

Republican Club at The Villages

Newsletter

June 2021

Per the CAGOP June 4 Weekly Newsletter, the Chairwoman, Jessica Millan Patterson, was asked: *What do you think the effects will be for California kids after not having in-person classroom education for over a year?*

Her answer: “The inability of Governor Gavin Newsom to stand up to his allies in the teachers’ unions and reopen public schools is an absolute travesty. California continues to have the least reopened schools in the nation as too many children are finishing a second year of virtual learning. This will no doubt increase the education gap that already exists in our state. And an important aspect of in-person education is the social interaction children have with each other and their teachers. This could have implications for their mental health long term.”

Per [Bay Area](#) GOP.com’s June newsletter, as published by our own Luis Buhler, also forwarded by Uncle Burt, former Governor Jeb Bush has said:

“The pandemic made plain that if you let adults be the priority in how you run your schools, students will always come second, at best. Despite every effort to reopen schools and despite evidence that it was safe to do so, many school unions and school bureaucracies fought the parents tooth and nail.”

Echoing Jessica Patterson, Jeb bush said: “Students have suffered in every possible way: Their intellectual growth, future learning, physical and mental-health well-being and future lifetime earnings have all been slowed or stunted.”

“Now,” he said, “parents are voting with their feet. Public-school enrollments are down by 2 percent — representing more than 500,000 students. That’s well off the usual increase of a half-percent per year. And official enrollment figures may mask the full extent of the crisis, as several school systems continued to ‘count’ students as attending even if they had withdrawn completely from virtual-learning programs.”

Ed. Note: We are hearing that parents have been stunned and then outraged as they have glimpsed some of what their young learning-from-home students are being exposed to – but that’s another story.

FOR THE RECORD

General Meeting Dates (All Thursdays)

You have all seen the front page of the June 17 Villager regarding the schedule of reopening the facilities. Not mentioned there were the Vineyard Center and Foothill Centers. We have it on good report from Secretary Sue Herfurth, though, that they will open on July 6 and be available on a reservation basis. Our Reservations, Menu and Decorations people will swing into gear, as publicity and speaker search get underway. Separate messages will go out to all as meeting details, including Board meetings, are firmed up.

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Biden's Proposed Capital Gains Tax Increase

The federal tax rate on long-term capital gains was increased from 15% to 20% in 2012. Who was president then? Let me think. Oh, yes. It was Obama. It was part of the "American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012," although an increase may not sound much like relief. A 3.8% Obama Care surcharge was added, bringing the rate to 23.8%.

The Biden Administration's tax proposal during the latter part of April included increasing Obama's 20% to 39.6% and retaining the Obama Care surcharge. The 39.6% figure sounds like a precise, carefully calculated number, but I'll bet they just didn't want to be completely obvious. They didn't want to be seen as simply doubling the rate from 20% to 40% with no real calculations involved.

A pair of Opinion pieces in the April 26, 2021 Wall Street Journal explain how this doubling of the capital gains tax rate results in less revenues for the government, not more. One headline, by Lawrence Lindsey, a former Federal Reserve governor, reads "Biden Taxes for Punishment's Sake." The other is entitled "The Dumbest Tax Increase" and concludes with: "So why raise a tax rate that would reduce investment, reduce wage growth and reduce revenue for the government: Temporary economic insanity is one possible explanation. Mr. Lindsey suggests another: punishment for its own sake."

The "Dumbest Tax Increase" article ends with: "This is what happens when you turn your economic policy over to Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren. Envy is in the political saddle, and Joe Biden is going along for the ride." **I'm not sure who is envious of what, but that sure is a clever thing to say -Ed.**

Fox News' Tucker Carlson Delightfully Combines Humor and Insight. Excerpts from the May 20 broadcast

As Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer reminded us yesterday, what happened on January 6 is comparable to the American Civil War: SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER: "We all know there needs to be a thorough and honest accounting of what took place on January 6th, the greatest attempted insurrection since the Civil War."

Oh, it was an insurrection. So how many of the participants in that insurrection have been charged with insurrection, with sedition, with treason? Zero. Instead, they've been charged with effectively trespassing.

But you can still see the similarities. During the civil war, more than half a million people were shot to death. On January 6th, one person was shot to death, and she turned out to be an unarmed Trump voter gunned down without explanation by the Capitol Hill Police. But other than that, basically the same thing.

Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio made a similarly sweeping point. He didn't mention Gettysburg or Shiloh, but he did point out that anyone who votes against this commission is responsible for climate change: TIM RYAN: "We have people scaling the Capitol, hitting the Capitol police with lead pipes across the head and we can't get bipartisanship ... If we're gonna take on China, if we're gonna rebuild the country, if we're gonna reverse climate change, we need two political parties in this country that are both living in reality..."

