



## Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—April 2020

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### Chinese Communist Party Virus?

Is it just me or is there something fishy going on with the viral epidemic that is doing great damage to our economy and killing thousands of our citizens? Take a look at the chart on the next page that shows where on the planet the Covid-19 viral storm has hit. It was current as of April 10, 2020. The stats come from Wikipedia, and to be fair, it is proper to emphasize the sources for this data that can be found at the end of the chart, so let me quote them: “Cases only include people who were tested and confirmed positive. Testing rules and availability vary by country.” But as I said, there is something disturbing about this so-called world-wide viral outbreak that makes at least this writer a little suspicious.

For one thing, focus for a moment on which countries the pandemic is striking the hardest—the United States and its European allies, but especially the U.S. Now China is included in this top tier of victims, but the data there is misleading. Per capita, China is among the least hardest hit in the world, and, coincidentally enough, Beijing, which is the capital as well as the political and cultural center of the country, has hardly been affected at all by the virus. Neither has the city of Shanghai which is one of China’s largest ports of goods in and out, and, as is well known, China’s economy depends heavily on its exports. Communist Party leaders have dachas there also. Together these two megatropolises, Beijing and Shanghai, have tens of millions of people crowded together in close proximity, and represent the main financial hubs in China’s economy, are free of the virus.

So, the main target of this assumingly mindless virus is the United States, and it is devastating our economy, an economy that was, up until now, in the greatest shape it had ever been in, right on the eve of this year’s presidential election.

As we all know, they say that during presidential elections Americans “vote their pocketbooks” and there is much truth in that, but isn’t it curious that President Trump’s main argument for getting re-elected to a second term—a robust U.S. economy—has potentially been taken away from him in an instant by an aimless virus that’s meandering thru the world’s human population, supposedly at random without any helping hand from anyone.

Now I don’t usually put much stock in conspiracy theories which arise out of nearly every big story that comes along, and this one like most of the others, might well fall under the heading of “nothing to see here,” but there is definitely enough to make one wonder if we’re once again being hoodwinked by the Communist Party of China.

Is this a biological weapon unleashed by China? There’s certainly no evidence of that as of today, so maybe not, but I have an awfully hard time believing the food-market story of a viral storm that seems to be largely unable to attack allies, friends and areas of interest in this world identified as vitally important to the Chinese Communist Party’s geopolitical strategy for replacing America as the world’s preeminent power. One big giant coincidence? Perhaps, but it sure looks like it could be capitalism and “free” trade “with Chinese characteristics.”

As further indications to fuel suspicions of Chinese chicanery, consider the following as reported on Fox’s Tucker Carlson Show: “The virus most likely came from an animal known as the intermediate horseshoe bat and there are no known colonies of this type of bat within 900 kilometers of Wuhan, the city where the virus originated. Also, there is no evidence that the bats were sold in the Wuhan wet market, but there are nearby government laboratories conducting research using the intermediate horseshoe bat. South China University scientists have concluded that the corona-virus pandemic likely came from one of two government labs in Wuhan.”

Presidents of both parties have been slavishly appeasing Beijing for decades in the hope that some of our democratic ways will rub off on them, but that has been a fool’s errand. Alone among them, only Trump has had the common sense and courage to try to change things and his noble efforts cry out for nonpartisan support from all Americans. The Communist Party of China has long viewed us as their mortal enemy and the viral storm that is threatening to dump us into another Great Depression may very well be proof of it.

—Tom Mullings

*See chart on next page*

### Covid-19 Statistics by Country

Location	Confirmed	Cases per 1M people	Recovered	Deaths
 Worldwide	1,631,310	209.79	365,722	98,401
 United States	477,161	1,447.89	26,541	17,842
 Spain	157,053	3,334.43	55,668	15,970
 Italy	147,577	2,449.68	30,445	18,849
 Germany	119,624	1,438.67	41,942	2,591
 France	86,334	1,287.11	21,254	12,210
 China	81,907	58.42	77,455	3,336
 United Kingdom	70,272	1,057.75	—	8,958

#### About This Data

It changes rapidly

This data changes rapidly and might not reflect some cases still being reported.

It only includes people tested

Cases only include people who were tested and confirmed positive. Testing rules and availability vary by country. Some areas may not have data because they haven't published their data or haven't done so recently.

It comes from Wikipedia

Data comes from Wikipedia, and cases are constantly updated from resources around the world. Daily situation reports are also available on the World Health Organization site.

Current as of April 10, 2020.

## Making History

*By Sid Dinerstein*  
[siddinerstein@yahoo.com](mailto:siddinerstein@yahoo.com)  
 March 27, 2020

This essay is about how history is, or isn't, made.

It's the fall of 2008, the night of the first presidential debate. It's the war hero John McCain versus the young, charismatic first-term Senator from Illinois, Barack Obama. The country was in financial meltdown mode. The banks were insolvent and the stock market was tanking. Sound familiar? The specific issue of the moment was something called TARP, an \$820 billion bailout just for banks and other major financial institutions; basically, no strings attached. McCain had a modest lead in the polls ever since he put Sarah Palin (the first "deplorable") on his ticket. The debate was minutes away. I said to my wife: "Quick. Come watch John McCain wrap up the election on the first debate question." Sure enough, as if I wrote it myself, the moderator asked Senator McCain if he would support the TARP bill now in the Senate. Senator McCain started his response: "First, I want to send best wishes to my friend Senator Kennedy who is in the hospital." My heart sank. The Senator continued: "I will be supporting TARP." Poof. All the air went out of that balloon. The election was decided. Senator Obama had won. And he never had to say a word. Senator McCain, the "straight talking maverick," was just another Washington swamp creature. He joined President Bush and next-President Obama and our country's financial community in opposition to the populace. What should senator McCain have said? "I oppose TARP unless it is funded by the shareholders, bondholders and management of the companies receiving our citizens' hard-earned money. I stand with the people. Candidate Obama stands with President Bush and the special interests." And that is how history is made.

Fast forward to February, 2020, and the Democrat debate in Las Vegas. The new guy, Michael Bloomberg, is making his debut; and getting smacked right and left. Elizabeth Warren pummeled him for his "horse-faced lesbian" comment. She and the others piled on about NDAs (non-disclosure agreements) and "mini" Mike seemed to disappear. But then, to my great surprise, Bernie Sanders threw Mayor Bloomberg a lifeline. Sanders launched another attack, calling the Mayor "immoral" and saying that billionaires like Mike "shouldn't exist." And that gave Mayor Bloomberg one last time with the mic. And how did he respond? Pathetically, with: "I'm giving all my money away, much of it to Democrats." Poof. Another balloon deflated. What should Mayor Bloomberg have said? "Immoral? Immoral, Bernie? I'll tell you what's immoral. People like you who never worked a day in your life, who lived off three wives, who never created a single job, who never signed the front of a paycheck, who run for President of the United States just so

you can put a gun to my head to take from me what you could never create yourself. That's immoral." And Mayor Bloomberg is one billion dollars and one lifetime reputation poorer and no longer a presidential candidate. And that's how history is made.

Right around the same time the world was learning about the corona virus. On January 29, 2020 the World Health Organization called the corona virus a pandemic. On January 31st President Trump issued an Executive Order banning all travel from China, the home of the virus. And the very next day, presidential candidate Biden famously attacked President Trump for the President's "hysterical xenophobia." The full statement by Biden was: "This is no time for Donald Trump's record of hysteria and xenophobia—hysterical xenophobia—and fear mongering." What Candidate Biden should have said was: "This is war. And we can only have one Commander-in-Chief at a time. After we defeat the virus there will be plenty of time to showcase our platforms as we lead up to the November elections." Poof. Another balloon deflated; this one taking the whole Democrat Party down with Candidate Biden. Joe Biden failed the leadership test on the biggest crisis of this generation. He failed so bad that New York Governor Cuomo and California Governor Newsome effectively endorsed President Trump's reelection by their very public praise for the Administration's battle plan and execution. Joe Biden will never be President of the United States. And that's how history is made.




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*Sid Dinerstein served as Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County from 2002 to 2012. A leader with a passion for Republican politics, Sid leads by example, motivating teams and uniting diverse groups to achieve a common goal. With a passion for promoting charter schools, Sid was honored by Inlet Grove Community Charter High School earlier this year as "Charter School Advocate." He authored Adults Only: For Those Who Love Their Country More Than Their Party in 2007, a book that was a finalist for the 2009 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Sid has been married to Esther since 1967, and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters.*



## House Adjourns Sine Die with Balanced Budget and Reserves to Fight the Coronavirus

**T**hursday, March 19th concluded the 2020 Legislative Session with a non-traditional Sine Die ceremony due to the Novel Covid-19 outbreak. Instead of the usual grand ceremony where the Sergeants from both the Senate and House drop the white handkerchiefs while lobbyists, elected officials and staff look on, the two Sergeants stood six feet away with just one camera recording while they dropped the handkerchiefs to the floor. It was followed by a telephonic media availability with Governor DeSantis, Speaker Oliva and President Galvano. Definitely not a normal close to the legislative session.

