



Life, Liberty, Private Property

by Rep. Pepper Ottman

A couple years ago, I decided to run for Wyoming House Dist. 34. I believed that I should make it clear not only to the voters but, myself, who I was and what I believed.

I believe in Life. Life is precious and created when a man and woman come together as one. Opportunities have come my way, I have been able to follow that direction and enjoy every single minute.

Many others believe too! September 10th in Centennial Park in Lander, a 40 Days for Life Kickoff Rally was held. I was honored to be one of the speakers and it was glorifying to hear the voices ring out in support of human life and the God who created male and female. This kickoff was the nexus for the 40 Days daily prayer vigils. People sign up to pray each day on the corner of 2nd and Main. You can sign up by going to the 40 Days for Life Website. Closing ceremony will be the 31st of October.

Oct. 2nd was the wonderful annual fundraiser for Abba's House whose pro-life ministry is filled with hope and compassion. Senator Tim Salazar spoke on "The State of Wyoming and Abortion" and Guest Speaker Dr. Marc Newman Founder, Speaker for Life gave a rallying cry for the cause of supporting life in all stages. He also gave a training Sunday evening. The evenings were productive and cause for action!

I believe in Liberty. We are faced with the Covid 19 dilemma and the inoculation situation. Not a day goes by that someone from the local education or medical community isn't calling and asking for the State of WY government to **do something**. Fear and shock.

We are following the Rules of the 66th Legislature and have, this week, attained enough votes to begin the process of having a Special Session. It is to be a one topic Session and has been overwhelmingly requested that it be **only** for its intents and purposes, to help our citizens protest any inoculation and labor mandates. At Health and Labor Committee meetings in Casper, Sept. 16th and 17th we had numerous testimonies from medical professionals that would be leaving their employment at Banner Health. Serious. In Fremont we also have k – 12 schools, CWC,

...continued on page 4

From the Chair

Much discussion is happening about President Biden's vaccine mandate for companies over 100 employees, and all federal employees. Forcing people to take the covid-19 shot without their consent is generally not considered to be in line with American principles of freedom, at the least. At the most, this could be a genocide the likes of which has not been seen since the Holocaust.

Let's consider this situation:

First, this is a new medicine. It has been available for less than a year, and it underwent very little testing prior to its release. To claim that we know enough about the long term effects of this shot is simply not true. The mandate has not yet taken into consideration those who may have acquired natural immunity towards covid-19 by actually having covid-19.

Second, mRNA vaccines have never before been safely produced.

Third, substantial claims are being made as to the safety of this shot, running from blood coagulation to heart attacks. Its ability to protect against the COVID-19 virus is questionable as rumors abound as to the number of hospitalized patients who have received the shot.

Fourth, the US Constitution reserves those items not specifically enumerated to the federal government as state's rights. Medical issues are not enumerated, so the federal government has no authority to make mandates on our health.

Until the shot has been proven to be effective against the illness it is supposed to be protecting from, until the shot is proven to be safe in the long term, until it is proven that antibodies from contracting COVID-19 disappear and a person is in danger, it is simply not reasonable to mandate this for so many people, even when removing the Constitutional protections we are afforded.

Governor Gordon has the ability to call a special legislative session to deal with this issue, and he is considering this option. Here are ways you can make your voice heard on this matter:

1. Call the Governor and request a special legislative session. His number is (307) 777-7434.
2. Call your legislators and express to them what you want them to legislate once this session is called. They can be reached at:

Representative Pepper Ottman, 307-851-7711, pepper.ottman@wyoleg.gov

Representative Ember Oakley, 307-349-0222, ember.oakley@wyoleg.gov

Representative Andrea Clifford, 307-840-4327, Andrea.clifford@wyoleg.gov

Representative Lloyd Larsen, 307-321-1221, Lloyd.Larsen@wyoleg.gov

Senator Ed Cooper, 307-851-5949, Ed.cooper@wyoleg.gov

Senator Tim Salazar, 307-220-1213, tim.salazar@wyoleg.gov

Senator Cale Case, 307-332-7623, Cale.case@wyoleg.gov

Here are some topics I suggest, just to start conversations, although I think each of you has several topics you can think of as well!

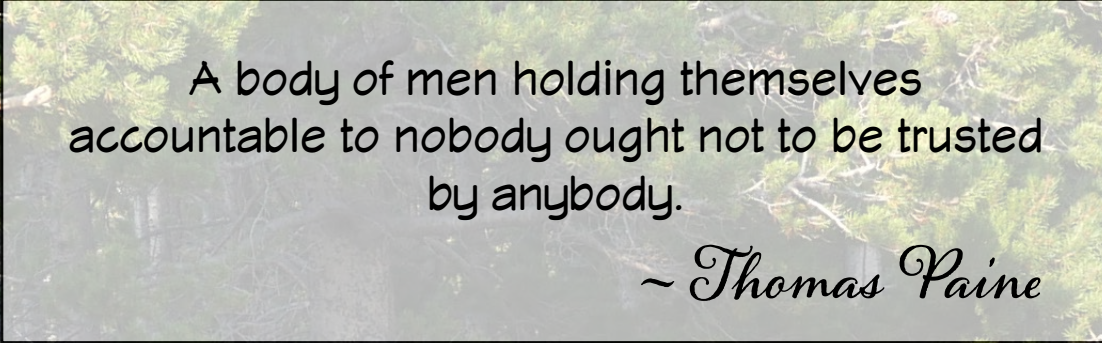
1. If a person receives the shot because a company mandates it, and the shot causes damages or death to that individual, will these injuries be covered by Worker's Compensation?
2. If these shots cause injury or death to an individual, could the State of Wyoming provide a method of re-

course against the manufacturers, doctors, and hospitals? The companies who follow the mandate?

