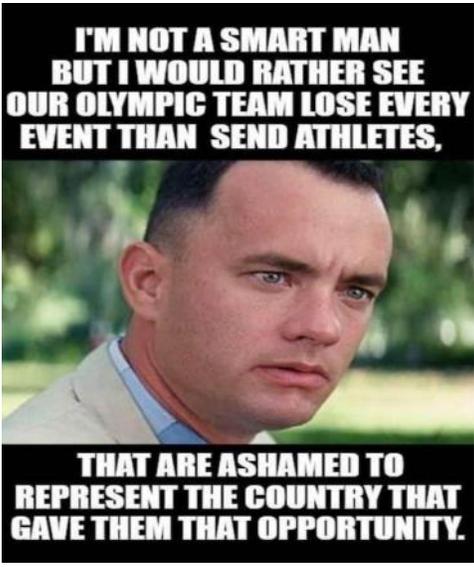
Emily Jashinsky is culture editor at The Federalist. You can follow her on Twitter @emilyjashinsky .



TEXAS FOLDS UNDER PRESSURE!!!
Hard to believe, but Texas has followed the order of that idiot newspaper up in New York and released a map of the location of all its gun owners. Their locations are marked by red dots on the map below.



Political Cartoons

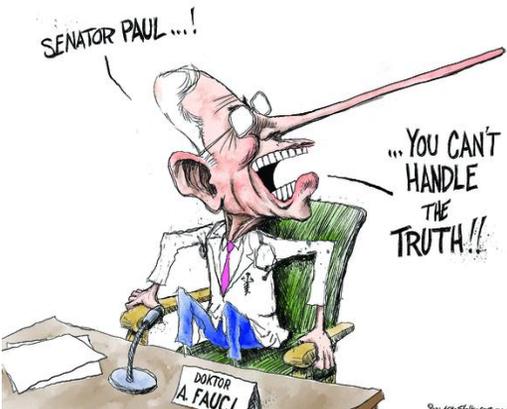


Yesterday I placed my shotgun on the front porch, gave it six shells, and noticing it had no legs, placed it in a wheelchair to help it get around.

While I was gone, the mailman delivered my mail, the boy across the street picked up my yard, a girl walked her dog down the street, and quite a few cars stopped at the stop sign near my house.

After 10 hours, I checked on the shotgun. It had not rolled outside and it had not killed anyone in spite of many opportunities that had been presented.

Can you imagine how surprised I was, with all the hype about how dangerous guns are and how they kill people? Either the killing is by people misusing guns or I'm in possession of the laziest gun in the world. So now I'm off to check on my spoons, because I hear they make people fat.



"Fiscal Cliff" put in a much better perspective.

Lesson # 1:

- * U.S. Tax revenue: \$2,170,000,000,000
- * Fed budget: \$3,820,000,000,000
- * New debt: \$ 1,650,000,000,000
- * National debt: \$14,271,000,000,000
- * Recent budget cuts: \$ 38,500,000,000

Let's now remove 8 zeros and pretend it's a household budget:

- * Annual family income: \$21,700
- * Money the family spent: \$38,200
- * New debt on the credit card: \$16,500
- * Outstanding balance on the credit card: \$142,710
- * Total budget cuts so far: \$38.50

Got It ??.....OK now,

Lesson # 2:

Here's another way to look at the Debt Ceiling:

Let's say, You come home from work and find there has been a sewer backup in your neighborhood.... and your home has sewage all the way up to your ceilings.

What do you think you should do

Raise the ceilings, or remove the shit?

Fixing the Woke Pentagon Starts Now

By Peter Knickerbocker, July 4, 2021

Our armed forces are being led by people not tethered to reality. In testimony before Congress recently, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff defended Critical Race Theory. He said he wants to understand white rage. He thinks he is a well-read critical thinker. If General Milley genuinely wants to understand himself better, I recommend *White Guilt* by Shelby Steele.