I believe this year's \$93.2 billion budget is fiscally responsible and prioritizes funding in the best interest of all Floridians. I'm sure the number one question about the budget will be how much is Florida going to spend on the Covid-19 response? We have budgeted \$60.6 million for now and have over \$4 billion in reserves if necessary.

In this budget we continued to invest in our student's success by putting \$17 billion into PreK-12 Education funding and investing annually an extra \$500 million on teacher pay raises. The environment has and continues to be a priority for us with \$100 million in new spending for Florida Forever and \$50 million for beach renourishment. We also budgeted \$690 million for Everglades Restoration and Clean Water Protection. For the first time in 13 years, the Sadowski fund will be fully funded; this will be a major tool in our kit to provide our residents with much needed affordable housing. Tourism is our number one source for jobs in Florida, and I'm pleased that we've funded Visit Florida this year with a \$50 million budget. Marketing Florida as a destination again will be crucial once this health crisis passes and people are able to travel again.

In addition, we put nearly \$4 billion in reserves, because, in my opinion, government must responsibly plan for the future, just like Florida families must do.

I am very proud of all the work we accomplished this Session. The Legislature passed bills to address our continued sober home and opioid crisis, Florida's water quality, anti-Semitism, health care, among many other issues. In just a few short weeks, I believe we accomplished a great deal for Florida's families.

### District 89 Funding Highlights

(All budget items are still subject to veto at this time)

- \$15,000,000: FAU AD Henderson Lab School
- \$11,146,000: FAU STEM/Life Sciences Building
- \$2,150,000: Alzheimer's Community Care Association
- \$500,000: Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative: Lake Worth Lagoon Monitoring Project
- \$400,000: PBC Fire Rescure Diesel Exhaust System Installation Project
- \$400,000: Holocaust Memorial at the Capitol
- \$300,000: JARC Community Works
- \$250,000: 211 Palm Beach Treasure Coast-South Florida Suicide Prevention & Crisis Intervention Outreach Project
- \$250,000: Florence Fuller Child Development Center Apprenticeship Training Academy and Employment Program
- \$250,000: Oak Street Home II—Female Teen Delinquency Prevention Program
- \$250,000: Learning for Life
- \$201,523: Highland Beach Crosswalks
- \$200,000: Boca Raton 20-Inch Critical Wastewater Force Main Resiliency
- \$200,000: Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative: Hypoluxo Septic to Sewer Conversion
- \$200,000: Boca Raton Habilitation Center—Adults with Disabilities
- \$150,000: Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative: Singer Island Submerged Lands Acquisition
- \$2,500,000: Security Funding for Jewish Day Schools
- \$75,000: Boynton Beach Town Square Enhanced ADA Pedestrian Crossing
- \$250,000: Florida Caregiving Youth Expansion Project

Florida remains active trying to handle the Coronavirus pandemic in every way we can. Here you can see useful links on how to access various resources being provided.

If you need additional information, or are having difficulties with any state agency during this time, please feel free to call my office at (561) 750-2396 or email me at [Mike.Caruso@myfloridahouse.gov](mailto:Mike.Caruso@myfloridahouse.gov).

My staff and I are working remotely just like many of you, however we are responding to emails and voicemails as they come in and will help in any way we can.

## “The Backhoe Chronicles”

By Peter Feaman  
Florida National Committeeman

### THE BACKHOE-WUHAN-COVID CHRONICLES

APRIL 11—I am a fairly traditional guy on Saturday mornings. I wake up, make coffee, and walk outside to pick up the paper thrown onto the driveway by the delivery guy. This morning I followed that routine and read two headlines that immediately got me thinking (again), “Hey, newspaper editors, your priorities are all wrong” . . .

The first one was, “County Covid-19 cases top 1,400.” I thought, “So what. That is not a big number relatively speaking. That is less than 1/10th of 1% of the population in Palm Beach County.”

What about the tens of thousands of people in Palm Beach County (as well as elsewhere) who have had their lives tipped upside down because just about every business here (and elsewhere) has been shut down?

Then I saw the biggest headline on the front page, which only fueled my discontent: “Closing of natural areas upset fans.”

Gimme a break. We are all upset about parks, beaches and recreational areas being closed. But the real headline should read, “Closing most businesses is destroying (not just ‘upsetting’) the lives of thousands.”

That is the concern that should be written and talked about, Mr. newspaper editor. Yes, we are concerned about the closing of natural areas. But that pales in comparison to the lives that are being destroyed when both mom and dad are out of work, there is no money coming in, there are no savings, and government checks (which won’t be enough) are stuck in the bureaucracy.

Write about what is really foremost in the minds of us and maybe people might start buying your newspaper again. But I doubt it.

APRIL 10—I am over Dr. Fauci (who I never liked anyway) and kudos to Attorney General Barr.

Let's start with Dr. Fauci . . .

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, revealed today that the federal government is considering issuing Americans certificates of immunity from the coronavirus, as the Trump administration works to better identify those who have been infected and restart the U.S. economy in the coming weeks.

National immunity cards???

Are you kidding me?

I can see it now.

Only those with immunity cards are allowed on the street.

You get pulled over, the officer asks, “Your papers, please.”

You fail to produce your immunity card. Off to jail you go.

Dr. Fauci needs to be benched.

Attorney General Barr by contrast:

Mr. Barr suggested that the federal government in May should begin relaxing some of the “draconian” social distancing restrictions imposed throughout the U.S.

Barr said in an interview with Fox News that the U.S. had to be “very careful” to ensure some of the measures being “adopted are fully justified, and there are not alternative ways of protecting people” amid the novel coronavirus outbreak.

“I think, you know, when this—when this period of time is—at the end of April expires, I think we have to allow people to adapt more than we have and not just tell people to go home and hide under the bed, but allow them to use other ways—social distancing and other means—to protect themselves,” he said.

Thank you General Barr!

The struggle is the same one the human race has faced for 5,000 years: Individual freedom vs. the heavy hand of government.

I for one, believe in the individual . . . “endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, . . . life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

APRIL 8—Projections are changing daily, so I went back and did a little research. . .

About one month ago, on March 11, at 4:41 p.m. the *Washington Post* published a very alarming article. The headline of the article read, “Corona-virus forecasts are grim: ‘It’s going to get worse.’”

The body of the piece contained words like . . . “Prepare for a historic pandemic.” It cited some scientists predicting 1,000,000 deaths in the U.S.

State, local and federal governments soon sprang into action, and in a literal blink of an eye, the greatest economic engine in the history of the world was shut down.

Last week, the White House was talking about 100,000–240,000 deaths in the U.S.

Then the IHME (the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington) projected 94,000 deaths by late summer.

LAST NIGHT, the projection shifted downward again to 60,400 deaths nationwide (about the same as the flu).

MORE IMPORTANTLY, the day projected to see the



*The Backhoe Chronicles—continued on next page*

*The Backhoe Chronicles—continued from previous page*

most deaths was moved back on the calendar, from April 16th to April 12th. Hey folks, that is only 4 days away.

Why is this important?

A couple of reasons—

April 12th is Easter—a time of rebirth, renewal and resurrection! A new beginning!

Second, NOW is the time to start the discussion of when people should go back to work.

Time to look forward with a positive outlook, not with a spirit of fear or trepidation.

For some of you, calm down, I didn't say to end physical distancing tomorrow. But let the debate begin.

We have a country to get back on track. The world needs us!

### THE BACKHOE CHRONICLES

APRIL 8—Let's get back to political basics. . .

It wasn't hard to predict what the media would do with COVID-19. In no time at all, it was transformed from a foreign virus into a bludgeon against President Donald Trump.

It's what the media has done with every event since Trump came down the escalator in 2015. True to form, the media has simply continued doing what comes naturally: blaming Trump.

At this point, people who are wise to the media's dishonest games know to expect this type of politicized spin—the question now is whether or not the spin is working.

In the span of one month, the landscape of the 2020 presidential election has drastically changed. Trump's campaign position went from one of a thriving economy and packed rallies to one of financial devastation and oppressive social distancing.

Despite the blatantly biased media coverage, can his reelection campaign survive this?

According to a March *Washington Post*–ABC News poll, it can.