3. If a person refuses the shot, will they be covered by unemployment insurance? Will this affect Unemployment Insurance premiums for the company?
4. What protections will the State of Wyoming provide the people of this state from a second round of “booster shot mandates”?
5. If a state agency/school district mandates the shot, what will the effect be on the state funding available to them?

I am sure there are many topics I haven't thought of that you have. Because this situation has been so quickly changing, it is not possible for the legislature to think of everything themselves either. It is of paramount importance that we participate in our government at this time! Please, contact your legislators with your thoughts on the COVID-19 mandates. Our freedoms depend on our actions!

Ginger Bennett, Chairman
Fremont County Republican Party



A body of men holding themselves
accountable to nobody ought not to be trusted
by anybody.

~ Thomas Paine

What Is 30 x 30?

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The 30 x 30 program is a plan advanced by radical environmental activists to permanently protect 30% of America's land and oceans by 2030. The program was adopted by the Biden Administration through Executive Order 14008, “Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad” (86 Fed. Reg. 7,619), signed January 27, 2021.

Proponents argue that climate impacts are human-caused, and permanently preserving 30% of America's land and oceans is necessary to reverse climate change. This action must be taken immediately, they claim, to avoid impacts on the ecosystem and wildlife. However, the science and data do not justify these extreme policy measures.

30 x 30 is an unconstitutional policy shift, moving us from a nation founded on private property principles to one controlled by the administrative state.

For more information, please visit <https://fight30x30.americanstewards.us/download>.

10 Key Points

...to know about the 30 x 30 Program

1. The 30 x 30 program is a plan **advanced by radical environmental activists** calling for the permanent protection of 30 percent of America's lands and oceans by 2030. It is an international agenda, not a locally driven initiative.
2. The plan is being aggressively **pushed by the Biden Administration** using the politically motivated climate crisis agenda to gain control of American's land. They have promised to use every tool in the toolbox, from conservation programs to federal land acquisitions and withdrawals.
3. There is **no credible scientific reasoning** or facts that support the need to preserve any specific amount of land to "cure" climate change.
4. If restricting land solves climate change and prevents species from going extinct, as they claim, we would not be in a climate crisis today, because **one-third of the United States is already owned by Federal and State governments** and managed under restrictive land use protections.
5. **Their "crisis" math does not add up.** If we are losing a football field (1.32 acres) to development every 30 seconds, as they claim, this roughly totals 11 million acres by 2030. That is far short of the 681 million acres they say must be permanently protected to avoid the forthcoming irreversible climate disaster.
6. There is **no constitutional or statutory authority** for the President, the Department of the Interior, or the Department of Agriculture, to set aside and permanently preserve 30 percent of all land and oceans in the U.S., and no such authority is referenced in the Executive Order or the President's 30 x 30 report.
7. Instead of working with States, local governments and stakeholders, the Biden Administration's first act to implement 30 x 30 was to **remove local governments veto power over federal land acquisitions**, when they rescinded the Department of Interior Secretarial Order 3388.
8. The advocates behind the program **do not have any "skin in the game,"** or property to conserve. They are seeking to place other people's land and property rights under the control of the administrative state.
9. Taking 30 percent of our lands and oceans is only the first step. Advocates are working towards the **international goal, known as the "Half-Earth" agenda**, to permanently conserve 50 percent of our lands and oceans by 2050.
10. If proponents were truly concerned about the welfare of species and habitat, they would oppose placing more land under the control of federal management or environmental elites and instead remove the regulatory restrictions on **America's landowners who provide the best habitat**, while producing the food, fiber, minerals, and energy we depend on to create wealth, defend our liberties, and live free.

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daycares, health clinics, hospitals, Head Start, Reservation offices, as well as county offices with policy making decisions to be dealt with. People are standing on their principles of medical rights to govern what goes into their bodies. The right to choose if it's worth being part of a clinical trial. That is what this is. There are not any previous trials for these inoculations. I will vote for the right to choose and will find out what that will mean when it comes to making laws, policy, and stands. Is this a case of asserting States Rights? Is it a Labor issue? How many will vote one way how many the other?

I believe in Personal Property. Michael Guggenmos has begun an exceptional class, "Constitution Alive!". This 6-week study has introduced us to the men who wrote, lived, and died for our Declaration of Independence and US Constitution. It's a down to earth explanation of our Constitution and how it works in answer to the Declaration of Independence.

While I usually state 'private property' most of you know 'pursuit of happiness' to be the quote. "*A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor bread it has earned – this is the sum of good government.*" – **Thomas Jefferson** (pg 31)

A hundred and fifty years before that statement, the socialism experiment by the Pilgrims proved deadly. Gov. William Bradford said it has "*caused much confusion and discontent, and retard{ed} much employment, that would have been to their benefit, and comfort*" and caused people to "*allege weakness and inability.*" (pg 32). After much starvation Bradford implemented two important changes which are free enterprise and private property.

"This had very good success; for it made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted, than otherwise would have been; by any means the governor or any other could use, and saved him a great deal of trouble, and gave far better content." – **Gov. William Bradford** (pg32).