Critical Race Theory, diversity ideology, radical feminism, and other woke nonsense are devastating military lethality and readiness. Even though the beginnings of this trend go back decades, the denial of the differences between the sexes, and the more radical outgrowths of those false ideas, have become more intense than ever. As the army of Communist China seeks to make its soldiers more masculine, our army seeks to attract more women and fewer men. This trend has been chronicled, and its grave damage explained, by Brian Mitchell (*Women in the Military*, 1998), Stephanie Gutmann (*The Kinder, Gentler Military*, 2000), Kingsley Browne (*Co-Ed Combat*, 2007), Robert L. Maginnis (*Deadly Consequences*, 2013), and James Hasson (*Stand Down*, 2019). The argument against women in combat roles, and in-theater combat support roles, is simply overwhelming.

We can no longer be squeamish about identifying those parts of the armed forces where the presence of women damages unit cohesion, lethality, and readiness. The Defense Department should be led by people who understand this and will push back on policies that have no factual basis but are grounded in pure leftist ideology. The White House legislative operation needs that kind of wisdom as well.

Prospective appointees for 2025 must be committed to rooting out Critical Race Theory (CRT) wherever it exists in the federal government. Any program that uses terms like *diversity*, *inclusion*, or *equity* is derived from Marxist critical theory and is intended to bring division by replacing individual excellence with identity group "equity." As with the term *infrastructure*, the left has tried to redefine *equity* as something quite different from the longstanding definition.

This year, Lt. Col. Matthew Lohmeier of the U.S. Space Force wrote an incredible, concise book that manages to trace the history of CRT from its Marxist, and pre-Marxist, origins; contrast it with the American ideal; and disclose how it is spreading through the Defense Department along with the rest of American culture. He gives us the chilling similarities, although muted, to the Cultural Revolution in Communist China in the 1960s. His book, *Irresistible Revolution: Marxism's Goal of Conquest and the Unmaking of the American Military*, should be read by every person appointed in the next administration.

The Trump campaign transition planning in 2016 and the subsequent White House personnel operation had many problems. It recruited too many "content-free Republicans" and made other critical mistakes. The story was told well last December by Rachel Bovard at the American Conservative. As a conservative Trump appointee in the Pentagon, I can say Rachel's account is consistent with my experience. I will leave it at that. That President Trump had one of the two most successful presidencies since Theodore Roosevelt is a testament to his ability to drive policy despite a shortage of loyal appointees.

It is often said that "personnel is policy." Now is the time to start identifying the people who will faithfully and competently serve the next president. And not just Senate-confirmed personnel, but all the approximately 4,000 people who serve at the pleasure of the president (300–400 at the Pentagon). They should all be aligned with the next president's policy. One way to vet personnel for manpower and personnel appointments at the Pentagon is familiarity and agreement with the conclusions of the books mentioned here.

Early, serious personnel planning for the next presidential administration is urgent. By the end of 2024, the United States may be close to being *in extremis*. The next administration will have to move quickly to avert disaster. If there is any silver lining in the present national crisis, it is we have the time and understanding to avoid the personnel mistakes of 2017. Although very competent and credentialed people were appointed to Cabinet, sub-Cabinet, and lesser positions, many did not pursue President Trump's policy with enthusiasm or zeal. Some actively worked to frustrate it. Some were deceitfully disloyal. We do not have to go through the list.

In Wellington, Ohio, President Trump distinguished between the *real generals* and the *woke generals*. The Defense Department needs the kind of shake-up the War Department got in the years prior to Pearl Harbor. Legislation may be required to give the next administration the authority to elevate the *real officers* over the *woke officers* so we are able to deter, or win, a war against a peer adversary. The issues are different, but the changes needed are as dramatic as George C. Marshall rising in three years from a colonel in command of a brigade on September 1, 1936, to the four-star chief of staff of the Army on September 1, 1939, and the transformational changes he immediately set forth to bring to the Army. (See the Army War College publication *Senior Officer Talent Management* for a good, short description of that time.)