“Trump has moved from what was a seven-point deficit in February to a near tie with Biden today,” the *Washington Post* reported. Among registered voters, Trump is favored by 47 percent, just two points behind Biden's 49 percent.

With the massive scale of the COVID-19 response and the unprecedented disruption of American lives, it would not be implausible to think this pandemic might be the issue that finally gave the media some headway against Trump. However, that does not seem to be happening.

While Trump and Biden were neck-in-neck in overall popularity, Trump took the lead on issue-specific questions, including his response to the pandemic.

52% of those polled trust Trump more when it comes to handling the economy, while 42 % trust Biden more. On the specific question of trust when it comes to handling the coronavirus outbreak, 47% trusted Trump more compared to 43% trusting Biden more.

The poll also had hopeful news for the Trump campaign when it comes to voter enthusiasm.

Fifty-five percent of registered voters who support Trump were very enthusiastic about backing him in November, and 31 percent were somewhat enthusiastic. For registered voters supporting Biden, just 28 percent were very enthusiastic, while 46 percent were somewhat enthusiastic.

The mainstream media have never understood Trump or the connection he has with his supporters. As Rush Limbaugh has said throughout Trump's presidency, the media did not create the connection between Trump and his voters and it cannot break it.

Stay hopeful!!!!!!

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*Peter Feaman is Florida's National Committeeman, representing the State of Florida on the RNC. His "Backhoe Chronicles," a commentary on draining the swamp, appears on Facebook.*

### Governor Ron and Casey DeSantis Welcomed a New Baby Girl

Florida's Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey announced the birth of their daughter Mamie on March 30. Casey tweeted: "Ron and I are beyond blessed to welcome our new baby girl, Mamie, to the world. At 7 lbs 4 oz she was the smallest of the bunch, but she is already holding her own. Madison and Mason are so excited for their new baby sister!"



## Rep. Lois Frankel: By Her Votes Ye Shall Know Her

By George Blumel

**Matthew 7:16-20** *By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.*

And it is by District 21 U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel's votes that she is to be judged, by policy organizations, by her opponents in the Republican primary and ultimately by the voters in November.

Here's some non-partisan voting scores followed by a liberal and a conservative group:

- [Citizens Against Government Waste](#) describes her as "Hostile to Taxpayers."
- [National Taxpayers Union](#) (NTU) calls her "Big Spender."
- [The Club for Growth](#) gives her a 7 of 100 on votes that affect economic growth.
- The liberal [Americans for Democratic Action](#) (ADA) gives her 87% socialistic bias.
- The conservative [Heritage Action](#) scores her near zero for any free market capitalism bias.

Now, from a Constitutionalist view Rep. Frankel is a bad tree. That doesn't mean that we'd throw her in the fire, but it does mean that we ardently desire District 21 voters to replace her with a good tree from those participating in the August 18 Republican primary.

Here, each candidate has chosen a vote or votes of Rep. Frankel to judge:

**Liz Felton** <http://electelizabethfelton.com>

Frankel co-sponsored S.217 and H.R.448. I would have voted "no." A unique human life occurs at conception. The right to life is a basic foundation of American values. Frankel voted "no" on HR 38, the Concealed Carry Reciprocity act. I'd have voted "yes." The Second Amendment protects the foundation of liberty in America. Lois Frankel appears to have a personal belief system that is out of sync with core American values. I will always vote in favor of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Elect me, Elizabeth Felton, to represent you and protect your rights and personal freedoms in CD21.

**Michael Bluemling, Jr.** <https://bluemling2020.com>

This bill was voted on 04/02/2019: Discharge Petition to hold a vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 962). Lois Frankel voted against this bill, though she fights for legal late-term abortions. The bill required appropriate medical care be given to any child who survived a botched abortion and that the child be transported and admitted to a hospital. This action on her behalf is pure

evil and I would never use my vote to support abortion bills. As an American father my faith in God as a Catholic is why I am 100% pro-life.



**Christian Acosta**

[www.voteacosta.com](http://www.voteacosta.com)

Serving as a representative in Congress is one of the biggest responsibilities anyone can be given. Over 700,000 Americans entrust you to look out for their best interests. Even with such an honorable position, Lois Frankel can't be bothered to do her job. She has one of the highest absentee rates in Congress, missing vote after vote, and doing a terrible job when she does show up. Just one example of many, Lois pretends to care about our veterans but then votes "no" on dozens of laws that would provide expanded VA coverage. As your representative in Congress, I will always show up to support our veterans and defend your best interests here in Palm Beach County.

**Laura Loomer** [lauraloomerforcongress.com/](http://lauraloomerforcongress.com/)

Rep. Lois Frankel has positioned herself as Nancy Pelosi's puppet, with a voting record that matches Pelosi's 100% of the time in the 116th Congress, according to congressional roll call votes. The people of Florida's 21st District deserve more than a representative who is in lockstep with radical Democrats and who always echoes the party line. With Lois Frankel in Congress, Nancy Pelosi has a double vote, and our residents have no voice and true representation unless it's exactly what Nancy Pelosi agrees with, as Frankel has proven with her voting record.

**Victor Garcia da Rosa**

<https://victorgarciadarosaforcongress.com/>

(Victor did not answer this month's query but checked in via Daniel Gabriel who reports that Victor is stranded in Morocco with no flights home. The candidate was on a foreign policy fact-finding tour with an aim of being appointed to the House Foreign Relations Committee upon his election. He is currently working with the U.S. State Department to find a way home.)

We didn't hear from **Michael Vilardi** [www.vilardi2020.com](http://www.vilardi2020.com) or **Aaron Scanlan** [www.electscanlan.com](http://www.electscanlan.com) for this issue.

It is critical that Republicans retake the House if President Trump is to lead our country to recovery from the CCP virus pandemic and the resulting economic impairment. Replacing Rep. Frankel would be a most positive step in the right direction.

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*George Blumel is a husband, father, grandfather; retired entrepreneur; blogger [www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com](http://www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com); political activist—for freedom with responsibility.*

## Florida Joins Electronic Registration Information Center

*By William J. Skinner*

Texas was the 30th state to join ERIC on March 9, 2020. Florida joined in December 2019 and now is listed on ERIC's recent news release as the 29th state to join. Texas announced one reason it joined ERIC was the organization will assist Texas elections officials in identifying and conducting outreach to eligible but unregistered voters to encourage them to register to vote.

"We're thrilled to welcome Texas as the newest member of ERIC," said Shane Hamlin, Executive Director of ERIC. "Membership in ERIC will improve the accuracy and integrity of Texas' voter rolls, while helping the state more efficiently reach out to millions of eligible but unregistered Texans to give them information on how to register."

"The League of Women Voters (LWV) of Texas is very pleased to hear that Secretary Hughs is moving Texas forward by joining ERIC," said Grace Chimene, President of LWV Texas. "We advocated for Texas' participation, and we applaud the bipartisan legislative effort that funded this program."

Current ERIC member states include Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The District of Columbia is also a member.

When Florida joined in December 2019, the News Service of Florida and Daylina Miller wrote that membership in the program that was long sought by county supervisors of elections.

The approval, contingent on legislative funding, is expected to allow Florida to have more "accurate voter rolls, make voting easier and reduce costs to taxpayers," Gov. Ron DeSantis said in a prepared statement.

In August 2019, DeSantis announced that Florida would seek to become the 29th state to participate in the Electronic Registration Information Center, known as "ERIC," a consortium of states that share voter registration information and other data.

Brian Corley, the Pasco County Supervisor of Elections, said membership with ERIC is supported by supervisors of elections in all 67 Florida counties, and participation will help give people more faith in the system.

"People always ask about—and we're going to see this *en masse* for 2020—the integrity of, 'how do I know my vote counts? How do I know the process is accurate and

aboveboard and all that good stuff?' By joining this consortium, it will only help us to further secure elections."

Florida lawmakers voted unanimously in February 2018 to support a measure that authorized then-Gov. Rick Scott to join ERIC. Scott, who is now a U.S. senator, signed the bill but never took further action to join the center.

DeSantis' proposed \$91.4 billion budget for the 2020–2021 fiscal year includes \$75,000 to cover the state's annual dues to participate in ERIC and an estimated \$1.3 million to send mailers to eligible but unregistered voters every federal election cycle.

The Center, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit, started with seven states and assistance from the Pew Charitable Trusts in 2012.

Data matches by the center can identify voters registered in two states, voters who have moved between states and voters who have died. That allows county elections officials to identify and remove people who are no longer eligible to vote.

Corley said most people registered to vote in more than one state have done so unintentionally, but "there are cases where people think they have the right to vote in multiple states because they might own property in Florida and say, New Jersey, or Florida and Massachusetts, for example. And that's illegal."

