

Press Release - State Superintendent Appointment

On Saturday, January 22nd, the Wyoming Republican Party Central Committee will hold a meeting in Douglas for the purpose of selecting 3 candidates to send to Governor Gordon so that he may choose one to serve as the next Superintendent of Public Instruction. This meeting is open to all

It is very common to think of this person as a policy maker regarding schools in Wyoming. And to some extent, that is true. Statutorily, this person is entrusted with “The general supervision of the public schools.... shall be the administrative head and chief executive officer of the department of education.” And yet, there are more aspects of the job than that.

The Superintendent is responsible for statewide assessment of students, by Wyoming State Statute. In addition, they assist the Wyoming professional teaching standards board in the performance of its duties and responsibilities. The Superintendent is responsible for preparing the Wyoming rules for acceptance of federal funding for schools, for federal reporting on those funds, and providing technical advice on the use of those funds.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction also sits on the State Board of Education. They are, in fact, the only elected person on that board, with the remainder being appointed by the Governor.

The Superintendent also sits on the State Lands and Investments Board. In this capacity, they are one of five individuals who are responsible for making choices about several grants and loans for political subdivisions of Wyoming. The Superintendent is on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees as an ex-officio member.

Our elected representatives wear a good many hats, and you can be assured that those are all being considered by your Central Committee representatives as they meet to select the three candidates for the Governor’s consideration. Fremont County delegation to the State Central Committee consists of myself as the Chairman of the Fremont County Republican Party, Doug Thompson, the State Committeeman, and Eileen Oakley, State Committeewoman.

Sincerely,
Ginger Bennett, Chairman
Fremont County Republican Party

From the Chair

A big “Thank you!” to all who made dishes and soups for the soup supper in December! I counted 13 crock pots full of lovely soups, many breads, plus vegetable trays and desserts! This event proves once again, when Republicans come together, great things can happen!

Looking forward, the State Central Committee will be meeting on January 21st and 22nd in Douglas. This meeting is attended by myself, your state committee man Doug Thompson, and your state committee woman, Eileen Oakley, as voting members of the State Central Committee. You are all welcome to attend these meetings. This meeting is of particular interest as we will be sending three candidates to the governor for consideration for the position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. This position is one of “the top five” elected positions in the state of Wyoming, and they are a member of the State Lands and Investment Board.

The Wyoming Legislature will convene on February 14th for the biennial budget session. Many of the bills that will be considered have already received numbers. They can be viewed on the wyoleg.gov website.

The call will be issued soon for the 2022 Fremont County Precinct Caucuses and the 2022 Fremont County Republican Party Convention. Also, in March, the annual Lincoln Day Dinner will be held. This event is done in conjunction with the Fremont County Republican Women, and it is a valuable opportunity to network with like minded Republicans. This dinner is historically one of our best fundraisers of the year. If you have items you would like to donate for the live or silent auction, please let myself or Kate Hayes know.

The Wyoming Republican Party Convention will be May 5, 6, and 7 in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Also in May, the filing period will open for the 2022 Elections. Those interested in running for office will need to file appropriate paperwork with the Chief Election Officer for Fremont County,

County Clerk Julie Freese. As always, if you are interested in serving as a poll watcher or election judge, please let me know.

Thank you for your work to assure Republican values are maintained and upheld in our State and Local government(s). As we work together on these tasks over the next few months, we can make sure that Fremont County and Wyoming are governed red!

Ginger Bennett, Chairman
Fremont County Republican Party



The Hoax

by Vern Tromble

January 6th marked the first anniversary of the 'Insurrection Hoax' in Washington, D C. Donald Trump knew that the 2020 election had been stolen from him. Worst case scenario, he received 74 million votes, eleven million more than he received in 2016 when he was first elected President. But courts and State governments refused to enforce election laws. On Wednesday, January 6, 2021 the United States Senate was scheduled to meet and certify the votes of the Electoral College. States in which the election had been stolen were going to be challenged by Senators loyal to the President.

A rally of Trump supporters, mostly middle-aged moms and dads who believed that the election had been stolen, gathered at the White House. President Trump addressed them. Among his comments he said, "We're going to walk down to the Capitol and we're going to cheer on our brave Senators and Congressmen and women ... and peacefully and patriotically make your voices heard". Then he urged the demonstrators to march the $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the Capitol.

Unbeknown to the President, ANTIFA and 'Black Lives Matter' conspirators had disguised themselves as Trump supporters and infiltrated the rally. They left the rally early and headed for the Capitol. When the Trump loyalists began to move, professional provocateurs like John Sullivan began to hijack the rally with megaphones blaring messages like, "We need to go into the Capitol". "We're about to burn this down." "We are not waiting 'til the next election." As they arrived both infiltrators and confused Trump loyalists caught up in the chaos began to breach the building. Some doors were open to the public and some demonstrators were ushered in. But vandalism occurred and people died.

It was reported that Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick was bludgeoned to death with a fire extinguisher. Ashli Babbitt was shot to death. Kevin Greeson was killed by protestors. Benjamin Philips was killed. Rosanne Boyland was killed in a crush of rioters.

As the Trump loyalists began to figure out what was really happening, they retreated back across the street where they waited passively - and prayed. They were Tear Gassed.

Government is the religion of Democrat ideologues. Buildings like the Capitol are their cathedrals. Vandalism to the Capitol was as offensive to Nancy Pelosi as vandalism to St. Peter's Basilica would be to the Pope.

Perhaps Speaker Pelosi was reminded of Winston Churchill's axiom, 'Never let a good crisis go to waste'. Seizing the moment she manufactured a convincing 'disinformation campaign'. First, she blamed right-wing extremists for the assault on the Capitol. Then she declared that they were under the direction of Donald Trump. She demanded a second impeachment of the President. The mainstream media, sympathetic to the Left, called the demonstrators a 'murderous mob'. They began to refer to the rally as the beginning of a 'White Supremacist Insurrection'. The press began referring to the protest on January 6th as the first salvo in the 'Domestic War on Terror'.