Private property allows people to be successful or not. It's their decision. We are incentivized when we ourselves determine our destinies. Which brings me to the last topic: **30 x 30 Land Grab**. I was invited to Torrington to hear a woman speak. That woman was Margaret Byfield the Exec. Director of American Stewards of Liberty. I was awakened by the information and severity of content. President Joe Biden's Executive order #14008 signed January 27, 2021 is a land grab to permanently protect 30% of America's lands and oceans by 2030, 50% by 2050 and recently the news stated 70%. All the details are yet to be told. Will that take into consideration all the land taken all ready? I have presented vocally and with written information to Fremont County Commissioners, Riverton City Council, School Boards, Coffee clubs, Lunch groups and any other person that I can. Good news is we have the great fortune to be able to host Margaret here in Riverton on Tuesday, Nov. 9th, 2021. We have her travel plans made and date. The venue is almost finalized so look for it! It will be well worth your time. These plans are being based on climate change and species. It is not conspiracy theory. This is conservation easements in perpetuity, regulatory over reach, permanently protected land and laws we agree on not knowing what to look for. Hope you'll come and bring your questions. You won't be disappointed.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Those who love Wyoming say, "It's my job too!".

Representative Pepper Ottman – HD34

Now That You're a Homeschooler

by Diane Pendergraft



ou've withdrawn your children from public school! But now you're stressed and wondering how to do it *all* the right way.

The great news is, there isn't a Right Way. Your letter of intent to homeschool was your declaration of independence. You are free to do school with your children in any way that fits your family and each individual child.

The not as great news is that such freedom can be too much of a good thing in the first days, or weeks, or even the first year or two of homeschooling. Most of us parents were forced through the sausage grinder of public schools. We've been indoctrinated to believe that this is how school ought to be done; that this is how school has always been done. It simply isn't true.

On a timeline of the thousands of years of human history, the "sit in age-segregated classrooms for seven or eight hours a day" school model is a blip.

Something I read in third or fourth grade has always stuck with me. Not details from the biography I read, but a snapshot in my imagination. Abraham Lincoln studying by firelight. He's reading a book he walked miles to borrow. He'll have to walk those miles again to return it, but he is hungry to learn. Two hundred years later, thousands of books have been written about his accomplishments.

This picture stayed with me because I wished I could get my education that way. I had no idea it could be done because my parents, products of public schools, didn't know either. Even my grandparents had had enough of the indoctrination to believe they had to give that same thing to their children. I remember one of my grandmothers self-consciously telling me that she only went to school through the eighth grade. An apology from my amazing grandmother who could do anything she set her mind to, and wasn't afraid to try anything new. She wasn't a big reader, but she was a great doer.

Gene Stratton-Porter was an author who had a novel on the Publisher's Weekly Best Seller list eight times between 1911 and 1925. She had some formal schooling, but was mostly home and self-taught. She

observed nature and taught herself photography at a time when she had to develop her own photos on turkey platters in her darkened bathroom.

In a letter, quoted in a biography written by her daughter, she wrote, *"I have always been too thankful for words that circumstances saved my brain from being run through a groove in company with dozens of others of widely differing tastes and mentalities. What measure of success I have had came through preserving my individual point of view, method of expression, and the Spartan regulations of my childhood home. Whatever I have been able to do has been done through the line of education my father was able to give me, and through my parents' methods of rearing me."*

Choose your own historical example. Very few of the world-changing men and women in history sat through twelve years of what we so ignorantly and arrogantly call "traditional schooling."

Don't take public school home with you!

You will be tempted. If you have space for a schoolroom in your house, go ahead and set it up. If you think it would be fun to have real school desks in that room, give it a try. Just don't be surprised if it doesn't last. Would you rather read at a desk or in a comfy chair? Inside or outside? Upright or upside down? With a cup of tea in your hand? Well, maybe not with library books. Do what works.

What about curriculum? That's the truly daunting part, right? Don't I need to choose some official looking stuff for every subject and cover each subject every day, check the boxes, keep a transcript, log the hours?

The Wyoming statute that prescribes the subjects listed on your letter of intent says, a "basic academic educational program" is one that provides a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature and science."

Seven separate subjects? Not at all. Reading, writing, and literature are commonly called Language Arts, and the three are inseparable except in lists. The best way to teach reading is to read to your children. If they already know how to read, focus on finding good literature. The best way to learn to write well is to read good literature and try to imitate good writers. It's okay. It isn't plagiarism when children are practicing. It is how they (and you) have learned nearly everything else as well.

How about history? If you think history is dry and boring, it's probably because no one presented it to you as what it is -- stories. Read books. Haunt your public library and used bookstores. If you accidentally pick up a boring book, put it away and get a new one. Read books with your children. If they see you reading and learning, they will see that you don't find it boring, and learning isn't just for kids. Ask each other questions about what you read. Talk about how historical characters lived. Go to museums. See and touch history. Interview your parents and grandparents about their childhoods. Watch documentaries. Stop and read those historical markers that you usually zip past along the highways. One thing will lead to another. It's all history.

What in the world is civics anyway? It is the study of things that relate to being a good citizen. For small children, it might be as basic as learning to obey the Golden Rule or safely cross the street. Children of all ages can learn to understand the U.S. and Wyoming constitutions. You can too.

Science begins with observation. Stop and smell the roses, watch ants carrying food, plant a bean seed, do that volcano with vinegar and baking soda again because it's fun. Even with older students, observe, think, and read interesting books. You don't have to slog through the chapters in a science text book in order. Learn about what interests your family. If your child is interested in how engines work, does he have to stop at a certain week in a particular grade to memorize the parts of a flower? Do you still know where the pistil and the sepal are?

Just think, if you read a book about Leonardo DaVinci, you will have covered reading, literature, history, and science. Perhaps even math. Everything you do counts!