As Lt. Col. Lohmeier warns, a defense leadership, military and civilian, that not only becomes political, but, wittingly or unwittingly, comes under the spell of Marxism, is an existential danger to the survival of freedom. Or as the late Professor Samuel P. Huntington wrote in 1957 (*The Soldier and the State*, p. 464):

A political officer corps, rent with faction, subordinated to ulterior ends, lacking prestige but sensitive to the appeals of popularity, would endanger the security of the state. A strong, integrated, highly professional officer corps, on the other hand, immune to politics and respected for its military character, would be a steadying balance wheel in the conduct of policy.

Now is the time to start assembling the team to help the next president save American freedom and national security. We do not have a moment to lose.

Peter Knickerbocker served in the Trump administration at the Department of Defense.

Reparations Aren't About Fixing America's Past, They're About Destroying Its Future

Parker Beauregard , July 9, 2021

In 1865, a bloody Civil War left 620,000 white Americans dead. In the current monologuing on reparations, no one on the left seems bothered to mention this. (Even when 620,000 black babies are murdered by black mothers every two years, no one on the left notices.) Even forgetting the sacrifice of so many white lives, the historically unprecedented release from bondage and eventual ascension toward becoming co-equal partners – despite being a racial, cultural, and ethnic minority – seems profound and sufficient enough. You're welcome, black America, you're no longer enslaved and enjoy the same freedoms as whites in 21st century America.

Let's not pretend no redress has been made already. We have had reparations in one form or another since the Confederacy's surrender. Efforts to assimilate former slaves did not end merely at emancipation, nor even Reconstruction. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the back-to-back election of Barack Obama are two major examples of innumerable others that attest to the success of America overcoming its legacy of slavery. Has this ever happened before in world history?

Unfathomably, renewed efforts to "repair" the long-ago damages to the black community have resurfaced with hitherto unseen momentum. Black Americans who were never enslaved and white Americans who never enslaved them are suddenly the focal point of a country-ripping exercise in absurdity. A [July 5th article at American Thinker](#) outlined just a few questions worth pondering before delving into wealth theft for the benefit of a group of people either unwilling or uninterested in solving their own problems. The article asks:

"Who pays? Who gets what? Who decides? Does Obama pay or does he get money? Do recent African or Caribbean immigrants get money too or only people who can trace their lineage back to slavery or even Jim Crow? What about black families who owned slaves? Do the million or so black millionaires get money too? When are things as they should be? What's the measure? Will every company or classroom or board have to reflect the pigment hue of the country as a whole? Will it apply to everything from police to janitors to ditch diggers to the NBA and the NFL? Will all of this change the unwed birth rate in black America? Is murder still to be considered a crime as half of the offenders in the US are black males despite the fact that they make up only 6% of the population? Since reparations will make everything even do we do away with welfare programs that disproportionately benefit minorities?"

Others have correctly pointed out that LBJ's Great Society programs have injected over \$20 trillion dollars into social reform programs in the past half century, ostensibly to correct for social failures but resulting only in the increased dissolution of black families and stagnant academic and employment outcomes. The IRS will go after people that don't account for \$100 on their taxes, but we're supposed to be okay with the waste of \$20 trillion?

The list of contemporary reparations is long. Consider the following:

Affirmative Action. AA has been in effect for generations. It's whole purpose is to admit, whether in academia or the workforce, less qualified blacks than whites on the basis that society needed to atone for its sins. Now, companies like United Airlines (among many) proclaim that they will hire a diverse workforce to address systemic racism. It is important to note that explicit attempts to diversify come at direct cost to merit and performance. It also prevents many Asians from getting into top colleges and universities. So much for helping minorities.

Welfare. The current welfare system benefits blacks far above any other racial group. Blacks make up about 13-14% of the population yet account for anywhere between 30-40% of all welfare subsidies like TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, Section 8 housing, and every other conceivable benefit. It's important to note that the monthly child care payments enacted by Joe Biden will also directly benefit black Americans more than white Americans given that black families are more likely to have larger families.

Taxes. By some estimates, fully 75% of all federal income taxes are paid by white Americans. Conversely, and while exact figures are difficult to come by, it seems safe to estimate that just a small percentage of blacks pay anything in terms of federal income taxes. Given their median incomes, perhaps 20% – at most – of black Americans pay any federal taxes. That means while whites pay for most federal programs, it is blacks who get the benefits.