None of the stories of the deaths at the Capitol were true. They were lies that the complicit media chose to perpetuate. Brian Sicknick may not have been hit at all! According to the Chief Medical Examiner, he died of natural causes at his home a day later. Ashli Babbitt, an unarmed Trump supporter, was shot to death by Capitol Police Officer Michael Byrd. That was the only shot fired. No guns were confiscated. Kevin Greeson died of a heart attack outside the Capitol. Benjamin Philips died of a stroke. Rosanne Boyland died in a crowd when police would not let other protesters help her get up. All five of the deceased were Trump supporters.

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According to the 'Left' the terrorists are Christians, conservatives, and Trump supporters. They comprise roughly half of the nation. Democrat ideologues are trying to lump them in with Al-Qaeda and Isis terrorists. This time it is a war against our own system.

The Biden regime has launched a 'New War on Terror'. The first 'War on Terror' was against Al-Qaeda. The 'New War on Terror' is a 'Domestic War on Terror'. The Left is hunting the Right. Since the passage of 'The Patriot Act' the President can order strikes against American citizens. It is a 'Shock and Awe' campaign against our own people. The intent is to punish as many demonstrators as possible. Some who attended the 'Election Integrity Matters' rally in Washington, DC on January 6, 2020 are being hunted down throughout the United States. They are taken to Washington, DC and incarcerated in one of the worst prisons in the country. America now has political prisoners! Some have been locked up for hundreds of days. Some are in solitary confinement. Some are denied medical treatment. Some are tortured. What was being done to foreign Al-Qaeda terrorists in 'Guantanamo' is now being done to American citizens.

Many injustices resulted from the rally. People were thrown into jail, never charged, and remain there to this day. One family affected was Paul and Marilyn Hueper. On April 28, 2021 armed federal agents broke into their home in Homer, Alaska. They were looking for Nancy Pelosi's lap top. It wasn't there. The Hueper's were at the rally but they didn't enter the Capitol. It was a case of mistaken identity. Regardless, the FBI confiscated Marilyn Hueper's lap-top and her copy of the Constitution. The Huepers believe that because they attended the rally and because they had a copy of the Constitution they are considered 'Domestic White Supremacists'.

According to the Left, other indicators of 'Domestic White Supremacy' include: opposition to COVID measures, claims of election fraud, and the belief that Donald Trump can be reinstated.

Lives have been ruined! Mark Ibrahim, was an agent for the Drug Enforcement Administration and a Trump supporter. An acquaintance, an FBI informant encouraged Mark to accompany him to the Capitol that day. When they arrived the riot was already underway. The FBI informant encouraged Mark to enter the building. Sensing that something was amiss Mark refused. Mark was stripped of his security clearance and forced from his job simply for being near the Capitol. He faces 15 years in federal prison.

Federal agents wanted Roger Stone to enter the Capitol that day. He declined to go anywhere near the building.

Captain Emily Grace Rainey was assigned to the Psychological Operations Group at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. She and one-hundred of her middle-aged home owner friends attended the 'Election Integrity Matters' rally in Washington, DC on January 6, 2020. They did not enter the Capitol.

Captain Rainey was charged with being the architect of an insurrection, providing one-hundred militia, weapons and military equipment. She was issued a gag order which expired only recently. She may be considered a traitor. Her clearance was revoked and she was denied a commission in the Army reserves.

Richard Bennett, a non-violent demonstrator from Garrett, Arkansas entered the Capitol through an open door. He entered Nancy Pelosi's office through another open door. A journalist 'set him up'. He was encouraged to pose for a picture sitting in Nancy Pelosi's chair with his feet on her desk. Mr. Bennett is now considered a 'tier one domestic terrorist' and faces eleven years in prison.

The Democrats don't seem to care about individual liberty. They seem laser focused on their socialistic agenda. Unless we are diligent America will transform from a Democratic Republic into something else.

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Ronald Reagan warned, "Freedom is a fragile thing and it's never more than one generation away from extinction. It is not ours by way of inheritance; it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation, for it comes only once to a people. And those in world history who have known freedom and then lost it have never known it again."

Resolution Discussion

The following resolution has been brought before the FCGOP Central Committee:

Whereas President Joe Biden, his administration and the radical Democrat hierarchy in Washington, D.C., are attempting to usurp the constitutional rights of American citizens, including those in Wyoming:

Be it resolved the governor of Wyoming, the Wyoming State Legislature, Wyoming's U.S. Senators and Representative SHALL take all necessary steps to protect and preserve the constitutional rights of the citizens of Wyoming, including but not limited to the following:

1. **ELECTION INTEGRITY**— Require Voter identification; disallow mail-in voting; no crossover voting; eliminate electronic voting machines that can be hacked;
2. Prohibit purchase and ownership of Wyoming property, particularly minerals, by any foreign entity or non-citizen;
3. Nullify and prohibit any state or federal mandates infringing on the constitutional rights of Wyoming residents such as vaccination mandates or wearing face masks in public places;
4. Protect the citizens Second Amendment rights.
5. Enact statutes providing recall methods for all elected officials in Wyoming who are deemed to be acting in a detrimental manner to the well-being of their constituents.

An interesting response was received by Steve Work:

I just want to make people aware that one of our largest trona mining operations is owned by a Turkish firm that has been a good neighbor and employer, and they have not tried to unduly influence politics. That Turkish firm is investing some \$5 billion to expand their operations and will be hiring additional local employees. I will have to check the ownership of some of the other mining companies in Wyoming but I could not agree to

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News from around the country gives reason for good optimism that Roe vs. Wade may be overturned in the coming months. That would mean the debate of legal abortion will return to the states. That is an excellent reason to be all the more diligent and public in opposition to abortion. Therefore, we invite you and your network of friends and family, to participate in the 2022 Walk for Life event in Riverton.