Math is the one subject for which you are probably eventually going to need a sequential curriculum of some kind. But you don't have to choose it today. Especially if your child is burned out on math. Do math in life. Cook, measure and build, time your activities, count money, shop and work out a budget. Make them curious by demonstrating the real-life value of math.

A thorough education requires hard work and doing things you may not love. Set goals, then do what it takes to reach them. But you don't have to reach them this year. You sure won't if you burn yourself out before Christmas.

Take a deep breath, look around at the world. Is your goal for your children a pat on the head and a piece of paper from the institution you have just rejected? Or do you want to develop the gifts and talents of each individual, and guide the formation of a wise and virtuous member of a free society?

The word *education* comes from the Latin

...continued on page 8

...continued from page 7

root *educere*. It means, *to lead or draw out*, and originally referred to assisting a woman in child-birth. Unless there is an emergency, a midwife doesn't rush, push, pull, or force a birth. Now you have time to learn to lead and draw your children gently, patiently, and with wisdom.

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Meeting Update

FCSD1 October School Board Meeting

September's school board meeting to address a mask mandate proposal drew an unusually large attendance. Without an official count, it appeared that opposing sides of the proposed mask mandate were equally represented, with over 75 participating via ZOOM. Both sides of the argument presented petitions signed by a similar number of concerned citizens. The majority of in person supporters of the proposed mandate who addressed the board were members of the medical community. The only medical professional to address the board in opposition to the proposed mandate was Dr. Broc White, stating a lack of case study evidence to support the effectiveness of masking children, and Covid 19 deaths being outpaced by other childhood death causes currently, suicide most notably.

Taylor Jacobs was the only board member to bring measurable data to the table, referencing significant international case studies besides the weekly district health summary. She also spotlighted the Ft. Washakie schools' strict Covid 19 prevention efforts (which includes a mask mandate) in contrast to Lander schools beginning the school year without a mask policy, stating that Lander had experienced lower infection rates among students and staff (as of the meeting, less than one percent overall).

All who wished to address the board were allowed 2 minutes to speak, with the board voting to follow. Escudero, Hitt, and Nirider voted in support of the mask mandate, and Kail, Jensen, Jacobs, and Berg opposed. Kail thanked the medical providers present for their service, but explained that with only 'anecdotal evidence' presented, the policy change was not justified, and that all board action taken in the future would be based solely on measurable data, not special interest proposals. He reiterated that the district's case count was lower than overall community case counts, surmising that Lander schools, without a mask mandate, appeared to be the safest place in the community for kids to be.

Following the vote, Nirider pleaded with fellow board members to reconsider the district's current 'in school quarantine' policy, as it does not follow the Wy Dept of Health's school quarantine guidelines. Each of the board members were agreeable to reconsidering the policy at the next meeting, provided that the districts nursing employees could provide significant data to support the change.

Amanda Shade

The January 6 Insurrection Hoax

by Roger Kimball

The following is adapted from a lecture delivered at Hillsdale College on September 20, 2021, during a Center for Constructive Alternatives conference on "Critical American Elections."

Notwithstanding all the hysterical rhetoric surrounding the events of January 6, 2021, two critical things stand out. The first is that what happened was much more hoax than insurrection. In fact, in my judgment, it wasn't an insurrection at all.

An "insurrection," as the dictionary will tell you, is a violent uprising against a government or other established authority. Unlike the violent riots that swept the country in the summer of 2020—riots that caused some \$2 billion in property damage and claimed more than 20 lives—the January 6 protest at the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. lasted a few hours, caused minimal damage, and the only person directly killed was an unarmed female Trump supporter who was shot by a Capitol Police officer. It was, as Tucker Carlson said shortly after the event, a political protest that "got out of hand."

At the rally preceding the events in question, Donald Trump had suggested that people march to the Capitol

...continued on page 12

A Mostly Peaceful Vigil

Crossing sunny Main Street in Lander to the “40 Days for Life” vigil, I was greeted by all sorts of people, most smiling and saying “good morning,” others choosing signs to hold, still more setting up chairs and a large banner. Hardly a setting where you’d expect controversy! Apparently those who support abortion had another idea. Through emails and conversations with some at the event, it became clear that the Oct. 2nd prayer vigil may not be all that peaceful after all.

I had arrived around 10:45 am where 25-30 prayed and chatted quietly. I was greeted warmly by Karen Wetzel who is spearheading the effort this year. She told me a bit about the group and stressed that this will be a peaceful prayer time. Karen explained that the Women’s March folks had talked about disrupting the vigil, but that we would just pray and not react. Then, Karen looked at me and stressed, “We will do this every year until abortion is no more.”

A quick look at the 40 Days website states “229 lives saved since Sept. 22” (when the effort began this year) and gives this overview: “40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day vigil in front of abortion businesses.”

After speaking with Karen, I grabbed a pro-life sign, and wandered up the sidewalk, noticing that the number of participants had risen to about 80 or so, with more continually arriving. Most lined the sidewalk in front of Centennial Park on Main, some streamed around the corner on South Second Street. Men, women and children prayed to end abortion, sang hymns, and chatted quietly; some held hands, others grasped rosary beads, most had a sign. A total of approximately 150 ended up attending the 40 Days for Life prayer vigil.