Corley said Florida's membership in ERIC should take effect at the beginning of 2020. The state cannot purge voter rolls in the 90-day window before the March election, so

it has to be done before then.

*Primary Sources: <https://www.sos.texas.gov/about/news-releases/2020/030920.shtml> and <https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/post/florida-joins-national-database-network-aimed-voter-accuracy> Both Accessed: 4-7-20.*



*William J. Skinner is Chairman of the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee and has been a member of the REC since 2004. For further information or to report voter fraud you can contact Skinner at [billskinnerlw@aol.com](mailto:billskinnerlw@aol.com) or 561-433-1170. Also, ask your own county Supervisor of Elections whether they have used ERIC data to look at their county's voters. Time is running out.*



## Some Taxing Thoughts!

by Colonel Arthur DeRuve (U.S. Army, Ret.)

This month we once again would normally be compelled to pay our annual federal income taxes (postponed by COVID-19), and are reminded of the early comment by the Supreme Court that “THE POWER TO TAX IS THE POWER TO DESTROY.” Although this comment may sound overly severe, it is certainly not too far off the mark. As my favorite comedian Jackie Mason says in one of his routines: “This is the greatest country in the world. I don’t mind paying my taxes to support it. I sometimes wonder, however, about how the money is being spent.” He proceeds to give a number of amusing examples. The problem is that although it may make for good comedy, our tax-raising policies and our use of tax monies are anything but funny.

Clearly, taxes are required if we are to survive as a country. Something as basic as national defense is vital to all of us. There will always be the Stalins, Hitlers, Castros and Husseins in the world. Consequently, a strong America is imperative to the future and freedom in the world. We weren’t prepared for World War II and, as a result, fifty-five million people died around the world. We weren’t prepared for the Korean War and, as a result we were nearly driven into the sea.

In marked contrast, we were prepared for the possibility of war, world-wide or regional, in the 1980s. Consequently, the “Evil Empire,” World Communism, was brought to its knees without a shot being fired. World War III was avoided by strength brought about by tax monies. Similarly, the Gulf War, a regional encounter, was successfully brought to an end after only 100 hours of ground fighting, as a result of our overwhelming strength made possible by tax money. Lives were saved because taxes were spent properly.

Clearly, also, unfortunately, is the fact that much of our tax money is being used very questionably in many other areas. Too many politicians use our tax money to promote special interest constituencies. What rationale justifies, for example, taxing a motivated successful individual, who has earned three times the income of the average person, not three times, but five, eight, or ten times as much in taxes? What logic allows this so-called “soak the rich” policy which more properly should be called “soak the motivated, work ethic, capable” policy? Further, where does this tax money then go? Nobody disputes the obligation to help the truly needy. There is a “safety net” level upon which we can all agree.

However, when our country is trillions of dollars in debt should we be supporting so-called “struggling artists” or “struggling farmers”? Why not struggling electricians, struggling taxi drivers or struggling factory workers? I could present a laundry list of money being spent unnecessarily on the so-called “little guy.” The fact is, too many politicians rely on this phrase beyond all reasonableness for one reason only—votes! They realize full well that there are more of those whom they can euphemistically tag as “poor little guys” than those who have struggled to become, and



have in fact become, successful whom they can derisively tag as “the rich.”

Hence, it means more votes for the characterless politicians but no improvement for the country. Integrity, of course, plays no part in their decision making. Is a flat tax the answer? I am not an expert in the field, but my good sense inclines me to favor it for both individuals and corporations. The idea of a million-dollar company paying no taxes because of special interest write-offs is as offensive to me as is using my tax money to pay for a third-generation welfare family which expects the government to care for it forever.

No, I don’t believe that the so-called “progressive tax” (the higher the income the higher the percentage of tax) will keep anyone from moving up the economic ladder. Motivated people will be motivated under any set of conditions; vice versa for unmotivated people. However, I think that it is plain un-American!

To penalize people for being successful is not a progressive tax, it is a Repressive Tax. It sounds good for supporting such a tax to say he is supporting the little guy vs. the rich guy. What, in fact, he is doing is penalizing the successful, upward-motivated middle class in favor of the less successful and perhaps unmotivated because THEY REPRESENT MORE VOTES. This is a truly sad commentary on such law makers!

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*Col. Arthur DeRuve was commissioned a second lieutenant through the college ROTC program, and after serving with the 2nd Armored Division as a Cold War soldier in Germany, he remained an additional 28 years in the Army’s active reserve, including 11 years as a military liaison officer for West Point. He is a graduate of the Army’s Artillery and Guided Missile School, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College and holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Fordham University and a master’s degree in public administration from New York University. He and his wife Dorothy have been married more than 60 years, and after being “snowbirds” for many years, now reside in Wellington.*

## Why Minority Outreach

*By CS Bennett*

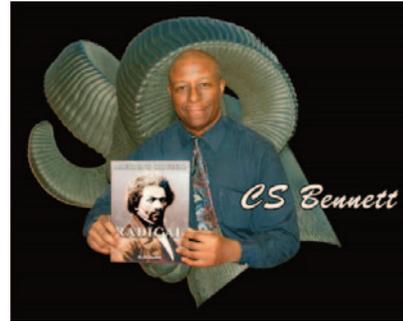
When I am invited to speak all across the fruited plain, during the Q&A session I am often asked by my Republican friends, “CS, in what way can we reach out to minority communities, especially Black communities, to invite them to return to the party that liberated their ancestors from slavery?” In addition to that, I am asked, sometimes, why should Republicans even attempt to reach out to the Black community since it largely votes (and monolithically) Democrat. My answer is this . . .

If we believe in what this party stands for, and the principles it was founded on—that being liberty, equal justice, and freedom—then this should be something we would want to share with all Americans. We know that the Democrats are the party of systemic poverty, overbearing government regulation, and high taxation. We know that Republicans stands for prosperity and all Americans having the opportunity to live the American Dream. In my mind, that is something wonderful and worth talking up. And it is the very reason why we should export our beliefs into our failing communities.

It would be advantageous to us to have as many minorities come over to our side as possible, so that there will be less people the left will have to lie to and manipulate. We could lower the crime rate, which impacts us all in some way. We would also get to keep more of our money, too, because those coming over to our party will be people looking for a hand up, not a hand out, meaning that there would be less people we would need to support with social programs and handouts. It would also weaken, if not outright destroy, the Democrat Party should more minorities desert that anti-American, and sometimes criminal enterprise.

To do anything less is adverse to the teachings of the Anointed One, that being our brother’s keeper. You see, we would be no different than the racists of the left, who love to claim that we are the racists and bigots. Fortunately, some of us known that the Democrat Party’s history is replete with institutionalized racism, outright discrimination, untold violence, the taking of sexual liberty with minorities, and thinking of Blacks as being less than human. Blacks were not even thought to be intelligent or capable of innovation, nor capable of being taught, according to racist southern Democrats.

So, should we Republicans ignore a bloc of Black voters just because of their skin color and because they vote Democrat? Black Republicans see that as saying that the Black community is not worth educating, and not worth fighting for, and definitely not worth saving. Few Republicans from rural America understand the dynamics of the Black community, its loss of identity, and how truth is kept as far away from those in that community for the purpose of keeping them economically down and tied to the Democrat plantation.



This leads me, again, to those who ask, why even bother to reach out to the Black and Hispanic communities. Why can they not reach out to us? And I say to that, truth is still being denied to certain people in America. Our school systems have been guilty of hiding the truth about our past and about the truth surrounding the two major political parties. Urban leaders, including certain members of the cloth, the media, and the establishment elite from both political parties, are a part of the oligarchy that is suppressing the truth from the masses. That is why we must reach out.

I hail from Philadelphia, which is a Democrat stronghold today. I know that the poor are getting their news, and their perspective on life and current events, from a left-wing bias, and progressive-oriented, media. What they watch is left-leaning, the newspapers they read are left-leaning, the television shows they watch are largely left-leaning, and the schools their children attend are left-leaning in their curriculum. They listen to NPR (National Public Radio) and PBS (Public Broadcasting Service), both which carry left-leaning programming. And most poor cannot afford cable, or satellite service, so they are provided converter boxes that carry largely left-leaning programming. One will not find Fox News and such on these propaganda networks.

In other words, our fellow Americans, in these Democrat-controlled areas, are being propagandized around the clock. Truth, as we know it, will only come to them if we bring it to them, in one form or another. I say, again, if we truly believe in the wonderful things we say we believe in, then we should naturally want to share these things with others. Much like with being missionaries of the Good News, within the Bible, we should be missionaries for the conservative cause. All patriots and believers in the Almighty.