Lowered Expectations. While the other programs are more in line with *de jure* reparations, this last piece is a *de facto* reparation. How long can blacks claim victim status based on the past? Is there a statute of limitations? What if Sasha and Malia turn out to be bums, does the fact that they had a successful black man – which presumably interrupted the racialized oppression – in their lineage matter? Every day, society excuses or flat out ignores blacks for their criminal and murderous behavior. Schools no longer issue grades or suspensions to poorly performing or behaving black students. Society has given blacks a pass for inferior personal and moral responsibility based on the narrative of oppression. Apparently everyone is okay with overt patronization and racism with this mindset.

Now, it's been noted often that rather than repairing past harms, reparations will only further divide this country. It doesn't take Nostradamus to conjure up visions of the future; this belies the obvious outcomes. Black American ingrates will always be ingrates, regardless of the flow of confiscated money toward them, but the two-thirds white majority will have every reason to resent both them and this country if reparations are ever paid out. If the left thinks white rage is a real phenomenon now, just wait.

GOP Elected Official Column

Toni Anne

DASHIELL



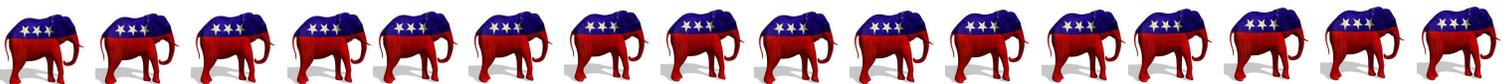
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I hope you have heard by now that many Texas House Democrats have fled the state of Texas in order to deny the Texas House the quorum it needs to do its business. The irony is that these hypocrites are abandoning their jobs as elected representatives to supposedly protect democracy. We also know that while they demagogue about their bravery in failing to do their jobs it looks like they are planning on having a good time doing it.

Well Texas Democrats may be taking a vacation from their jobs but we aren't taking any breaks. Despite the Democrats' publicity stunt, the Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker remain dedicated to passing the legislative priorities that were announced at the beginning of the special session. So while things may be delayed a few weeks or even months, work will get done and that requires your help. Stay engaged and stay informed!



Continued from Page 13

Reparations Aren't About Fixing America's Past, They're About Destroying Its Future

The additional problem with reparations is that it's not even about reparations. Will black victims suddenly stop lamenting America's alleged racism once given a check? I'll answer that question with another question. Did they quit their march toward dismantling the American justice system after Derek Chauvin was egregiously convicted guilty on all three counts of murder and manslaughter? Recall that there was an absence of joy and a preponderance of "it's a small victory, but we must continue to do the work" commentary. Therefore, it would shock nobody if the United States wrote a check worth \$1 million dollars to every black person today and by tomorrow black America would say that the checks were a small step toward justice, but now every white person needs to be thrown in a concentration camp. The left is never satisfied. As soon as more people figure that out, the better we will all be. Therefore, I would add two essential questions to the list provided by American Thinker piece:

Will reparations repair any past harms? Will the country be better for having done it?

Given that the answer to those is both a resounding "no," it's time to emancipate the country from further entertaining this perilous and quixotic notion.

CPAC Photos



Is Your School Hiding Its Critical Race Theory Teaching? Here Are 5 Things to Ask About

Mike Gonzolas, June 22, 2021

Is your school principal denying that her school makes use of critical race theory when you call to complain about it? If so, it's likely that she's either misinformed or just spreading disinformation. Here below is how to tell the difference.

There is a need for a checklist because as more and more Americans reject critical race theory indoctrination in schools, workplaces, or even the military, educators, HR personnel, and others are feeling the need to engage in a little, uh, CYA. Sophists among academics, the Twitterati, and the political world are rising to support this disinformation, too.

Frankly, the purveyors of critical race theory and related theories are shocked that Americans from all walks of life are speaking up against critical race theory. They thought they could take over classrooms, offices, the military—the whole country, really—without meeting any resistance.