Over one million, 1,000,000, defenders of Life, met in Washington DC to March for life in 2020 and last year, 2021, the virtual event was supported with as much enthusiasm! This is our 4th year in Riverton and it has grown each year! We coincide with the National Walk which occurs the 3rd week of January on Thursday and Friday. Ours is best held on the Saturday.

The plan is to gather at St. Margaret's Catholic Church starting around 9:30 a.m. when signs will be handed out. Around 10:00 the participants will walk to Riverton City Park for prayer and presentation of the signs along Federal Boulevard.

The event will conclude shortly before noon and those interested in the Knights of Columbus Chili Cook-Off will return to St. Margaret's.

For further information, please contact Karl Falken at kfalken@gmail.com, or Pepper Ottman at peppero@wyoming.com.

It's Like This?

by Diane Pendergraft

Until a couple of years ago, I had never read a book simply because it had a Newbery Award seal on the cover. However, I had begun to notice, as I happened upon Newbery books, the uneven quality of the winners.

I looked into the founding of the award and the stated goals, then discovered that there are people who commit to reading through the list of every Newbery Winner and Honor Book since the award was established in 1922. I'm not going to do that. I've read enough of them to know that many of them have outlived their appeal or relevance.

I did go back and read several of the earliest winners, because I was curious to see if I could identify what the selection committees over the years were really looking for. My conclusions, or perhaps better termed suppositions, may be the subject of a separate article. My point in mentioning my research here is that, though I had known that one of my favorite books, *Rascal*, by Sterling North, was a Newbery Honor Book in 1964, I had never thought to see what book won the medal that same year.

I have loved *Rascal* since the first time I read it, twenty-five years ago, I suppose. I made my own kids read it when we were homeschooling. When I was teaching in a Christian school, I read it aloud to my classes, and made sure there were several copies on the classroom bookshelf. Most of my private students have also read it, and I shared a study guide with you all here. I assumed that the book that beat out *Rascal* for the Newbery Medal must have been an amazing book.

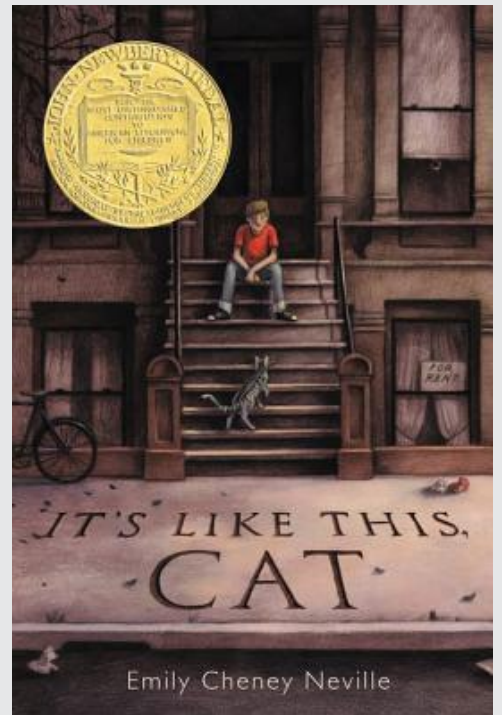
The 1964 Newbery Winner was *It's Like This, Cat* by Emily Cheney Neville. I read it, and enjoyed the narrator's style in spots, though I'm not a fan of the first-person point of view. Some of the scenes were interesting, and it was definitely eye-opening to read about a young teen with the kind of freedom this boy has to walk, bike, and ride buses and subways all over New York City. But when I finished reading and thought about how it might compare to other Newbery Winners and Honor Books, my first thought was, *This was, 'the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children' that year?*

The narrator of *Cat*, Dave Mitchell, is fourteen years old. He lives in an apartment with his parents. He argues with his Dad a lot, and his Mom responds by having asthma attacks.

Dave opens with the statement, "My father is always talking about how a dog can be very educational for a boy. This is one reason I got a cat." He goes on, "My father talks a lot anyway. Maybe being a lawyer he gets in the habit. Also, he's a small guy with very little gray curly hair, so maybe he thinks he's got to roar a lot to make up for not being a big hairy tough guy."

One of Dave's friends and mentors is "Crazy Kate, the Cat Woman." Against his Dad's wishes, Dave adopts one of Kate's cats. This cat is supposed to be the thread that holds the story together. It's a fairly thin thread.

I read several positive reviews of the book trying to learn what others see in it. I found phrases like, "slice-of-life realism," "coming-of-age," "breath of fresh air."



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One reviewer of *It's Like This, Cat* on goodreads.com, "The Captain," references an article discussing the background of the book that states, "in the author's Newbery acceptance speech, 'Out Where the Real People Are,' Emily Neville defended this new genre for teens: 'The real world, with its shadings of light and dark, its many-toned colors, is so much more beautiful than the rigid world of good and bad. It is also more confusing. I think the teen-age reader is ready for both.'"

I couldn't find that article or Cheney's speech, but in searching for them, I did find another [relevant article](#). This writer, Sara Beth West, notes that the Newbery Award winner and the Caldecott Medal winner (*Where the Wild Things Are*) for 1964 were both brought about by the same editor, Ursula Nordstrom. West says:

"Nordstrom gave us what she called 'good books for bad children,' indicating that we are, all of us, bad children. She argued for books that 'make any child feel warmed and attended to and considered,' noting that 'not many children's books make children feel considered.'"

If that statement is true, are we then to understand that until the early 1960s normal children couldn't enjoy and appreciate books written for children? Children didn't feel considered by Louisa May Alcott or George MacDonald? Neither Laura Ingalls Wilder nor Ralph Moody attended to children? No child was warmed by the stories of Eleanor Estes, Carol Ryrie Brink, or Lois Lenski? Perhaps these authors were too rigid about the concept of good and bad.