Yes, it is a huge order, trying to fill the shoes of those who came before us, like the founding members of the Republican Party, and those who founded this republic. These were men of conviction and determination. Thankfully, the party prevailed in the goals they had set. They stood for principles that were religious based and spiritually inspired. And though they had their shortcomings, what the

*CS Bennett—continued on next page*

*CS Bennett—continued from previous page*

Republicans did, saved this great republic from splintering permanently into two factions.

Listen, my fellow Republicans, constitutionalists, and freedom lovers, the Republican Party liberated the Black community once before from the clutches of the Democrat Party (1860 circa). Perhaps the good Lord feels the time has come for today's Republican Party to liberate this community a second and final time, that this party is much more

than another political platform. No, Trump is not the only person God gives challenges to. He sees the good in all of us, and the greatness in some of us. That is why He gives some of us great challenges . . .

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*Curtis S. Bennett is an author, a national conservative talk radio co-host, and a columnist. He is a decorated Gulf War veteran and served as Vice Chairman of the Putnam County Republican Executive Committee.*

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## Gearing Up for the Fight!

*By Ed McCarthy*

President Trump is being touted as a Wartime President. The analogy is perfect, except in this battle the enemy is not attacking with bombs and bullets, the threat facing us today is biological—the COVID-19 virus. Yet we are in a war. Just as we were blindsided by the attack December 7, 1941, the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor that dragged us into World War II, so too were we blindsided in this instance by the sudden onset of this virus.

Just as we were unprepared for World War II, so were we for COVID-19, an just as we braced our feet and marshaled courage and our resources in response to the onset of war then, so too will respond now. The progress may seem excruciatingly slow, but our momentum is inexorably building.

At the onset of WW II, our forces were left reeling. The enemy swiftly overran large portions of the western Pacific, including the then U.S. Territory of the Philippines. We lacked the resources, so we could not come to the aid of the U.S. and territorial troops there, and they were overrun. Many were captured, many died. Ultimately, the U.S. and its Allies fought back and decisively defeated the enemy. It took time—time to build up our arsenal, and time to close with the enemy and destroy him. We must do the same with COVID-19.

There is one episode at the beginning of that war that has relevance today. In early 1942, Gen. George C. Marshall was planning the initial Allied response, the invasion of North Africa. He called in Gen. George S. Patton and explained the concept, asking him what he would need if Marshall were to place him in command. Patton came up with a wish list of materials and men that was never going to be granted. Gen. Marshall thanked Gen. Patton, and sent him back to his assignment in California.

Gen Marshall's staff was stunned, They whined that by letting a warrior like Patton go, who did we have who was capable of executing the plan! Gen. Marshall assured that that Patton would be back. Marshall was right, he knew Patton. Gen. Patton came back to Gen. Marshall and accepted the assignment. He invaded North Africa with the then-available materials and men and ultimately prevailed. But as in any war, men died, battles were lost, materials were destroyed in battle. But in the long run, the War was won!

Gen. Patton went on to glory in the invasion of Sicily and in the war in Europe after D-Day. But throughout his entire participation, from the early bare bones days in Africa, to the abundance of men and materials in later campaigns, Gen. Patton waged war. And is the case in any war, he planned assaults and directed campaigns, and men under his orders died in combat. Such is war.

So now to our war on the COVID-19 virus. We are currently somewhere between the early days where, as Gen. Patton experienced, we have to scramble and conserve resources; and those better, later times when we have ramped up our nation's capabilities and worked towards viral therapies and the ultimate perfection of an effective anti-viral therapy and an effective COVID-19 vaccine. In the meantime, we will slowly continue to overwhelm the enemy, COVID-19, but in the meantime, some people will die. It is war after all.

That's what President Trump is commanding now—a war. It's essential that we get behind him, and his task force, with our total support, and give him the room to address each setback, and each success. If we do, we will most assuredly minimize the number of people who will die from this disease. The President is leading, the rest of us should follow, or get the hell out of the way!



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### **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

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### **Mission Statement**

The Republican Party of Palm Beach County is committed to promoting Republican ideals and principles; recruiting and electing qualified candidates for public office; developing a grassroots organization that will motivate the electorate to vote; and raising the funds necessary to complete these objectives.

[www.palmbeach.gov](http://www.palmbeach.gov)

## In Defense of the President

*By Howard Rensin*

*To the Editor: Recently I got an email from a liberal friend criticizing the President for pushing these two drugs to help with the covid-19 virus when the FDA had not approved them. I responded to him and I am pasting a portion of that response in case you want to include it in a Wire or Newsletter. We need to have the facts to support the President against the liberals who hide behind the bureaucrats to attack him. —Howard Resin*

It's really important at this time to get some facts straight. Having lived in the Washington, DC area for 50 years and having neighbors and friends who worked for FDA, I can tell you that it is a huge and very slow-moving bureaucracy, and they pride themselves on being just that. Their unspoken mantra is "remember Thalidomide." If that does not ring a bell, I will tell you that it was a medication given to pregnant women to relieve nausea, and it was not well tested and resulted in tragic deformities in newborns from those mothers who took it. The FDA took a well-deserved beating for that mistake.

The problem is that they have since looked at every drug evaluation in that light. This is important to keep in mind in relation to the current issues about hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin.

Both of these drugs have been approved and in use for decades. Chloroquine goes back to right after WWII. The FDA evaluates drugs based on efficacy and safety. These two drugs have long since passed the safety tests and that only leaves efficacy for covid-19.

The President had never said anything about using these drugs before a number of the networks carried a story of a world-renowned French virus researcher who published a report of a small study of patients who got well in a very short time using this combination. The story was all over the press.

When Dr. Fauci was asked about it on the next day, he dismissed it as the FDA often does as "anecdotal." This is a common brush off that the FDA uses when presented with limited findings of doctors in the field who discover protocols that appear to work in cases where they are using medications and methods off label.

A few days later I saw a very prominent NY oncologist discussing this problem about the FDA. Apparently he and his hospital have had success in treating some patients with a particular form of cancer using medicines and techniques that the FDA had not formally approved, as they had not

done their prolonged studies and showed no interest in commissioning a study for this application, and dismissed it as anecdotal. He said that he and his colleagues have often had the FDA dismiss things that they found to work as anecdotal. It seems that if they don't do their own prolonged tests, they don't want to hear what you have to say.

The President has taken a very realistic approach to this. He has said that since these two drugs have a long history of safety and Fauci has publicly stated at the news conference on Wednesday that any small side effects of these two can be "easily managed," then why not start using it now. It's not accurate to say that the President is pushing these medicines without proof that they are going to help, since more and more stories are coming to light about people in hospitals benefiting from this treatment.

In other words, do you want to fall victim to the bureaucracy's ever need for more data, or start using it now and see if it works? If you had this condition, wouldn't you rather they give you this now or let you die so you can help the collection of data? That is a no brainer.

I did not see the restrained laughter on Fauci's face that some in the left wing media mentioned, but if he did it was the smirk of arrogance that you see in people who think they know better. The President is not advocating some new untested drug, but that enough evidence is coming forward that this cocktail of drugs is a whole lot better than just letting people die. Its fine that we are making more respirators and N-95 masks, but a cure beats them all. Even if only 50% of the infected people benefit from doing what the President is urging, isn't that better than letting them die?

If we can accelerate the rate and speed of cure, we will ease the burden on the hospitals and make people more comfortable with getting back to their regular lives.

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*Howard Rensin is a retired trial attorney with a B.A. from Syracuse University and a J.D. from the George Washington University School of Law. A licensed amateur radio operator, he has handed disaster radio communications, including communications during the Johnstown, PA, flood of 1977 and the Jonestown, Guyana, massacre of 1978. He is a former Chairman of the Howard County (Maryland) Republican Party and is currently a member of the Palm Beach County Republican Executive Committee. He and his wife Kathy are proud grandparents and live in Palm Beach Gardens.*

## Stay at Home/Save a Life

By Gene Robinson

When you read the title of this e-mail, you will think one thing during this current time, but if you read it all the way through, you will find “more than meets the eye!”

With the world changing more and more each day, we are constantly reminded that with all that is going on, The Good LORD is in charge, and we are just role players doing our part, with such a short period of time to do it in. The question then becomes . . . just what kind of role player are we willing to be??

I was reminded of this on Sunday when a friend, political activist, and self-described Catholic Warrior, Willy Guardiola, texted me to let me know that in spite of the fact that the State of Florida has issued a “Shelter in Place/Stay at Home” order for its citizens, there are certain things that Followers of The LORD must do, no matter what, to serve GOD. Willy’s message said in part, “I am well aware that we are not supposed to be going to large social gatherings, and we are supposed to be practicing social distancing, but when it comes to my Catholic Faith and Protecting the Unborn, I do only what the Holy Spirit moves me to do.”