A buzz began in the crowd about an hour later-- “here they come,” I heard. The pro-abortion group could be heard faintly, and a couple of police cars could be seen a few blocks up leading them. Then, the marchers were directed across the street to walk on the opposite sidewalk. Prayers grew louder as the marchers yelled out repeated chants towards us, “Not your body! Not your choice!” We continued to pray as the marchers crossed main on Second Street, walking by some of the praying families. They filed into Centennial Park behind us. For a moment it felt threatening as the chanting got louder and closer. Someone in our midst said, “Keep praying, pray for them!” In the end, they stayed about 25 feet back from us. Their number of participants was similar to the pro-life vigil.

Karen Wetzel kept her eye on the proceedings, delivering prayer cards and water, and encouraging words. Peace and calm returned, as we continued to pray. It turned out both sides kept their distance. The women’s group behind us plugged in a loud PA system and various speakers began to talk about their medical decisions, demanding to know how our group could try and limit their choices, and how “we need to keep government out of medical decisions!” I couldn’t help but think, *except for vaccinations, right?* After half an hour of trying to focus more on prayer and less on their speeches, one woman’s words really stood out given our current culture, “It’s great to live in a country where we can speak our truth! But, it’s wrong to demonize people who have a different view.”

Yes, indeed.

For more information, go to
www.40daysforlife.com
and enter city/state.

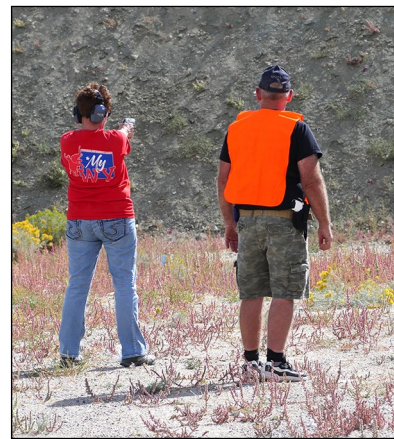


September Events

9/11 Remembrance



The Fremont County GOP hosted a “Never Forget/We Remember” ribbon remembrance event on Saturday, September 11, 2021 from 9 AM till noon in the Riverton City Park to pay tribute to those lost in the War on Terror. Signs saying “9/11/21”, “TWIN TOWERS”, “FLIGHT 93”, “PENTAGON”, “BENGAZI”, “USS COLE”, “BOSTON MARATHON”, and “KABUL” were fastened with yellow ribbons to the street lamp posts near the intersection of Federal and Main. In addition, small “In Tribute To” banners were available for those wanting to fill in the name of someone they wanted to honor. One such banner was filled in to honor Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum who was one of the 13 US service members recently killed in Kabul.



Patriot Shoot Out



Fun with guns! This was the result of the 9/11 Never Forget Shoot , at the Shoshoni Rifle Range on Saturday, September 11th. Everyone young and old alike, had fun proving their gun expertise or just learning more about shooting sports. The FCGOP will continue to expand and improve this format to educate and enlarge our 2nd Amendment privilege and right. So until next year, practice, practice, practice.



...continued on page 8

“peacefully and patriotically”—these were his exact words—in order to make their voices heard. He did not incite a riot; he stirred up a crowd. Was that, given the circumstances, imprudent? Probably. Was it an effort to overthrow the government? Hardly.

I know this is not the narrative that we have all been instructed to parrot. Indeed, to listen to the establishment media and our political masters, the January 6 protest was a dire threat to the very fabric of our nation: the worst assault on “our democracy” since 9/11, since Pearl Harbor, and even—according to Joe Biden last April—since the Civil War!

Note that phrase “our democracy”: Nancy Pelosi, Joe Biden, and various talking heads have repeated it ad nauseam. But you do not need an advanced degree in hermeneutics to understand that what they mean by “our democracy” is their oligarchy. Similarly, when Pelosi talks about “the people’s house,” she doesn’t mean a house that welcomes riff-raff like you and me.

I just alluded to Ashli Babbitt, the unarmed supporter of Donald Trump who was shot and killed on January 6. Her fate brings me to the second critical thing to understand about the January 6 insurrection hoax. Namely, that it was not a stand-alone event.

On the contrary, what happened that afternoon, and what happened afterwards, is only intelligible when seen as a chapter in the long-running effort to discredit and, ultimately, to dispose of Donald Trump—as well as what Hillary Clinton might call the “deplorable” populist sentiment that brought Trump to power.

In other words, to understand the January 6 insurrection hoax, you also have to understand that other long-running hoax, the Russia collusion hoax. The story of that hoax begins back in 2015, when the resources of the federal government were first mobilized to spy on the Trump campaign, to frame various people close to Trump, and eventually to launch a full-throated criminal investigation of the Trump administration.

From before Trump took office, the Russia collusion hoax was used as a pretext to create a parallel administration shadowing the elected administration. Remember the Steele dossier, the fantastical document concocted by the “well-regarded” former British spy Christopher Steele? We know now that it was the only relevant predicate for ordering FISA warrants to spy on Carter Page and other American citizens.

But in truth, the Steele dossier was just opposition dirt covertly paid for by the Democratic National Committee and the Hillary Clinton campaign. From beginning to end, it was a tissue of lies and fabrications. Everyone involved knew all along it was garbage—rumors and fantasies fed to a gullible Steele by shady Russian sources. But it was nonetheless used to deploy, illegally, the awesome coercive power of the state against a presidential candidate of whom the ruling bureaucracy and its favored candidate disapproved.

The public learned that the Democratic National Committee paid for the manufactured evidence only because of a court order. James Comey, the disgraced former director of the FBI, publicly denied knowing who paid for it, but emails from a year earlier prove that he knew all along. And what was the penalty for lying in Comey’s case? He got a huge book deal and toured the country denouncing Trump to the gleeful satisfaction of his anti-Trump audiences.