Instead, parents are speaking out—from Loudoun County, Virginia, where I spoke to 300 loud parents meeting at the county government building earlier this month, to Douglas County, Colorado, where school district authorities were astounded at the vehemence of the opposition.

"Public comment went on for two hours as parents shellacked the board for its flirtation with Critical Race Theory," reports *The Denver Gazette* about the first in-person board meeting of the Douglas County School District since the pandemic.

So how can you tell if a teacher, principal, or school board official tells you that, no, there's no critical race theory here (as a lone heckler briefly interrupted my remarks in Loudoun County to inform me)? Here is a list (by no means exhaustive) of five key critical race theory principles. If your school or office does anything that includes these ideas, you can confidently call Bovine Manure when they deny it's critical race theory.

The first and most important bedrock principle of critical race theory is that racism is not an individual, conscious decision to be a racist or act on that belief. No, it's "systemic." Racism, according to critical race theory's purveyors, is written into America's laws, institutions, and capitalist system. What masquerades as American culture is actually the norms and practices of white people. "Critical race theory," writes one of its main architects, Angela Harris, "takes the position that racism pervades our institutions, our beliefs, and our everyday practices."

A second principle follows from the first: Behaviors and beliefs are inherent in identity categories, and thus the members of these categories must not adopt American culture—which, in their telling, is merely a conspiracy to perpetuate white supremacy. Members of minority groups must never assimilate to standard practices or norms, even those that appear neutral on the surface.

"[M]any Latinos naturally view information about time more generally and simply cannot see the judicial system's need for specificity and exactitude," writes Maria Ontiveros, a professor at the University of San Francisco, in her book "Critical Race Feminism."

A third bedrock principle is that white people receive unearned privilege at birth, while other Americans are denied it. This "whiteness premium" has prevented the union of the working class.

Segregation, wrote the man widely recognized as the "Godfather" of critical race theory, Derrick Bell, "represented an economic-political compromise between the elite and working-class whites [that] gave to the poor the sense of superiority, while retaining the substance for the rich."

A fourth principle is that meritocracy is myth. Since whites have rigged the system, all the ways we use to measure merit or success in education or work are far from objective. Hiring metrics and workplace benchmarks, and standardized tests for university admissions, must be eliminated.

On this we have, again, the authority of Bell, who wrote in "Popular Democracy," a chapter in "The Derrick Bell Reader": "In short, merit serves as the phony pennant of color-blindness, used as justification for opposition to affirmative action."

The fifth and last tenet is that equity must replace equality. This may surprise those who think they amount to pretty much the same thing, but under critical race theory, the word equity has become corrupted, and has become the functional opposite of equality. Because the systemic racism that critical race theory's proponents see everywhere has produced disparities under a capitalist system that rewards the wrong criteria, government must step in and treat individual Americans unequally.

Only in that manner will outcomes be equal. And on this, we have no less an authority than our Vice President Kamala Harris: "Equitable treatment means we all end up in the same place."

Any curriculum or training program that does any of the above is classic critical race theory. Any functionary who denies it has simply not read her Derrick Bell—or may be lying to you.

Originally published by The Denver Gazette Mike Gonzalez, a senior fellow at The Heritage Foundation, is a widely experienced international correspondent, commentator, and editor who has reported from Asia, Europe, and Latin America. He served in the George W. Bush administration, first at the Securities and Exchange Commission and then at the State Department, and is the author of the book "The Plot to Change America: How Identity Politics is Dividing the Land of the Free." Read his research.

From David Horowitz, Freedom Center

Eighteen years ago, I presented the Freedom Center's Annie Taylor Award to a former Cuban political prisoner by the name of Armando Valladares, and I wanted you to hear his story.

Seeing these videos and pictures of the protests in Cuba roll in, I can't help but be reminded of Armando -- because I know what he endured for 22 years, rotting in a Cuban prison.

And I know the bravery it takes for an unprecedented number of Cubans to do the same.