And, with that for the second Sunday in a row, the man attended the only Catholic Church in South Florida that has remained open during this health pandemic, the Mary, Mother of the Light Maronite Church in Jupiter. He takes a prayer list with him to lift up all families whose loved ones are suffering from the coronavirus, including those who have died from the disease, and he also prays for some of Florida’s elected officials, as you will see why as you read on.

Guardiola has been waging a “heated battle” recently with those elected officials, including the Governor, to stop all abortions in the state, hoping to label them as “elective surgeries,” the kind of surgeries via Executive Order that have been deemed non-essential by the President during this pandemic. Now, you may be asking yourselves why I am documenting the actions of Willy Guardiola, so I am going to tell you.

I am not Catholic, though I am currently writing about a friend who is; I am a member of a non-denominational devout Christian church; I am also a member of a proud Jewish organization; and I am heavily involved in politics. So, I guess that makes me a kind of person, as the Bible says . . . WHO IS ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN, SO THAT I MIGHT SAVE SOME!!

Which brings me to my point: No matter what current Rules are dictated to us, we need to acknowledge those

Rules, while also remembering, as Willy Guardiola is doing, to be True to Ourselves, and practice . . . WHAT WE TRULY BELIEVE IN.

As we go through this health crisis, with all things “inside out and upside down”, and completely out of the norm as we know it, we have to remember what is important, while also keeping in mind that . . . “we can do more than one thing at a time.” Willy Guardiola is fighting to save Unborn Children from being aborted, while also fighting politically to help save a Republican administration in Washington that has Made America Great Again. My GOP club members and I, as well as other GOP clubs and their members, are helping those in our communities who are most at risk due to the virus, while also moving forward to send out written messages and make telephone calls, from now until November 3rd, to help save our country as we know it. We all have to be “multi-faceted” in the face of something that we have never experienced before. But . . . WE WILL GET THROUGH IT . . . TOGETHER!!

No matter the differences in our religious beliefs, our political methods of operation, our racial make up, our ethnic backgrounds, or our social differences, WE ARE ALL AMERICANS, LIVING IN THE GREATEST COUNTRY EVER ESTABLISHED ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

So, let’s all practice common sense health precautions, both among ourselves and with others, while at the same time doing our part to help keep Donald Trump in the White House, and to get all Republicans elected. Once the pandemic is over and under control, we will probably experience the shortest, but most important, public election campaign season in this country’s history, but remember, never forgetting, that I said the following: MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE ALL—AND I DO MEAN “ALL”—THE RESOURCES THAT WE WILL NEED TO WIN, BECAUSE WE HAVE “WHAT IS RIGHT,” AND THE LORD, ON OUR SIDE!!

GOD Bless.




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*Gene Robinson is President of the Tamarac/Margate/Coconut Creek GOP Club, and a proud Broward County, Florida, Republican. Cell phone: 754-245-5220*

*So, there 'tis:*  
**My Personal View: Restart the Economy ASAP**

*By Larry P. Horist*  
*April 6, 2020*

When people talk about saving lives above all else, I like to remind them that we can save tens of thousands of lives every year—guaranteed—if we just drop the national speed limit to 20 miles per hour. Yet, we would not consider that for a moment. Of course, we would pay a very high social and economic price to do that. So, those folks will just have to die so that we can maintain our economy-driven lifestyle.

We make this trade off every day in thousands of ways. Should we allow sports where people die—which includes virtually all sports? Should we ban “thrilling” activities like skydiving, bungee jumping, mountain climbing, skiing, etc?—all unnecessary activities that result in deaths.

If we grounded all airplanes, we would not see those terrible mass deaths in those all too frequent crashes. We accept a periodic loss of hundreds of lives for the sake of pleasure travel and commerce. Millions of Americans have died from drug and alcohol addictions, and the most we do about that is to issue warnings and liberalize our drug enforcement laws. We could outlaw smoking—as we tried with liquor. But in both cases, we decided that the social lifestyle cost was too high.

Overall, we have generally left it up to individuals to make the life-and-death choices. At the age of 75, I jumped out of an airplane for the first time knowing that I had the potential of dying. The death rate for skydiving (.0006) is just a little less than the death rate from the annual flu (.001). Is skydiving a necessity?

The unpleasant question is . . . how much death is acceptable so that the rest of us can maintain our lifestyle and livelihood? If you say “none,” you are a damn liar or hopelessly delusional.

There is a subtext, and I admit it is personal. Many may not share my view. I have long believed that dying for any reason after 65 or 70 from age and disease is NOT a tragedy. It is unfortunate, sad and leaves behind those who may mourn. A young person dying . . . that is a tragedy.

The older one gets, the less of a tragedy it becomes. When my parents died, I did not feel the shock or trauma of tragedy. I did not deeply grieve. I felt a melancholy sadness. I wept. I miss them, but I realized that they had fulfilled a reasonable lifetime—maybe not the longest, but a good run.

And so it is with me. At 77, I have just passed the life expectancy of an American male (76.2 years). I feel

blessed—luckier than many—to be entering extra innings. I am among those high-risk people with underlying conditions that you hear about all day on the news. Yet, I do not want to see America literally and figuratively destroy the lives of hundreds of millions of my fellow citizens—especially the younger generations—so that I might live a few years longer—or even a few days. I prefer to take my chance.

In a previous commentary, I said that if I were bedridden, in pain, pooping in my diaper in a misnamed “extended” (as opposed to “final”) care facility, I would welcome the virus as a gift from God and anyone bringing it to me. Issues of life and death are not simple.

Make no mistake. I enjoy life very much—and have no desire to die. But I have no fear of death, either. I have family and friends who love me. I have fans of my writing. But no one NEEDS me. Everyone would go on quite well without me.

I do not find that a depressing thought, but rather a source of satisfaction. Through the good grace of God and good fortune, I was able to get those who genuinely needed me in the past—children, elderly parents, a couple of friends and even employees—to be the self-sustained and independent individuals they are today.

The point is very simple. If re-opening the economy was put to a plebiscite, I would vote a decided “yes.” I would have no problem with taking reasonable precautions—a bit of social distancing, washing hands, covering coughs—but none of the extreme measures we see today. I would not want to destroy the successful America we enjoyed just weeks ago—and replace it with so much lost opportunity and despair.

Like it or not, we all must determine the balance between deaths and the general health of our society and culture. If it were up to me, I would immediately commence the process of a vigorous re-establishment of the commercial and employment economy. I would begin in phases, but I



*So, there 'tis—continued on next page*

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

would get American back to work. Individuals could decide if they wished to eat at a restaurant, attend a sports event, gather in the park or attend religious services—or not.

And based on my own experience and what I see on social media, those express such deep concern for vulnerable folks like me may be surprised to learn that there are a lot of seniors who share my thinking.

So, there 'tis.

## ***So, there 'tis...***

### **The opinions, perspectives and analyses of Larry Horist**

*Larry Horist is a businessman, conservative writer and political strategist with an extensive background in economics and public policy—with a special interest in minority issues. He has served as a consultant to the Nixon White House, travelled the country as a spokesman for President Reagan's economic reforms, and has testified as an expert witness before numerous legislative bodies, including the U.S. Congress. He writes for several online news services and is principle commentator for [PunchingBagPost.com](http://PunchingBagPost.com). You can also follow his video commentaries on [YouTube.com/LarryHorist](https://www.youtube.com/LarryHorist). He is actively semi-retired in Boca Raton, Florida. **So, there 'tis** is his signature sign off.*

## **Lighten Up!**

- Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.
- I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- Still haven't decided where to go for Easter—The Living Room or The Bedroom
- PSA: Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
- Homeschooling is going well. Two students suspended for fighting and one teacher fired for drinking on the job.
- I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.
- This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog . . . we laughed a lot.
- So, after this quarantine . . . will the producers of "My 600 Pound Life" just find me or do I find them?
- Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.
- My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee it cleans the toilet.
- Day 5 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.
- I'm so excited—it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
- I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Living Room.
- Classified Ad: "Single man with toilet paper seeks woman with hand sanitizer for good clean fun."
- Day 6 of Homeschooling: My child just said "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year." I'm offended.
- Better 6 feet apart than 6 feet under
- REMEMBER, NO STORM LASTS FOREVER. HOLD ON, BE BRAVE, HAVE FAITH. Every storm is temporary and we never face the storm alone. God is with us. Always . . . and, We Have Each Other!