As iconic as *Where the Wild Things Are* may be, I'm afraid it may indeed have been ground-breaking. Children's authors began jumping on Sendak's success train, and the tone of children's books took a decided turn downward. The attitude came to be that, rather than children's literature edifying readers, books should stoop to the level of childish nature. We've slid far enough down that slope that it seems that if you want to write a successful children's book in this century, all you have to do is start by including words for bodily fluids and functions in the title, and make sure the illustrations are hideous.

West continues:

"According to Neville's Newbery acceptance speech, *It's Like This, Cat* was originally a short story, and Nordstrom insisted it could be something more. So Neville worked and tugged and fussed and added, like a mother bear licking her cub into being (a reference to Michel de Montaigne Neville makes in her acceptance speech) and brought forth the episodic *It's Like This, Cat*, which owes something to Salinger and something to Capote and a lot to the city of New York."

Describing Neville working and tugging and fussing a short story into a book actually explains a lot. It feels like it was fussed with and tugged out of something not meant to be more than it was to begin with. It's as though Cheney cherry-picked episodes with nothing more in mind than proving she could illustrate realism.

The realism extends to a random incident of unwarranted gruesomeness. I'll add the scene to the end of this article. There seems no purpose to this other than shock.**

Is the Newbery Award for children's literature or books for teens? While celebrating a fourteen-year-old boy's freedom to roam about New York City, we are also supposed to be pleased that his cat helps him pick up a girlfriend his parents know nothing about.

In the end, "one thing this cat business seems to have established is that me and Pop fighting is the main cause of Mom's asthma. So we both try to do a little better, and a lot of things we used to argue and fight about, like my jazz records, we just kid each other about now. But now and then we still work up to a real hassle."

My purpose here is not to tear this book apart or tell anyone not to read it. I'm simply pondering on paper.

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The popularity of pedantic books with hit-you-over-the-head morals tends to be short lived. However, when I choose books to recommend for children, I lean toward stories where a character or two matures, gains wisdom, finds truth, or learns something of beauty. By the end of *Cat*, it doesn't seem that Dave has learned much other than how to try a little harder not to upset his mom. Admirable, in a way, I suppose, but there is little evidence of character building.

The other Newbery Honor book for that year was *The Loner* by Ester Wier. I had never heard of the book or of Ester Wier. Though it's a decent enough story of a young boy's search for family and a place to belong, it feels formulaic. I would guess that's why it hasn't endured as a classic.

I understand that we need a tragedy in the beginning in order to set up the main character for what follows. Though the tragic incident is brief, for children with imagination, it may still be a bit too vivid. You may read the scene below. ***

I continue to ponder: What elements must combine to make great literature? Is the list of elements finite? Why are some stories nearly great, but not quite? What makes a book timeless?

People have been trying for generations to come up with formulas to answer these questions. As you choose books for your family, keep in mind that the experts have their own points of view and agendas. Award stickers on the fronts of books can be helpful as a starting point. Lists by trusted mentors are great. Read, listen, learn, consider, and measure books against your principles. But when it comes to choosing books for your children, YOU are the expert.

WARNINGS!

** Kate the Crazy Cat Lady receives a large inheritance, and a reporter goes to her house to take pictures. He accidentally stomps on a kitten. "The scream freezes us all, except Kate. She shoots out of her corner, knowing instantly what has happened. The kitten is jerking slightly now, and bright, bright blood is coming out of its mouth. With one violent, merciful stroke Kate finished it. She picks the limp body up and wraps it neatly in a paper towel and places it in the wastebasket."

*** The boy and his only friend, a girl about his age, are picking potatoes behind a digging machine. "She screamed. Leaping forward, he saw that her yellow hair was caught in the whirring moving parts of the machine. Powerless to help, he stood and watched in cold horror while the machine ripped and tore." She is taken away, and everyone goes back to work.

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"no foreign ownership" even though I oppose Chinese ownership as these companies are publicly traded.

The trona mine is in Sweetwater County (Green River), and is the Ciner (pronounced jin-ner) Resources Corporation. I will have to find out more info but they have a long time (50 years in Wyoming) reputation of treating their employees well with second and third generation working for the mine. They currently use underground mine technique but the expansion will be solution mining, likely more production with nominal 100 additional employees. The company is headquartered in Atlanta for North American business, and in Istanbul for worldwide headquarters. It is one of the most stable of all natural resources companies in Wyoming.

Disclaimer: I have held stock in Ciner since 1996, and one of my fellow grad students works for Ciner.

Thanks,
Steve Work Pct 10-6

What Is the Great Reset?

by Michael Rectenwald
originally published in *Imprimis*

The following is adapted from a talk delivered at Hillsdale College on November 7, 2021, during a Center for Constructive Alternatives conference on “The Great Reset.”

Is the Great Reset a conspiracy theory imagining a vast left-wing plot to establish a totalitarian one-world government? No. Despite the fact that some people may have spun conspiracy theories based on it—with some reason, as we will see—the Great Reset is real.

Indeed, just last year, Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF)—a famous organization made up of the world’s political, economic, and cultural elites that meets annually in Davos, Switzerland—and Thierry Malleret, co-founder and main author of the *Monthly Barometer*, published a book called *COVID-19: The Great Reset*. In the book, they define the Great Reset as a means of addressing the “weaknesses of capitalism” that were purportedly exposed by the COVID pandemic.

But the idea of the Great Reset goes back much further. It can be traced at least as far back as the inception of the WEF, originally founded as the European Management Forum, in 1971. In that same year, Schwab, an engineer and economist by training, published his first book, *Modern Enterprise Management in Mechanical Engineering*. It was in this book that Schwab first introduced the concept he would later call “stakeholder capitalism,” arguing “that the management of a modern enterprise must serve not only shareholders but all stakeholders to achieve long-term growth and prosperity.” Schwab and the WEF have promoted the idea of stakeholder capitalism ever since. They can take credit for the stakeholder and public-private partnership rhetoric and policies embraced by governments, corporations, non-governmental organizations, and international governance bodies worldwide.