There was nothing brave about the Black Lives Matter riots and protests that swept our country. They risked nothing and they sacrificed nothing. Even with a president that opposed them, they knew they were safe.

The Cuban protesters know what they're doing could very well be a death sentence -- and they're doing it anyway.

American leftists are doing everything in their power to excuse, justify and protect the Cuban regime. They're blaming it on COVID, the U.S. embargo -- and everything but what the Cuban people are actually protesting against. No one in the Biden administration will even call "communism" by name.

I'm sharing a portion of the speech I gave eighteen years ago, because I won't let the Left rewrite history, or deny reality. This is what's happening to the Cuban people, and this is what awaits us right here in the United States if we surrender to socialism.

Sincerely,

David Horowitz

Early one morning in the year 1960, Armando Valladares, who was 23 years old and still asleep in his parents' house, was wakened by the cold barrel of a machine gun pressing his head into the pillow on his bed. There were three gunmen standing over him. A fourth kept watch on Valladares' mother and sister in another room in the house. These men were agents of Castro's new political police. After ordering Valladares to get dressed, they took him away.

Armando Valladares' crime was this: Castro had been appointing communists to his new government even though he had sworn that his revolution would bring freedom to Cuba. Many people in Cuba who supported the revolution were concerned. Some were saying that Castro was a communist himself. To combat these fears, Castro had his agents print up a slogan. He had them put it on decals, bumper stickers, tin plaques, wall posters, and in the daily press. The slogan was this: "If Fidel is a communist, then put me on the list. He's got the right idea."

The communists of the Ministry of Communications came to the Postal Savings Bank and to the desk of Armando Valladares. They handed him a card bearing the slogan and told him to put it on his worktable. The 23-year-old Valladares refused. Taken aback, the communists asked him if he had anything against Castro. Valladares answered that if Castro was a communist, he did.

For this crime, Armando Valladares was sentenced to 30 years in prison. Like all of Castro's political prisoners, he was tortured and humiliated. He was made to eat other men's excrement and forced to watch his friends die. One of Valladares' prison friends was a youngster named Roberto Lopez Chavez. He was just a kid, and he went on a hunger strike to protest the abuses. The guards denied him water until he became delirious, twisting on the floor of his cell and begging for a drink. The guards urinated in his mouth and on his face, and he died the following day.

The political prisoners in Castro's jails were given a choice. You could be rehabilitated and save yourself from these torments if you renounced who you were. All you had to say was, "I have been wrong. All my life has been a mistake. God does not exist. I want you to give me this opportunity to join a communist society." Of Cuba's 80,000 political prisoners, 70,000 took this path of rehabilitation. Armando Valladares was not one of them. "For me," he said, "that would've meant spiritual suicide. All the time I was in jail, I never gave up my freedom. My freedom is not the space where you can walk around. There are lots of people in Cuba who have space to walk, and they are not free."



Political Action Hours

Diane Perkins, Political Action Chair



Good morning,

Recently I discussed the vacancy in some of our precincts for Republican precinct chair. If you want to look online here is a link to show you the interactive precinct map.

https://www.collincountytx.gov/commissioners_court/pages/precincts.aspx

We have a vacancy in the following precincts: If you identify an opening in your precinct and would like to submit yourself or someone else as candidate for this position please let us know.

14, 23, 28, 46, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 68, 72, 103, 105, 112, 116, 119, 152, 167, 197

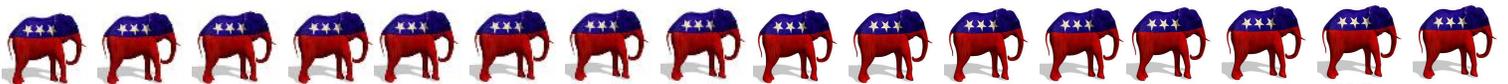
We must become more involved. I have been in many conversations with other conservatives who complain about the liberals and “do nothing” democrats who just wait on government handouts and subsidies. I know from these discussions that it lights a fire in the belly of many conservatives who hate meaningless subsidies, high taxes, big government, and the rise of Socialist and Marxist forms of government. Remember that freedom isn’t free. You must do your part. WE can’t be “do nothing” conservatives. Everyone is needed to keep the conservative agenda alive. We need your input, time, talent, and even sacrifice to help save our great nation. If this rises in your spirit that you want to preserve the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, please help us! We are in this together and we need you!