Apparently, he made a compelling argument. Thirty-five Republicans in the House voted for the commission yesterday — joining what Tim Ryan described as the party that's "living in reality" — the party that wears surgical masks outside and thinks it's possible to change your sex. The "reality party."

One of the Republicans who voted with the "reality party" is Congressman Adam Kinzinger of Illinois. "I support a bipartisan January 6 commission," he wrote on Twitter. "This should not be about party politics or become a partisan fight." Well of course not. You wouldn't expect partisanship or party politics from Democrats in the House of Representatives. Pretty funny.

To be fair, Adam Kinzinger is widely understood to be among the slowest members of Congress — Mazie Hirono* slow. So, it's entirely possible he had no idea what he was saying. Maybe he didn't even write it. *Junior Senator from Hawaii-Ed.

What's harder to explain are the several Republicans in the Senate, including Bill Cassidy of Louisiana and Susan Collins of Maine, who've suggested they, too, will support the commission. **(They did.)**

Unlike Adam Kinzinger, Collins and Cassidy can read without moving their lips.

Introducing Arrowhead Republican Women (Just for interest and inspiration)

From their June newsletter:

From the 1st Vice President – Programs: “Kari Lake (**June luncheon speak**) walked away from the mainstream media after 22 years on Fox 10 (**Not to be confused with conservative Fox News.**) She shocked viewers when she resigned in 2021 at the top of her game, blowing the whistle on the dishonesty and bias in the media. The public trust in the media has fallen to a record low simply due to the biased reporting in today’s media coverage.”

From the 2nd Vice President – Membership: “Arrowhead Republican Women continues to grow because we are a local affiliate of the Arizona Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women. When you join this club, you are joining a grassroots network of thousands of Republican Women throughout the country. ARW now has 238 members and 31 associate members for a total of 269.”

From a contributing editor: WHY DO WE HAVE FLAG DAY ON JUNE 14?

When the American Revolution broke out in 1775, most regiments participating in the war for independence against the British fought under their own flags. In June of 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia to create the Continental Army—a unified colonial fighting force—with the hopes of more organized battle against its colonial oppressors.

This led to the creation of what was, essentially, the first “American” flag, the Continental Colors. For some, this flag, which was comprised of 13 red and white alternating stripes and a Union Jack in the corner, was too similar to the British flag. George Washington soon realized that flying a flag that was even remotely close to the British flag was not a great confidence-builder for the revolutionary effort, so he turned his efforts towards creating a new symbol of freedom for the soon-to-be fledgling nation.

On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress took a break from writing the Articles of Confederation and passed a resolution stating that “the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white,” and that “the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.” Over 100 years later, in 1916, President Woodrow Wilson marked the anniversary of that decree by officially establishing June 14 as Flag Day.

It is widely believed that Betsy Ross, who assisted the Revolutionary War effort by repairing uniforms and sewing tents, made and helped design the first American flag. However, there is no historical evidence that she contributed to Old Glory’s creation. It was not until her grandson William Canby held an 1870 press conference to recount the story that the American public learned of her possible role.

MEDIA BIAS- Tom Zades

Widespread, pervasive Left-wing bias in the media needs no proving to our members and, in any case, the “proofs” often boil down to a series of quotes, anecdotes and examples. My mind instead runs to underlying causes: We know where we are...but how did we get here?

- Fox News contributor Liz Peek has pointed out that: “Over the past several decades our schools have become incubators for the progressive Left. Liberal professors have taught millennials and younger generations that our country was founded on a lie and that our free enterprise system is ‘rigged.’ These young people now occupy newsrooms and social media firms.”
- Noted historian and former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, has put it in even stronger language: “Public universities and colleges continued to hire vehement anti-American professors. We did not think through the eventual reality that graduates who had been taught systematic falsehoods would take those falsehoods into their jobs. This educated ignorance has now infested our news media, bureaucracies and corporate headquarters. These are sincere fanatics.”
- As Harvard Law Professor Emeritus Alan Dershowitz said on “American Agenda” last month: “Academia is so far-left today, and they're graduating these young people who are taking over the newsrooms and the editorial rooms of all the media, and ***the media is becoming the Democratic Party***, and that's not the way the marketplace of ideas is supposed to operate.” (*Italics and bolding mine, ed.*)

Editorial thought:

There is a quote generally attributed to Winston Churchill, to wit: “The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter.” That thought came to mind as I read something recently.

I was copied on an email about a third-grade teacher and her experience trying to teach the children about politics by having them hold an election for class president, or something. It's probably a true story. In the “primary” process, the kids narrowed down the candidates to a boy and a girl.

The two were then to give speeches telling the children why they should vote for that candidate. The boy evidently made several good points, then sat down. The girl got up and said that she would give everyone free ice cream and then sat down. The class went wild with excitement.