What was true of Comey was also true of the entire intelligence apparatus, from former CIA Director John Brennan to Congressman Adam Schiff and other Democratic members of the House Intelligence Committee to senior members of the FBI. All these people said publicly that they had seen clear evidence of collusion with Russia. But they admitted under oath behind closed doors that they hadn’t.

General Michael Flynn, Trump’s original National Security Advisor, had his career ruined and was bankrupted as part of this political vendetta. Meanwhile James Comey, Andrew McCabe, Lisa Page, John Brennan, Peter Strzok, and all the rest of the crew at the FBI, the CIA, and other intelligence agencies suffered nothing. When it came to light that an FBI lawyer altered an email in order to help get a FISA warrant—in other words, that he doctored evidence to spy on a political opponent, which is a felony—he got probation.

The recent news that Special Counsel John Durham is indicting Michael Sussman, a lawyer who covertly worked for the Clinton campaign and lied to the FBI, is welcome news. But it seems like small beer given the rampant higher-level corruption that saturated the Russia collusion hoax.

At least 74 million citizens voted for Donald Trump in 2020, which is at least 11 million more than voted for him in 2016. Many of those voters are profoundly disillusioned and increasingly angry about this entire story—the years-long Robert Mueller “investigation,” the two impeachments of President Trump, the cloud of unknowing that surrounds the 2020 election, and the many questions that have emerged not only from the January 6 protest at the Capitol, but even more from the government’s response to that protest.

Which brings me back to Ashli Babbitt, the long-serving Air Force veteran who was shot and killed by a nervous Capitol Police officer. Babbitt was a useful prop when the media was in overdrive describing the January 6 events as an “armed insurrection” in which wild Trump supporters, supposedly at Trump’s instigation, attacked the Capitol with the intention of overturning the 2020 election.

According to that narrative, five people, including Babbitt, died in the skirmish. Moreover, it was said, Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick was bludgeoned to death by a raging Trump supporter wielding a fire extinguisher. That gem of a story about the fire extinguisher, reported in our former paper of record, The New York Times, was instantly picked up by other media outlets and spread like a Chinese virus.

Of course, it is absolutely critical to the Democratic Party narrative that the January 6 incident be made to seem as violent and crazed as possible. Hence the comparisons to 9/11, Pearl Harbor, and the Civil War. Only thus can pro-Trump Americans be excluded from “our democracy” by being branded as “domestic extremists” if not, indeed, “domestic terrorists.”

The Sixth Amendment to the Constitution accords American citizens the right to a speedy trial. But most of the political prisoners of January 6—many of whom have been kept in solitary confinement—are still waiting to be brought to trial. And although the media was full of predictions that they would be found guilty of criminal sedition, none has.

Indeed, the prosecution’s cases seem to be falling apart. Most of the hundreds who have been arrested are being charged with trespassing. Another charge being leveled against them is “disrupting an official proceeding.” This is a felony charge designed not for ceremonial procedures like the January 6 certification of the vote, but rather for disrupting Congressional inquiries—for example, by shredding documents relevant to a Congressional investigation. It originated during the George W. Bush administration to deal with the Enron case.

The indisputable fact about January 6 is that although five people died at or near the Capitol on that day or soon thereafter, none of these deaths was brought about by the protesters. The shot fired by Capitol Police Officer Michael Byrd that hit Ashli Babbitt in the neck and killed her was the only shot fired at the Capitol that day. No guns were recovered from the Capitol on January 6. Zero.

The liberal commentator Glenn Greenwald further diminished the “armed insurrection” narrative in an important column last February titled “The False and Exaggerated Claims Still Being Spread About the Capitol Riot.” The title says it all. Kevin Greeson, Greenwald notes, was killed not by the protesters but died of a heart attack outside the Capitol. Benjamin Philips, the founder of a pro-Trump website called Trumparoo, died of a stroke that day. Rosanne Boyland, another Trump supporter, was reported by The New York Times to have been inadvertently “killed in a crush of fellow rioters during their attempt to fight through a police line.” But later video shows that, far from that, the police pushed protesters on top of Boyland and would not allow other protesters to pull her out.

Four of the five who died, then, were pro-Trump protesters. And the fifth? Well, that was Officer Sicknick—also a Trump supporter, as it turned out—who, contrary to the false report gone viral of The New York Times, went home, told his family he felt fine, but died a day later from, as The Washington Post eventually and grudgingly reported, “natural causes.” No fire extinguishers were involved in his demise.

The January 6 insurrection hoax prompts lots of questions.

Why, for example, did the government mobilize 26,000 federal troops from all across the country to surround “the people’s house” following January 6? Why were those troops subjected to FBI vetting, with some of them sent packing?

Why is there some 14,000 hours of video footage of the event on January 6 that the government refuses to re-

lease? What are they afraid of letting the public see? More scenes of security guards actually opening doors and politely ushering in protesters? More pictures of FBI informants covertly salted among the crowd?

My own view is that turning Washington into an armed camp was mostly theater. There was no threat that the Washington police could not have handled. But it was also a show of force and an act of intimidation. The message was: "We're in charge now, rubes, and don't you forget it."

In truth, there is little threat of domestic terror in this country. But there is plenty of domestic conservatism. And that conservatism is the real focus of the establishment's ire.

It is important to note that while the government provides the muscle for this war on dissent, the elite culture at large is a willing accomplice. Consider, for example, the open letter, signed by more than 500 "publishing professionals" (authors, editors, designers, and so on), calling on the industry to reject books written by anyone who had anything to do with the Trump administration.