The specific phrase “Great Reset” came into general circulation over a decade ago, with the publication of a 2010 book, *The Great Reset*, by American urban studies scholar Richard Florida. Written in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, Florida’s book argued that the 2008 economic crash was the latest in a series of Great Resets—including the Long Depression of the 1870s and the Great Depression of the 1930s—which he defined as periods of paradigm-shifting systemic innovation.

Four years after Florida’s book was published, at the 2014 annual meeting of the WEF, Schwab declared: “What we want to do in Davos this year . . . is to push the reset button”—and subsequently the image of a reset button would appear on the WEF’s website.

In 2018 and 2019, the WEF organized two events that became the primary inspiration for the current Great Reset project—and also, for obvious reasons, fresh fodder for conspiracy theorists. (Don’t blame me for the latter—all I’m doing is relating the historical facts.)

In May 2018, the WEF collaborated with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security to conduct “CLADE X,” a simulation of a national pandemic response. Specifically, the exercise simulated the outbreak of a novel strain of a human parainfluenza virus, with genetic elements of the Nipah virus, called CLADE X. The simulation ended with a news report stating that in the face of CLADE X, without effective vaccines, “experts tell us that we could eventually see 30 to 40 million deaths in the U.S. and more than 900 million around the world—twelve percent of the global population.” Clearly, preparation for a global pandemic was in order.

In October 2019, the WEF collaborated with Johns Hopkins and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on another pandemic exercise, “Event 201,” which simulated an international response to the

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outbreak of a novel coronavirus. This was two months before the COVID outbreak in China became news and five months before the World Health Organization declared it a pandemic, and it closely resembled the future COVID scenario, including incorporating the idea of asymptomatic spread.

The CLADE X and Event 201 simulations anticipated almost every eventuality of the actual COVID crisis, most notably the responses by governments, health agencies, the media, tech companies, and elements of the public. The responses and their effects included worldwide lockdowns, the collapse of businesses and industries, the adoption of biometric surveillance technologies, an emphasis on social media censorship to combat “misinformation,” the flooding of social and legacy media with “authoritative sources,” widespread riots, and mass unemployment.

In addition to being promoted as a response to COVID, the Great Reset is promoted as a response to climate change. In 2017, the WEF published a paper entitled, “We Need to Reset the Global Operating System to Achieve the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals].” On June 13, 2019, the WEF signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations to form a partnership to advance the “UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” Shortly after that, the WEF published the “United Nations-World Economic Forum Strategic Partnership Framework for the 2030 Agenda,” promising to help finance the UN’s climate change agenda and committing the WEF to help the UN “meet the needs of the Fourth Industrial Revolution,” including providing assets and expertise for “digital governance.”

In June 2020, at its 50th annual meeting, the WEF announced the Great Reset’s official launch, and a month later Schwab and Malleret published their book on COVID and the Great Reset. The book declared that COVID represents an “opportunity [that] can be seized”; that “we should take advantage of this unprecedented opportunity to reimagine our world”; that “the moment must be seized to take advantage of this unique window of opportunity”; and that “[f]or those fortunate enough to find themselves in industries ‘naturally’ resilient to the pandemic”—think here of Big Tech companies like Apple, Google, Facebook, and Amazon—“the crisis was not only more bearable, but even a source of profitable opportunities at a time of distress for the majority.”

The Great Reset aims to usher in a bewildering economic amalgam—Schwab’s stakeholder capitalism—which I have called “corporate socialism” and Italian philosopher Giorgio Agamben has called “communist capitalism.”

In brief, stakeholder capitalism involves the behavioral modification of corporations to benefit not shareholders, but stakeholders—individuals and groups that stand to benefit or lose from corporate behavior. Stakeholder capitalism requires not only corporate responses to pandemics and ecological issues such as climate change, “but also rethinking [corporations’] commitments to already-vulnerable communities within their ecosystems.” This is the “social justice” aspect of the Great Reset. To comply with that, governments, banks, and asset managers use the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) index to squeeze non-woke corporations and businesses out of the market. The ESG index is essentially a social credit score that is used to drive ownership and control of production away from the non-woke or non-compliant.

One of the WEF’s many powerful “strategic partners,” BlackRock, Inc., the world’s largest asset manager, is solidly behind the stakeholder model. In a 2021 letter to CEOs, BlackRock CEO Larry Fink declared that “climate risk is investment risk,” and “the creation of sustainable index investments has enabled a massive acceleration of capital towards companies better prepared to address climate risk.” The COVID pandemic, Fink wrote, accelerated the flow of funds toward sustainable investments:

We have long believed that our clients, as shareholders in your company, will benefit if you can create
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enduring, sustainable value for all of your stakeholders. . . . As more and more investors choose to tilt their investments towards sustainability-focused companies, the tectonic shift we are seeing will accelerate further. And because this will have such a dramatic impact on how capital is allocated, every management team and board will need to consider how this will impact their company's stock.

Fink's letter is more than a report to CEOs. It is an implicit threat: be woke or else.

In their recent book on the Great Reset, Schwab and Malleret pit "stakeholder capitalism" against "neoliberalism," defining the latter as "a corpus of ideas and policies . . . favouring competition over solidarity, creative destruction over government intervention, and economic growth over social welfare." In other words, "neoliberalism" refers to the free enterprise system. In opposing that system, stakeholder capitalism entails corporate cooperation with the state and vastly increased government intervention in the economy.

Proponents of the Great Reset hold "neoliberalism" responsible for our economic woes. But in truth, the governmental favoring of industries and players within industries—what used to be known as corporatism or economic fascism—has been the real source of what Schwab and his allies at the WEF decry.