The teacher tried to prompt the kids to ask questions like “How will you pay for this ice cream?” “What are your qualifications?” The girl had no answers, but the kids didn't care. They wanted ice cream! She won in a landslide.

Isn't that akin to what we are up against? To the extent that voters think like third-graders (and not all do, of course,) far left liberals will always win. Student loan forgiveness? Free college? Food stamps? Enhanced unemployment checks? What's not to like?

From Dr. Hans Gerbert Bogensberger, a member of the Sun City Grand Republican Club:

A Journey Back to our Future

Watching the evening news and seeing buildings in flames, shop windows being broken and mobs chanting reminds me of things that took place long ago in Nazi Germany. The events happening in Portland, Seattle and Minneapolis remind me of the Reichstag burning, shops being looted, synagogues in shambles and chaos on the streets.

Who would ever have imagined that these events could take place in our country? The suppression of free speech in the mainstream media, the attempt to censor books and publications led in Germany to the infamous book burning of well-known authors like Thomas Mann, Remarque, Stefan Zweig, Bertolt Brecht and others.

Unfortunately, it looks like there is a replaying of this sad event in America today, with children's books like Dr. Seuss' being taken off the shelves. Did the poisonous ideology of the Nazis find its way to America? It is high time that we wake up, realize what is happening, and start to end these movements before they overpower us and take away our freedoms!!

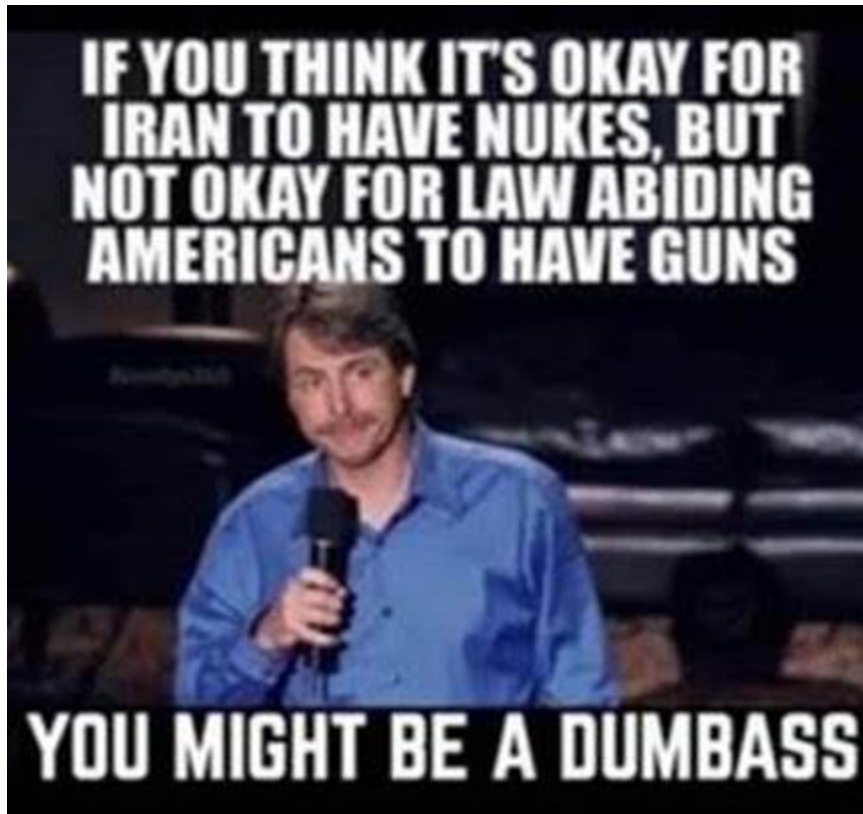
Note:

Dr. Bogensberger ("Dr. Hans") was born in 1941 – at the height of World War II - in Spittal/Drau, Austria, then a part of Germany. His parents were tailors. He was able to start elementary school in 1946, but began a three-year apprenticeship as a tailor in 1955. In 1962 he was able to begin the study of physics at the University of Vienna/Wien, graduating in 1970 with a PhD in nuclear physics.

Dr. Hans began his professional career in 1970 as a scientist at the Nuclear Research Center in Karlsruhe/ Germany. By 1979 he was presenting papers in New Delhi/ India, Munich, Germany and Cannes, France. He also gave presentations in Hamburg, Rome, Los Angeles, Vienna, San Diego, Jamaica, at DOW Chemical in Midland, Mi, and at Toshiba in Tokyo during his career.

In 1989 he became the head of the Development and Engineering Department for Johnson Controls in Europe. He left there in 1993 to give lectures at the Goethe University in Frankfurt and retired, after an illustrious career, in 2002.

If I may editorialize for him a bit, the merit-based system of free enterprise and personal freedom that allowed Dr. Hans to realize his potential is under attack in the United States like never before.



From our favorite redneck comedian – Jeff Foxworthy