These paragons pledged to do whatever they could to stop "enriching the monsters among us." But here's their problem: over 74 million people voted for Trump. That's a lot of monsters.

Many people have been quoting Benjamin Franklin's famous response when asked what sort of government they had come up with at the Constitutional Convention of 1787. "A republic," Franklin said, "if you can keep it." Right now, it looks like we can't. It looks as if the American constitutional republic has given way, at least temporarily, to an American oligarchy.

As the years go by, historians, if the censors allow them access to the documents and give them leave to publish their findings, may well count the 2016 presidential election as the last fair and open democratic election in U.S. history. I know we are not supposed to say that. I know that the heads of Twitter and Facebook and other woke guardians of the status quo call this view "The Big Lie" and do all they can to suppress it. But every honest person knows that the 2020 election was tainted.

The forces responsible for the taint had tried before. Hitherto, their efforts had met with only limited success. But a perfect storm of forces conspired to make 2020 the first oligarchic installation of a president. It would not have happened, I think, absent the panic over the Chinese virus. But that panic, folded in a lover's embrace by the Democratic establishment, was not only a splendid pretext to clamp down on civil liberties; it also provided an inarguable excuse to alter the rules for elections in several key states.

"Inarguable" is not quite the right word. There could have been plenty of arguments, and many lawsuits, against the way the executive branches in these states usurped the constitutionally guaranteed prerogative of state legislatures to set the election rules when they intervened to allow massive mail-in voting. But the Trump administration, though foreseeing and complaining about the executive interventions, did too little too late to make a difference.

Among the many sobering realities that the 2020 election brought home is that in our current and particular form of oligarchy, the people do have a voice, but it is a voice that is everywhere pressured, cajoled, shaped, and bullied. The people also have a choice, but only among a roster of candidates approved by the elite consensus.

The central fact to appreciate about Donald Trump is that he was elected president without the permission, and over the incredulous objections, of the bipartisan oligarchy that governs us. That was his unforgivable offense. Trump was the greatest threat in history to the credentialed class and the globalist administrative state upon which they feed. Representatives of that oligarchy tried for four years to destroy Trump. Remember that the first mention of impeachment came 19 minutes after his inauguration, an event that was met not only by a widespread Democratic boycott and hysterical claims by Nancy Pelosi and others that the election had been hijacked, but also by riots in Washington, D.C. that saw at least six policemen injured, numerous cars torched, and other property destroyed.

You will search in vain for media or other ruling class denunciations of that violence, or for bulletins from corporate America advising their customers of their solidarity with the newly-installed Trump administration. As the commentator Howie Carr noted, some riots are more equal than others. Some get you the approval of people like Nancy Pelosi and at least the grudging acceptance of oligarchs of the other party. Others get the FBI sweeping the country for "domestic terrorists" and the lords of Big Tech canceling people who defend the protesters' cause.

Someday—maybe someday soon—this witches' sabbath, this festival of scapegoating, and what George Orwell called the "hideous ecstasy" of hate will be at an end. Perhaps someday people will be aghast, and some will be ashamed, of what they did to the President of the United States and people who supported him: the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, for instance, proposing to put Senator Ted Cruz on a "no fly" list, and Simon & Schuster canceling Senator Josh Hawley's book contract.

Donald Trump is the Emmanuel Goldstein (the designated principal enemy of the totalitarian state Oceania in Orwell's 1984) of the movement. But minor public enemies are legion. Anyone harboring "Trumpist" inclinations is suspect, hence the widespread calls for "deprogramming" Trump's supporters, who are routinely said to be "marching toward sedition."

Michael Barone, one of our most perceptive political commentators, got it right when he wrote of the rapid movement "from impeaching incitement to canceling conservatism." That is the path our oligarchs are inviting us to travel now, criminalizing political dissent and transforming policy differences into a species of heresy. You don't debate heretics, after all. You seek to destroy them.

Donald Trump's accomplishments as president were nothing less than stunning. Trump was, and is, a rude force of nature. He accomplished an immense amount. But he lacked one thing. Some say it was self-discipline or finesse. I agree with a friend of mine who suggested that Trump's critical flaw was a deficit in guile. That sounds odd, no doubt, since Trump is supposed to be the tough guy who mastered "the art of the deal." But I think my friend is probably right. Trump seems never to have discerned what a viper's nest our politics has become for anyone who is not a paid-up member of The Club.

Maybe Trump understands this now. I have no insight into that question. I am pretty confident, though, that the 74 plus million people who voted for him understand it deeply. It's another reason that The Club should be wary of celebrating its victory too expansively.

Friedrich Hayek took one of the two epigraphs for his book, *The Road to Serfdom*, from the philosopher David Hume. "It is seldom," Hume wrote, "that liberty of any kind is lost all at once." Much as I admire Hume, I wonder whether he got this quite right. Sometimes, I would argue, liberty is erased almost instantaneously.

I'd be willing to wager that Joseph Hackett, confronted with Hume's observation, would express similar doubts. I would be happy to ask Mr. Hackett myself, but he is inaccessible. If the ironically titled "Department of Justice" has its way, he will be inaccessible for a long, long time—perhaps as long as 20 years.

Joseph Hackett, you see, is a 51-year-old Trump supporter and member of an organization called the Oath Keepers, a group whose members have pledged to "defend the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic." The FBI does not like the Oath Keepers—agents arrested its leader in January and have picked up many other members in the months since. Hackett traveled to Washington from his home in Florida to join the January 6 rally. According to court documents, he entered the Capitol at 2:45 that afternoon and left some nine minutes later, at 2:54. The next day, he went home. On May 28, he was apprehended by the FBI and indicted on a long list of charges, including conspiracy, obstruction of an official proceeding, destruction of government property, and illegally entering a restricted building.