**Club News**

**From the JCRC: “We Will Survive!”**



Dear Members and Friends,

The Covid-19 virus, aptly named the Chinese virus by President Trump, has immobilized and crippled the progress of the entire planet. We, you and I, have the options of moaning in place, stuffing quadruple rolls of Charmin in every available free space, and carrying around a tape measure to guarantee a six-foot separation from every other human being, or just plain waiting the pandemic out with patience and street smarts. Eventually it will just go away and life will return to what we considered normal, whatever the hell that was.

This will be another powerful, traumatic life event that we will carry with us the rest of our lives. Some of us recall December 7th, the 1962 U.S./Russian/Cuban atomic missile stand-off, and 9-11. They staggered us, frightened us, shook us up, but we prevailed and went on with our lives. So will we after this thing has been beaten. Let’s take the attitude that we will be ever stronger as a result of this horror. We

will incorporate the sanitary procedures we’ve learned as everyday habits. We will take our politicians to task for endangering American lives they’ve put at risk by shamefully and cruelly, politicizing this disease. We will all come to understand the necessity for making our borders health and background check point stations for all who wish to set foot into America. A century ago, without the medical knowledge we are blessed with today, we had each and every wishful immigrant go through what we now consider to be a primitive health check. And it worked. My parents happily and willingly went through this process. They and millions of others considered themselves blessed and privileged to be checked over as a stepping stone to citizenship.

So, let’s get used to this isolation. Let’s read, write letters, do research, daydream, converse on the phone and just stay well. And lastly, the meetings of the Judeo/Christian Republican Club will resume as soon as the air clears and life returns to normal . . . as we know it will. Let’s thank G-d that we live in this great land and that we have as our President a person who is not concerned with being likable, nice, even tempered or political. He is what he is—a true leader whose goal is not personal gain, fame or caving to special interests. He’s an American first, last and always. Let’s stick with and support him.

Thanks,  
 Alan Bergstein  
 President  
 Judeo/Christian Republican Club



## Letters

### Help the Oil Patch

Lost in all the real concerns about the COVID-19 virus has been the fact that the Saudis and the Russians have been destroying the U.S. oil production and the oil chain in general.

Supposedly, they got into an argument when the Saudis wanted to reduce production and the Russians would not. As a result, both decided to open the oil spigots as far as they could and kill the U.S. oil business. They knew that we had obtained independence from their oil and they wanted to get the dependency back.

The Saudis now produce 15.5 million barrels a day and the Russians about 550,000 (or so it is reported). These two so-called friends of ours in fact have declared an economic war on our oil industries, but there is a solution.

I saw a video clip of the *Wall Street Journal* online in which Maria Bartiromo was interviewing Harold Hamm, the former CEO of Continental Resources, a long-time oil man with a net worth of \$3.1 billion, and a pioneer in the shale oil production which largely helped to create our independence. Mr. Hamm had what I thought was a simple and highly effective way to shove the Saudi/Russian oil back at them and save our oil business. He suggested the President, with his existing powers, just declare an embargo of all Saudi and Russian oil. While that will certainly cause a rise in oil and gas prices, it will simply return them to their pre-February 15th level, save our oil industry (particularly the shale producers), and punish those who would kill our important oil industries.

This is an idea that is worth pursuing, and maybe even the public suggestion of it by the President might have a good influence to resolve this oil-killing move by the Saudis and Russians. I personally would just announce it one day with out prior notice. Sometimes a good shock to your enemy can help bring about a quick resolution of an otherwise nasty problem.

If you agree, please feel free to pass this on. Who knows, it might get to someone's ear who can make it happen.

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### He's in Charge!

Let's consider this corona virus thing not only as a medical threat to humanity, one that will have to be remedied by scientific methodology with a dose or two of faith, but also perhaps, a message to us all that we are in the hands of G-d. He calls the shots as he has always done. It's significant that Pesach is going to be celebrated soon and this year the format for our family gatherings will be changed. Perhaps, for large gatherings canceled for the first time in memory. We'll have to seclude ourselves from one another yet Pesach must go on, perhaps one family at a time. It's in G-d's hands. He's in charge!

We are in the midst of a plague greater than any of the ten which G-d brought down on the Egyptians. There were obvious reasons for that one. The need to free the Jews from their slavery. And yet, there isn't a rational explanation for this current affliction rampaging across the world. That's what our scientists who talk of germs and viruses tell us. They never bring up the supreme being who determines who shall become ill and survive; live or die. Perhaps they should consider this plague a message from above that we must treat our bodies with dignity and respect, not submit them to the ravages of man's decisions to desecrate and show disrespect for what G-d has created. Look at the cries of radicalized women stridently demanding that they and only they are in control of their bodies. Abortion on demand, killing babies, alcoholism, drug addiction are all violations of our creator's plans for humanity. We flaunt His will and we are being reminded that Hashem is in charge, that He's the boss.

Maimonides, who practiced medicine a thousand years ago, wrote of the need for man to take charge of his own body, to keep it clean, to respect it. He wrote, without the knowledge of the germ theory, that man is obligated to practice good hygiene. He considered humans to be the creations of G-d, to be protected. Perhaps this current scourge is His message to us to wake up to our overt slide away from goodness and the belief in a Supreme Being. G-d may have a plan. It may be a warning to us all, people of all faiths, to take sort of a time out, retreat to one's room or home, seclude oneself, re-think and reconsider the Ten Commandments, faith in G-d, goodness and finally, bring back respect for the proper treatment of the human body. Remember, we are not in control. He is.

Alan Bergstein

## Book Review

***The Viral Storm: The Dawn of a New Pandemic Age*, by Nathan Wolfe. New York: Times Books, Henry Holt and Company, 2011. Hardcover, 305 pp. ISBN: 978-0-8050-9194-6.**

I read this book, *The Viral Storm*, when it was first published in 2011 and my reasons for reviewing it now need no explanation. Author Nathan Wolfe is the Lorry I. Lokey Visiting Professor in Human Biology at Stanford University and founder and CEO of Global Viral Forecasting, an independent research institute devoted to early detection and control of epidemics. He has a doctorate in Immunology and Infectious Diseases from Harvard. He has been published in many publications including *Nature*, *Science*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Scientific American*, *Discover*, *Popular Science* and *Forbes*. In 2011 he was named one of *Time* magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World.

To say that Dr. Wolfe's book, written nearly a decade ago, was prescient is an understatement. His crystal ball on the future was as good as anybody's, and human interest the world over in his field of expertise has never been higher than it is right now.

Here's what he had to say about viruses at a seminar he taught at Stanford, meant to evoke curiosity among prospective students and get them to envision the world from the perspective of a virus: "Imagine that you have powerful glasses allowing you to perceive any and all microbes. If you could, you would instantly see a whole new, and very active world. The floor would seethe, the walls would throb and everything would swarm with invisible life. They would blanket every surface—your coffee cup, the pages of the book on your lap, your actual lap. This alien army is everywhere and some of its most powerful soldiers are its smallest. They are everywhere, unavoidable, infecting every plant, fungus, and animal that makes up our world. One estimate suggests that if all the viruses on Earth were lined up head to tail the resulting chain would extend 200 million light years, far beyond the edge of our own Milky Way galaxy."

And here's a famous prediction Dr. Wolfe quotes in his book from Sir Martin Rees, the former president of the Royal Society of London, that runs chills up one's spine

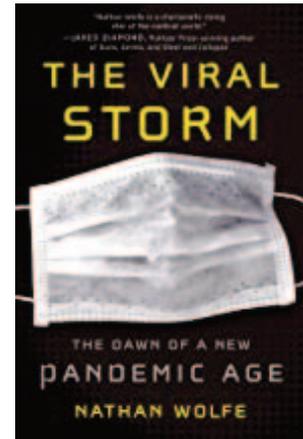
today in the midst of what we're going through: "... by the year 2020 an instance of bioerror or bioterror will have killed a million people."

According to Dr. Wolfe, in the early 2000s *The Viral Microarray* was developed by scientists, which consists of specialized computer chips and was spread to labs throughout the world. They've quickly identified the microbial villain responsible for new pandemics, like the coronavirus that causes SARS.

And here's another factoid offered by the author that undoubtedly surprises most of us: Only about one out of every ten cells between your hat and shoes is human—the other nine belong to the mass of bacteria that coat our skin, live in our guts, and thrive in our mouths.

In his book written nine years ago, Dr. Wolfe, nicknamed "the Indiana Jones of virus hunters," provides a picture of where we stand with regard to pandemics and other microbial risks—to explain the central characters, the microbes on their own terms, and to examine how the major events in human history and evolution have effected our relationship with them. What he shows is that a range of early events have created the conditions for a perfect viral storm [which may very well be what we're seeing now].