While approved corporations are not *necessarily* monopolies, the tendency of the Great Reset is toward monopolization—vesting as much control over production and distribution in as few favored corporations as possible, while eliminating industries and producers deemed non-essential or inimical. To bring this reset about, Schwab writes, "[e]very country, from the United States to China, must participate, and every industry, from oil and gas to tech, must be transformed."

Another way of describing the goal of the Great Reset is "capitalism with Chinese characteristics"—a two-tiered economy, with profitable monopolies and the state on top and socialism for the majority below.

Several decades ago, as China's growing reliance on the for-profit sectors of its economy could no longer be credibly denied by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), its leadership approved the slogan "socialism with Chinese characteristics" to describe its economic system. Formulated by Deng Xiaoping, the phrase was meant to rationalize the CCP's allowance of for-profit development under a socialist political system. The CCP considered the privatization of the Chinese economy to be a temporary phase—lasting as long as 100 years if necessary—on the way to a communist society. Party leaders maintain that this approach has been necessary in China because socialism was introduced too early there, when China was a backward agrarian country. China needed a capitalist booster shot.

Stripped of its socialist ideological pretensions, the Chinese system amounts to a socialist or communist state increasingly funded by capitalist economic development. The difference between the former Soviet Union and contemporary China is that when it became obvious that a socialist economy had failed, the former gave up its socialist economic pretenses, while the latter has not.

The Great Reset represents the development of the Chinese system in the West, but in reverse. Whereas the Chinese political class began with a socialist political system and then introduced privately held for-profit production, the West began with capitalism and is now implementing a Chinese-style political system. This Chinese-style system includes vastly increased state intervention in the economy, on the one hand, and on the other, the kind of authoritarian measures that the Chinese government uses to control its population.

Schwab and Malleret write that if "the past five centuries in Europe and America" have taught us anything, it is that "acute crises contribute to boosting the power of the state. It's always been the case and there is no reason it should be different with the COVID-19 pandemic."

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The draconian lockdown measures employed by Western governments managed to accomplish goals of which corporate socialists in the WEF could only dream—above all, the destruction of small businesses, eliminating competitors for corporate monopolists favored by the state. In the U.S. alone, according to the Foundation for Economic Education, millions of small businesses closed their doors due to the lockdowns. Yelp data indicates that 60 percent of those closures are now permanent. Meanwhile companies like Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google enjoyed record gains.

Other developments that advance the Great Reset agenda have included unfettered immigration, travel restrictions for otherwise legal border crossing, the Federal Reserve's unrestrained printing of money and the subsequent inflation, increased taxation, increased dependence on the state, broken supply chains, the restrictions and job losses due to vaccine mandates, and the prospect of personal carbon allowances.

Such policies reflect the “fairness” aspect of the Great Reset—fairness requires lowering the economic status of people in wealthier nations like the U.S. relative to that of people in poorer regions of the world. One of the functions of woke ideology is to make the majority in developed countries feel guilty about their wealth, which the elites aim to reset downwards—except, one notices, for the elites themselves, who need to be rich in order to fly in their private jets to Davos each year.

The Great Reset's corporate stakeholder model overlaps with its governance and geopolitical model: states and favored corporations are combined in public-private partnerships and together have control of governance. This corporate-state hybrid is largely unaccountable to the constituents of national governments.

Governance is not only increasingly privatized, but also and more importantly, corporations are deputized as major additions to governments and intergovernmental bodies. The state is thereby extended, enhanced, and augmented by the addition of enormous corporate assets. As such, corporations become what I have called “governmentalities”—otherwise private organizations wielded as state apparatuses, with no obligation to answer to pesky voters. Since these corporations are multinational, the state essentially becomes globalist, whether or not a one-world government is ever formalized.

As if the economic and governmental resets were not dramatic enough, the technological reset reads like a dystopian science fiction novel. It is based on the Fourth Industrial Revolution—or 4-IR for short. The first, second, and third industrial revolutions were the mechanical, electrical, and digital revolutions. The 4-IR marks the convergence of existing and emerging fields, including Big Data, artificial intelligence, machine learning, quantum computing, genetics, nanotechnology, and robotics. The foreseen result will be the merging of the physical, digital, and biological worlds, which presents a challenge to the ontologies by which we understand ourselves and the world, including the definition of a human being.

There is nothing original about this. Transhumanists and Singularitarians (prophets of technological singularity) such as Ray Kurzweil forecasted these and other revolutionary developments long ago. What's different about the globalists' vision of 4-IR is the attempt to harness it to the ends of the Great Reset.

If already existing 4-IR developments are any indication of the future, then the claim that it will contribute to human happiness is false. These developments include Internet algorithms that feed users prescribed news and advertisements and downrank or exclude banned content; algorithms that censor social media content and consign “dangerous” individuals and organizations to digital gulags; “keyword warrants” based on search engine inputs; apps that track and trace COVID violations and report offenders to the police; robot police with scanners to identify and round up the unvaccinated and other dissidents; and smart cities where residents are digital entities to be monitored, surveilled, and recorded, and where data on their every move is collected, collated, stored, and attached to a

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digital identity and a social credit score.

In short, 4-IR technologies subject human beings to a kind of technological management that makes surveillance by the NSA look like child's play. Schwab goes so far as to cheer developments that aim to connect human brains directly to the cloud for the sake of "data mining" our thoughts and memories. If successful, this would constitute a technological mastery over decision-making that would threaten human autonomy and undermine free will.

The 4-IR seeks to accelerate the merging of humans and machines, resulting in a world in which all information, including genetic information, is shared, and every action, thought, and motivation is known, predicted, and possibly precluded. Unless taken out of the hands of corporate-socialist technocrats, the 4-IR will eventually lead to a virtual and inescapable prison of body and mind.

In terms of the social order, the Great Reset promises inclusion in a shared destiny. But the subordination of so-called "netizens" implies economic and political disenfranchisement, a hyper-vigilance over self and others, and social isolation—or what Hannah Arendt called "organized loneliness"—on a global scale. This organized loneliness is already manifest in lockdowns, masking, social distancing, and the social exclusion of the unvaccinated. The title of the Ad Council's March 2020 public service announcement—"Alone Together"—perfectly captures this sense of organized loneliness.