As far as I have been able to determine, no evidence of Hackett destroying property has come to light. According to his wife, it is not even clear that he entered the Capitol. But he certainly was in the environs. He was a member of the Oath Keepers. He was a supporter of Donald Trump. Therefore, he must be neutralized.

Joseph Hackett is only one of hundreds of citizens who have been branded as "domestic terrorists" trying to "overthrow the government" and who are now languishing, in appalling conditions, jailed as political prisoners of an angry state apparatus.

Hayek's overriding concern in *The Road to Serfdom* was to combat the forces that were pushing people further along that road to servitude. His chief concern was unchecked state power. In a new preface to the book's 1956 edition, Hayek noted that one of its "main points" was to document how "extensive government control produces a psychological change, an alteration in the character of the people."

"This means," Hayek wrote, "that even a strong tradition of political liberty is no safeguard if the danger is precisely that new institutions and policies will gradually undermine and destroy that spirit."

This dismal situation, Hayek continues, can be averted, but only if the spirit of liberty “reasserts itself in time and the people not only throw out the party which has been leading them further and further in the dangerous direction but also recognize the nature of the danger and resolutely change their course.”

Note the power of that little word “if.” It was not so long ago that an American could contemplate totalitarian regimes and say, “Thank God we’ve escaped that.” It’s not at all clear that we can entertain that happy conviction any longer.

That’s one melancholy lesson of the January 6 insurrection hoax: that America is fast mutating from a republic, in which individual liberty is paramount, into an oligarchy, in which conformity is increasingly demanded and enforced.

Another lesson was perfectly expressed by Donald Trump when he reflected on the unremitting tsunami of hostility that he faced as President. “They’re after you,” he more than once told his supporters. “I’m just in the way.”

Bingo.

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Old Chas And the Democrats

a book by
Vernis R. Tromble

Chapter 1

CHAS

In days gone by, many would have called him ‘Old Chas’. But in an era when people from thirty-five to ninety can easily ‘camouflage’ their age, no one is called ‘old’ anymore. Chas knew he was old every time he struggled to rise from a chair. Oh, he could take pain pills, but they were hard on his liver, and if he didn’t do much all day, he didn’t need medication. The dilemma: should he preserve his liver or get adequate exercise. Despite his age and health, Chas was having one of the best days of his life. Chas had finally come to terms with a lifetime of guilt. As he sat back in his ‘Lazy Boy’ Chas recalled events of the last few years:

Chas had done plenty of evil, and he considered himself to be the ‘Chief of Sinners’. He never killed anyone, but he had hated. That made him a murderer. He had committed petty theft. A quarter here. A tool there. An extra half-hour on his timesheet. He justified that kind of behavior due to a philosophy he had adopted and bastardized somewhere along the road of life. It is termed, ‘Survival of the Fittest’, a theory attributed to Charles Darwin. Chas never cheated on his wife. But he had a wandering eye. He justified that by telling himself that women are works of art and should be appreciated. Chas was an adulterer. There were other things. Anger, jealousy, selfishness, and thoughtlessness to name a few. Oh yes, Chas was a sinner. The older he got, the more acutely he realized it.

Chas had loathed himself for years. As time progressed and as he became more ‘sanctified’, Chas grew restless. He slept fitfully. He wanted to rectify his shortcomings, so he began to seek out those whom he had wronged in life and tried to make amends. Many couldn’t recall the transgression when he tried to apologize. Others were glad to see that Chas was maturing, and appreciated the apology. Some had held a grudge for years and refused to let it go. Then there were people whom he had treated so egregiously that he simply couldn’t face them. He didn’t. But he did ask God to forgive him. Eventually he came to a point where he felt that he had done all that he could do. He wasn’t able to ‘right every wrong’. Not all of the relationships were restored. He would have to accept that. It wasn’t perfect but he was becoming aware of the human condition within himself and that there was only so much he could do.

In addition to his own failings, Chas ‘guilted’ himself. He felt guilty because he is ‘White’. He felt guilty because of ‘White Privilege’. He felt guilty because he is American. He felt guilty because his family were Republicans. He felt guilty because he was not bilingual. He felt guilty about America’s past involvement with slavery. He felt guilty about financial inequality. Where did all this guilt come from? He didn’t understand when Republicans were called Nazis and Fascists.

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Save America

Rally

October
30
2021

Riverton City Park Band Shell
Riverton, WY
10 am to ?

Calling all Patriots!

Wear your Red, White, and Blue

and

join us in the park to **Save America!**

Bring a sign with an issue you are willing to work for

like

ELECTION INTEGRITY • MEDICAL FREEDOM • EDUCATION

and **network** with others to form a group
that you can work with for that **common cause!**

Sponsored by Fremont County Republican Party
www.fremontcountygop.org

Bulletin Board

Next Meeting

October 11, 2021 • 5:30 pm
FCSD1 Board Room • Lander, WY

Upcoming Events

October 30, 2021

Save America Rally
Riverton City Park Band Shell
9 am - Noon

November 8, 2021
FCGOP Central Committee Meeting
Location TBA
5:30 pm

November 9, 2021
30 x 30 Meeting with
Margaret Byfield, Exec. Dir.
American Stewards of Liberty
Location TBA
Riverton, WY
6 pm

November 13, 2021
Escape from Communism
with Ovie Muntean
Location and Time TBA
Riverton, WY

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