Nonetheless, despite the frightening picture he presents about the viral threat we face from this unseen enemy, he ends the book on this hopeful note: "[Although] we live in a world fraught with risk from new pandemics, fortunately we also now live in an era with the tools to build a global immune system. This huge but simple idea is that we should and can be doing a much better job to predict and prevent pandemics. But the really bold idea is that we could reach a point in which we become so good at this that we mark the 'last plague'—a time in which we are so capable of catching and stopping pandemics that we won't even need the word."



—Tom Mullings

## Editor's Postscript

### Pandemic's Greatest Lesson: Trump's First-Term Campaign Pledge to Push Back Against China's Unfair Economic Dealings with West Was Long Overdue

By Tom Mullings

Let's face it, if there is one paramount lesson to be learned from this global pandemic we are in, it's this: Trump's most important 2016 campaign pledge to voters was to directly confront China over its unfair trade and economic dealings with the West in general and the United States in particular. For decades these dealings have been consistently characterized, by lies, broken promises, failure to abide by signed agreements, massive intellectual property theft, and demands for American companies to turn over technology as a price of doing business with the "princelings" of Beijing.

This one-way scam has gone on long enough and President Trump, unlike any of his predecessors for decades, knows it and is determined to put a stop to it.

"We have rebuilt China. Now it's time that we change things around," he told White House reporters months ago. "If they don't want to trade with us anymore, that would be fine with me. It would save a lot of money."

Indeed, it would, along with high technology and everything else that's not nailed down in our country that they've been helping themselves to for so long.

"They're [Chinese communists] praying, they're praying. They would like to see a new president [in this year's election] so they can continue to rip off the United States like they've been doing for the last 25 years," Mr. Trump has said.

And who better to accomplish that than "Sleepy Joe" Biden as president and perhaps his son as a special envoy to the Middle Kingdom, who have both been so accommodating in the past for a measly billion-dollar fee in return, all in the interests of the country they love so much, of course.

"If Mr. Xi hangs tough," opined David Von Drehle in the *Washington Post* a while back, "he can likely tip the U.S. into a recession and cripple Mr. Trump's chances of re-election."

No offense to Mr. Von Drehle, but it sure feels to me like we're being tipped into the toilet, not a recession.

In the meantime, while the western world does it's best to seek shelter from the viral storm that has descended upon it, China, where the storm originated, has miraculously emerged in record time from its ravages, seemingly unscathed and per-

fectly positioned, as Tom Rogan recently said in an opinion piece, to continue it's efforts "to fundamentally alter the nature of international order away from the rule of law and democratic values into a system of feudal mercantilism."

And guess what else China is perfectly positioned to do after emerging from this pandemic so fast it makes one's head spin—make "coronavirus supplies other countries need to fight the virus," according to an excellent report on India Television. "They're making gloves, masks and even ventilators. So, first China put the world in ICU and now it is selling them ventilators. According to a report, in the first two months of this year, 9,000 new manufacturers in China began producing masks. They're producing over 100,000,000 now.

China exported the virus to the world. Now the world is sick and China is selling them the balm, and while the world tries to heal, China's already up and running."

It is high time we end this ridiculous relationship with the Communist Party of China. As President Trump has said, "They've been eating our lunch for decades" and we desperately need to put an end to it. All of this reminds me of a famous quote attributed to Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin and Karl Marx, among others, that goes something like this: "When it comes time to hang the capitalists, they will sell us

the rope." So, with that in mind, please allow me to propose a novel three-point plan to deal with this situation—

1. Stop selling them rope.
2. Stop buying masks, ventilators, and everything else from them.
3. DUHHH!!!!



*Tom Mullings is a decorated Army infantry combat veteran of the Vietnam War, who served as a scout dog handler with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He was one of the three original incorporators of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a long-time Republican Executive Committeeman from precinct 5154 in Palm Beach County.*



# Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

The Republican Executive Committee (also known as the REC) is the governing body of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The REC elects the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Party. Members of the REC also approve the Party's constitution; Rules, Policies & Procedures; and budget.

Members of the Republican Executive Committee represent registered Republicans who live in their precinct and serve as the Party's liaison to the Republicans within that precinct. REC members are expected to maintain contact with Republicans living in their precinct and to keep them informed as to what is going on in the Republican Party. This can be done through E-mail or other means like regular mail, phone calls and/or walking your precinct. The REC is the basis for our grassroots efforts and we rely on REC Members to organize and develop their precincts, recruit new volunteers, recruit candidates to fill vacancies on the REC, find sign locations for Republican candidates, register new Republican voters and work to get out the Republican vote in their precincts during elections. The role of committeeman or committeewoman is essential to Republican Party's and our candidates' success in Palm Beach County.

### REC Committeeman & Committeewoman Duties and Responsibilities

1. Expected to donate financially to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County
2. Attend REC Meetings
3. Organize your precinct and carry out the policies and programs of the Party within your precinct. Active participation in the various programs of the Party is expected.
4. Serve on a Party Committee.
5. Develop a presence in the broader community by joining a Republican Club; serving on a local board or committee; or monitoring local media for relevant material.

*ALL APPLICANTS FOR THE REC MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN IN PALM BEACH COUNTY. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REC APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT ALONG WITH A PHOTO COPY OF THE FRONT OF YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CARD. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S VOTER REGISTRATION CARD WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. YOU WILL ALSO NEED THE SIGNATURES BELOW OF TWO CURRENT REC MEMBERS. THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IS 11:00 AM, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REC MEETING.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Check here if you DO NOT want your email reported to the Supervisor of Elections thus making it a matter of public record under Florida law. \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct #: \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for the position of: Committeeman \_\_\_\_\_ Committeewoman \_\_\_\_\_

### Two Current REC Members' Sponsor Signatures:

1). \_\_\_\_\_ REC Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_ 2). \_\_\_\_\_ REC Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your REC Application to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County Headquarters,  
1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 500, West Palm Beach 33401 Phone (561) 686-1616

Paid for by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, independent of any candidate or committee. [www.pbcgop.org](http://www.pbcgop.org)



**Republican Party of Florida  
Party Loyalty Oath**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, swear and/or affirm that during my term of  
**(Name of Member – Please write clearly)**

office I will not actively, publicly, or financially support the election of any candidate seeking election against:

- (1) The Republican Party's nominee in a partisan unitary, general, or special election that includes a Republican nominee; or
- (2) A registered Republican in a non-partisan election except that this provision does not apply to judicial races under Chapter 105, Florida Statutes.

I further swear or affirm that, in a contested Republican primary election, I will not support the nomination of one Republican candidate over another in my capacity as a Republican County Executive Committee member unless the Party has voted to endorse under RPOF Rule 8. This provision does not preclude me from supporting in any manner my personal Republican candidate of choice in a contested Republican primary election, provided I do not express such support with public reference to my title or office within the Republican Party of Florida.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
County/Precinct #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

**(State Committeeman, State Committeewoman; Precinct Committeeman, Precinct Committeewoman;  
Alt. Precinct Committeeman, Alt. Precinct Committeewoman)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, as it appears on voter registration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CANDIDATE OATH –</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Committeemen and Committeewomen</b></p> <p><b>Check applicable one:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> District Committeeman or Committeewoman</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> State Committeeman or Committeewoman</p>	<p><b>OFFICE USE ONLY</b></p>
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**Candidate Oath**  
(Sections 99.021(1)(a) and (2), Florida Statutes)

I, \_\_\_\_\_

*(Print name above as you wish it to appear on the ballot. If your last name consists of two or more names but has no hyphen, check box . (See page 2 - Compound Last Names). No change can be made after the end of qualifying.)*

am a candidate for the office of  **Committeeman**  **Committeewoman**

**Precinct/District Number** \_\_\_\_\_ *(Not applicable to State Committeemen and State Committeewomen),*

I am a qualified elector of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Florida; I am qualified under the Constitution and the Laws of Florida to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; and I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

**Statement of Party**  
(Section 99.021(1)(b), Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party; I have not been a registered member of any other political party for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, as a candidate for said office by the executive committee of the political party, of which I am a member.

**Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number** (located on your voter information card): \_\_\_\_\_

**Phonetic spelling for audio ballot:** Print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot as may be used by persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form): *[Not applicable to write-in candidates.]*

\_\_\_\_\_

<b>X</b>	( )	
<b>Signature of Candidate</b>	Telephone Number	Email Address
Address	City	State
		ZIP Code
<b>STATE OF FLORIDA</b>		
<b>COUNTY OF</b> _____		
<b>Signature of Notary Public</b>		
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below:		
Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this _____		
day of _____, 20____.		
Personally Known: _____ or Produced Identification: _____		
Type of Identification Produced: _____		