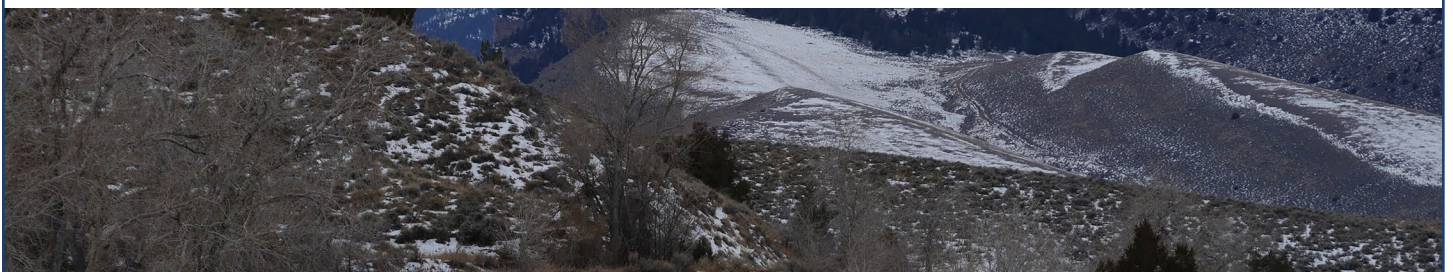
In my recent book, *Google Archipelago*, I argued that leftist authoritarianism is the political ideology and modus operandi of what I call Big Digital, which is on the leading edge of a nascent world system. Big Digital is the communications, ideological, and technological arm of an emerging corporate-socialist totalitarianism. The Great Reset is the name that has since been given to the project of establishing this world system.

Just as Schwab and the WEF predicted, the COVID crisis has accelerated the Great Reset. Monopolistic corporations have consolidated their grip on the economy from above, while socialism continues to advance for the rest of us below. In partnership with Big Digital, Big Pharma, the mainstream media, national and international health agencies, and compliant populations, hitherto democratic Western states—think especially of Australia, New Zealand, and Austria—are being transformed into totalitarian regimes modeled after China.

But let me end on a note of hope. Because the goals of the Great Reset depend on the obliteration not only of free markets, but of individual liberty and free will, it is, perhaps ironically, unsustainable. Like earlier attempts at totalitarianism, the Great Reset is doomed to ultimate failure. That doesn't mean, however, that it won't, again like those earlier attempts, leave a lot of destruction in its wake—which is all the more reason to oppose it now and with all our might.

Michael Rectenwald is the chief academic officer for American Scholars. He has a B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh, an M.A. from Case Western Reserve University, and a Ph.D. in Literary and Cultural Studies from Carnegie Mellon University. He has taught at New York University, Duke University, North Carolina Central University, Carnegie Mellon University, and Case Western Reserve University. He is the author of numerous books, including *Nineteenth-Century British Secularism: Science, Religion, and Literature*; *Google Archipelago*; *Beyond Woke*; and *Thought Criminal*.

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Opinion

Thoughts on the impact of current federal government actions on constitutional rights. To me, as a former FBI agent, the most egregious infringement on the constitutional rights of American citizens is the politicization of federal law enforcement agencies (like the FBI) by a few unscrupulous political actors, which has resulted in the unequal application/enforcement of federal criminal law. I and my fellow retired agents are overwhelmingly proud of our years of service in what has been for most of its history an apolitical institution – one of the most professional and respected law enforcement agencies in the world – and the relatively recent politicization is extremely disheartening for most of us.

Honorable current and former Bureau agents (which includes the vast majority of that population) know that all political beliefs and opinions, right or left, must be put aside when making decisions concerning how, or whether or not, to investigate and/or prosecute any potential criminal offense. That is why I was not publicly involved in politics during my active career, even though I was, and am, a staunch constitutional conservative. I never allowed my conservative views to influence any of my official actions and didn't want to foster any false public perceptions to the contrary.

When politics enter the equation, serious injustices like these result: IRS official Lois Lerner's targeting of conservative non-profit organizations; the James Comey-led FBI investigation and DOJ prosecution of General Michael Flynn for a ginned up offense for which no similarly situated Democrat official would ever be prosecuted; the entire "Russia-gate" debacle of an investigation targeting the Trump administration with absolutely zero reliable predication; the failure to properly investigate Hillary Clinton's flagrant violations of federal laws protecting classified national security information while low-level federal employees were sanctioned for much less serious offenses; the DOJ's restoration of retirement benefits and even back pay to disgraced FBI Acting Director Andrew McCabe, notwithstanding the conclusions of its own Inspector General (Michael Horowitz) that McCabe lied on multiple occasions to FBI agents investigating a classified information leak for which he was responsible; the year-long pre-conviction "punishment" of so many January 6th rioters with no previous criminal records who are charged solely with non-violent misdemeanor trespassing offenses, etc., etc.

When a federal law enforcement agency's decisions and actions are motivated by the political beliefs of its leaders instead of an unbiased determination of whether or not an actual law has likely been violated, the rule of law disintegrates and tyranny results. No one should be above the law; that is, no one should be granted special exemptions from the law because of their politics. Likewise, no one should be singled out to receive "special" attention from law enforcement due solely to his or her political beliefs. And I can think of no greater tyrannical result than being deprived of one's actual freedom (i.e., incarcerated) for committing essentially the same offense as someone else who is allowed to go free because an investigator, a prosecutor, or a judge is politically biased.