Remember to send in your Political Actions Hours. You can use our website to send them in. www.planorepublicanwomen.org . Anything you do that is political or helps Republicans win elections counts. You can find a detailed list of what counts as hours on our website and in your directory.

Blessings,

Diane Perkins, Political Action Chair Plano Republican Women

Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!



Continued From Page 17

Describing his incarceration, Valladares said, "For me, it meant 8,000 days of hunger, of systematic beatings, of hard labor, of solitary confinement and solitude, 8,000 days of struggling to prove that I was a human being, 8,000 days of proving that my spirit could triumph over exhaustion and pain, 8,000 days of testing my religious convictions, my faith, of fighting the hate my atheist jailers were trying to instil in me with each bayonet thrust, fighting so that hate would not flourish in my heart, 8,000 days of struggling so that I would not become like them."

Comments by Catherine Gibb,

What is happening in Cuba is a tragedy as is what is happening in the USA. We must not allow the radical leftists in this country to succeed. While Biden and Company are painting the so-called “white supremacists” as the greatest threat to our Republic, in truth THEY are the greatest threat to the USA. We, as a nation have practically given up all our freedoms due to COVID 19, but are we really any more secure than we were before this virus arrived from China??? The Cuban people believed the lies of Fidel Castro and it costs them everything. Will we fall for the lies of those in power today or will we stand up against this tyranny. Remember



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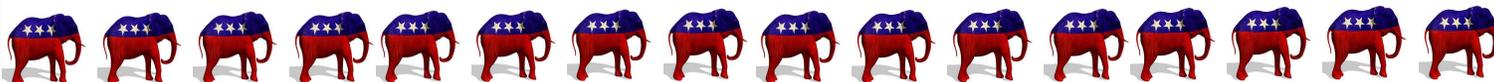
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Membership Update

We have 97 members! It is so wonderful that our club is growing.

We would like to welcome our newest members:

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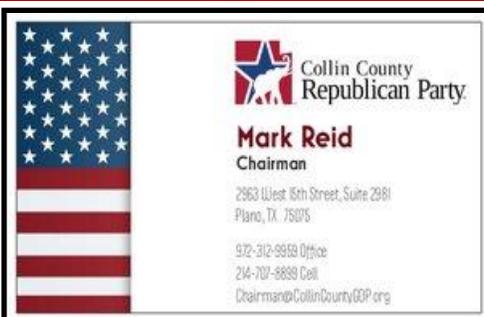
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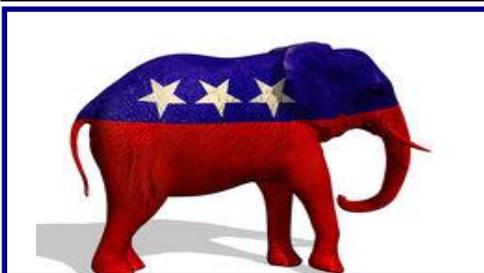
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429th Judicial District Court

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Officers and Birthdays

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President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org - 732-718-0464

Cleo Marchese, 1st. VP Programs

Lisa Babb, 2nd. VP Membership
RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Debby Arrant, 3rd VP Awards

Catherine Gibb, 4th VP, Ways and Means

Semida Voicu, Recording Secretary

Susan Bushey, Corresponding Secretary

Lynn McCoy, Treasurer



August Birthdays PRW Members

MEMBERS:

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Lori Brenner	8/7
Debbie Hollingshead	8/8
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Loneta Decker	8/10
Lynda Oldham	8/15
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Plano Republican Women
P.O. Box 940461
Plano, TX 75094



Plano Republican Women

meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month
(except June, July & December)

Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway

Plano, TX 75074

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

Lunch is \$25 payable to PRW (Cash or Check) at the door.

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org