For the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and our fellow citizens, we need the FBI to function as the top-flight, professional and ideology-blind federal criminal investigative and counterintelligence agency that succeeded in garnering the world's respect by fostering for nearly a century a culture of honor, integrity, and excellence. When the Bureau and other agencies are weaponized for indiscriminate use by politicians against ideological opponents, they understandably lose public trust. Retired agents like me have a personal stake in the return of that trust to what we regard as the real FBI as a result of years of service alongside innumerable honorable, ethical, and talented men and women with whom we feel especially privileged to have worked. We also have an obligation to the thousands of dedicated agents who paved the way for us in the early days, earning the institution's fine reputation, which we labored to maintain.

The trust of the American people won't be regained unless and until FBI executive leadership admits past mistakes with specificity and contrition, and publicly and loudly disavows attempts to transform it into a weapon of political control. Maybe we retired Bureau veterans can facilitate that result by speaking out when the opportunity arises.

Regards,

Todd Dawson

Christmas Central Committee Celebration



Above: Fremont County Republican Central Committee members and other attendees visit as they wait for the speaking portion of the evening to begin. **Right:** A variety of soups made choosing the content of one's bowl nearly impossible!

The Pavillion Recreation Center in Pavillion, WY was the site of the December 13, 2021 Fremont County Republican Central Committee Meeting. This month's meeting was a soup supper; regular agenda items were suspended in favor of a shared holiday feast.

The meal was followed by a presentation by Ms. Harriet Hageman, a Republican candidate for U.S. House of Representatives. Ms. Hageman took the opportunity to introduce herself to the crowd, citing her family's history in Wyoming, her work record, and ideas and vision for this great state. Many attendees took the opportunity to ask questions of Ms. Hageman during the question and answer portion of the event.

This was a delightful way to end the year, sharing a meal together, neighbor with neighbor.



Civics Corner

by Tina Clifford

Civics. The study of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship (Collins English Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged - 12th edition). **Wyoming State Statute 21-4-101(a)(vi)** says that a home based curriculum must meet the requirements of the Basic Academic Educational Program, which provides for a sequentially progressive curriculum of fundamental instruction in seven subjects: reading, writing, mathematics, civics, history, literature, and science. As a public schooled student, every subject on this list was memorable to me, with civics being the only fuzzy memory. So I looked at the **2020 Civics Test Questions** provided by the U.S. Customs and Immigration Services (USCIS) for people preparing for their citizenship test to see if I could recall that instruction. I did, but only remember voting being the most discussed topic when it came to (civic) participation.

The 128 questions are distributed in the following categories and subcategories: **American Government:** A. Principles of American Government, B. System of Government, C. Rights and Responsibilities; **American History:** A. Colonial Period and Independence, B. 1800s, C. Recent American History and Other Important Historical Information; Symbols and Holidays: A. Symbols, B. Holidays. **Question 69** under American Government: Rights and Responsibilities asks, "What are two examples of civic participation in the United States?" The possible answers are vote, run for office, join a political party, help with a campaign, join a civic group, join a community group, give an elected official your opinion (on an issue), contact elected officials, support or oppose an issue or policy, write to a newspaper.

With our rights come responsibilities and duty. We are to know our history, know how government works, and participate in government. How well do we know not just American history, but all history? I got good grades in history in high school, but when I read *Fate of Empires* by Sir John Glubb I realized how much I do not know. How well do we know how government works? Judging by how little action there was against the longest 15 days to slow the spread of a virus ever recorded, I'm guessing that either people didn't know much about government and what could be done to stop it, or people were satisfied with the events of the last two years. Regardless of your pleasure, displeasure, or indifference over current events, I believe that it's time to seriously up our civics game. This column will attempt to provide sources where one can go to educate themselves by participating in meetings, looking up records, or finding the people who have information.

Local is where there is more of an opportunity to actually make changes. We should make sure that we are up to date on as much as possible, from the federal level on down, but local is where we have the most power to make changes. We the People. Consent of the Governed.

Here are the resources I would recommend this month as we work our way to the election.

- [U.S. Constitution](#)
- [Wyoming Constitution](#)
- [Voter Education](#)
- Familiarize yourself with the [Wyoming GOP Platform](#)
- Familiarize yourself with the [Fremont County GOP Platform](#)
- Read *The Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates*, or search for this term and read as much as you can about it.
- Read *Fate of Empires*

Let's get started! Let's make sure 2022 is our most educated voting year to date.

Bulletin Board

January Meeting

January 10, 2022 • 5:30 pm
Hudson Town Hall • Hudson, WY

Upcoming Events

February 5, 2022

**Fremont County Republican
Central Committee Meeting**
Council Chambers
Riverton City Hall • Riverton, WY
5:30 pm

February 14 - March 15, 2022

2022 Wyoming Legislature
Budget Session
Cheyenne, WY
and online at
<https://wyoleg.gov/>

March 5, 2022 (tentative)
**Fremont County Republican
Precinct Caucus**
Location and Time TBA

March 19, 2022 (tentative)
**Fremont County Republican
County Convention**
Location and Time TBA

Contacts

Fremont County GOP Officers

Chair

Ginger Bennett
ginger.bennett@fremontcountygop.org

Vice Chair

Tim Hancock
tim.hancock@fremontcountygop.org

Secretary

Sallye Kessler
sallye.kessler@fremontcountygop.org

Treasurer

Michael Guggenmos
michael.guggenmos@fremontcountygop.org

Fremont County Legislators

Cale Case (R) S25
Cale.Case@wyoleg.gov
307.332.7623

Ed Cooper (R) S20
Ed.Cooper@wyoleg.gov
307.851.5949

Tim Salazar (R) S26
Tim.Salazar@wyoleg.gov
307.220.1213

Lloyd Larsen (R) H54
Lloyd.Larsen@wyoleg.gov
307.321.1221

Ember Oakley (R) H55
Ember.Oakley@wyoleg.gov
307.349.0222

Pepper Ottman (R) H34
Pepper.Ottman@wyoleg.gov
307.851.7711

John Winter (R) H28
John.Winter@wyoleg.gov
307.690.0185

