

The Republican Club of Sun City NEWSLETTER

January 2019

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(Website: rcsctx.com)

Sun City Texas

(Topics in this newsletter: "November Election," "American Exceptionalism," "Voter Fraud")

NATIONALLY-KNOWN SPEAKER, AUTHOR, FREQUENT GUEST ON NATIONALLY-BROADCAST STATIONS TO ADDRESS CLUB IN JANUARY

Dr. William J Federer – a homeschooling father, businessman, historian, nationally-known speaker, radio host, book publisher, and best selling author – will address the club during its dinner meeting scheduled for **Thursday, January 17 in the ballroom of the Social Center in Sun City.**

As is suggested by the detailed information of his background which follows, he appears to have the characteristics of the proverbial "Renaissance Man."

Federer is president of AMERISEARCH, INC., a publishing company dedicated to researching America's noble heritage, and is founder of AMERICAN MINUTE, a radio program broadcast daily across America on the Internet, and of FAITH IN HISTORY, a television program which airs on the TCT Network and DirectTV.

In addition:

- He has appeared on numerous nation-wide TV programs, including, for example, CSPAN, Hannity and Colmes, O'Reilly Factor, and MSNBC.
- He has been interviewed on numerous nation-wide radio programs, including, for example, Focus on the Family, Janet Parshall's America and Judicial Watch.
- He has been quoted or referenced in numerous nation-wide publications, including, for example, USA Today, New York Times and the Washington Times.
- He is author of numerous books, many of which have value not only as reference books, but also as resource books to understand many of the conflicts in today's society. Note, for example, the various subjects in the following sampling of books: "The Ten Commandments and Their Influence on American Law," "What Every American Needs to Know About the Qur'an – a History of Islam and the U. S.," "George Washington Carver – His Life and Faith in His Own Words," "The Interesting History of the Income Tax."

The main thrust of his address is expected to center on a history of Islam, and Shariah Law and its attempt to take over America as in Europe.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEETING OF JANUARY 17

BEGINNING TIMES: Doors Open – 5:45 pm; Social Period – 6:00 pm; Dinner – 6:30 pm; Program – 7:00 pm
MENU: Meatloaf with sauce, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots. Optional grilled chicken salad will also be available.

COST: Dinner fee is \$18 per person. Checks made out to "The Republican Club of Sun City" should be mailed to: **The Republican Club of Sun City, 1530 Sun City Blvd., Suite 120, PMB 227, Georgetown, TX 78633**, or left in a special drop box located on the front porch of the home of club treasurer Gene Edwards at 202 Duck Creek Lane. For information, contact Gene at 520-990-1159 or geneedwards@earthlink.net The deadline for payment or reservations is Friday, January 11.

Attendees are reminded of the request made by the Executive Committee that advanced payments for the dinner be submitted by the payment deadline so that the proper amount of food can be ordered, and that attendees who have made reservations in advance make payments prior to the meeting, when possible, so that a "bogging down" of the line at the ballroom entrance can be avoided.

VISITORS ARE WELCOME! Non-members may attend a maximum of two meetings per year – as attendees for the dinner or as observers for the program – without having to pay membership dues.

STAFF MEMBER OF HERITAGE FOUNDATION, A GRADUATE OF HILLSDALE COLLEGE, TO ADDRESS CLUB IN FEBRUARY

Raz Shafer, Senior Assistant to the President for Donor Relations at the Heritage Foundation, and a graduate of Hillsdale College, will address the club during its dinner meeting scheduled for **Friday, February 22 in the Ballroom of the Social Center in Sun City.**

Information about that meeting and the program will be provided in the February newsletter.

CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2019; CLUB PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENTS

Consistent with the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, the club, during its November 29 meeting, elected the following slate of officers for the year 2019:

President – Cathy Cody	Secretary – Carol Robertson
1 st Vice President (for programs) – Susie Johnson	Publicity Manager – Anne Marshall
2 nd Vice President (for membership) – Kathy Sweeney	Hospitality Director – Mary O'Hearn
Treasurer – Gene Edwards	

Club president Cathy Cody announces the following appointments for the year 2019:

Webmaster – Bill Harron	Hospitality Assistant – Barbara Mills
Wine Steward - Mike Stanhovich	Newsletter Editor – Everett Schmidt
	Parliamentarian – Everett Schmidt

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2019 CONTINUES

By simply renewing their memberships, 2018 club members have possibly the best way to support the Republican conservative movement in Williamson County which, it should be noted, experienced some disappointing election results in November, especially in comparison with elections of previous years.

Members in 2018 wishing to renew their memberships for 2019 or individuals wishing to become new members for 2019 are asked to submit completed membership forms along with their payments of the \$20 per person membership fee to The Republican Club of Sun City, 1530 Sun City Blvd., Suite 120, PMB 227, City Georgetown, TX 78633 or leave their payments in a special drop box located at the home of the club treasurer at 202 Duck Creek Lane or at club meetings. Contact the VP for membership, Kathy Sweeney, at KathySweeneyMembership@gmail.com for any needed forms.

Promoting New Members. Current members are encouraged to consider bringing potential new members to club meetings, and to inform them they can access the club's website, rcsctx.com, where they can find information about the club and can access past issues of the club's newsletter.

Membership Requirements. Any resident or non-resident of Sun City "who believes in the philosophy of the Republican Party and in the objectives of this [club] is eligible for membership as an Active Member (if a resident of Sun City) or as an Associate Member (if a non-resident of Sun City) upon payment of the \$20 fee.

Club Objectives. According to club bylaws, the objectives of this club include the following: "(1) to promote an informed electorate . . . through political education, (2) to foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its principles and candidates in all elections, including non-partisan elections, and (3) to work for the election of Republican Party nominees."

OTHER CLUB NEWS

Gene Edward, club treasurer, reports the number of attendees at the dinner meeting of November 29 to be 162 at the dinner plus an estimated 20 observers.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE RECENT NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

Foreword. While it should be recognized that much of the country – including Texas – is trending, to one extent or the other, to the left. However, it should be also be recognized that, during the past election, a significant number of votes received by left-leaning candidates came not so much from thoughtful and deliberate votes of the people as from the effects of certain provisions of the then-existing election law and from the unusual appeal of the very popular Democrat Beto O'Rourke on down-ballot races.

This report will reveal changes which should be made in election laws and practices. But it should be recognized that changes which can bring about more honest elections will likely be resisted by leftists/Democrats who will charge "racist," "bias," "voter suppression" and other such demagogic terms in regard to proposed changes and they will be difficult to make.

An Overview. Following are excerpts (shown in italics) of an overview of the November election in Texas provided by *Texas Values*, an organization promoting Texas family values:

Here's the truth about what happened on Election Day. Yes, Ted Cruz won. Yes, Republicans held the U. S. Senate. And yes, the Texas Legislature still holds a Republican majority. But on "down ballot" races, conservatives lost. Big time. In fact, on Election Night, Texas might have started turning purple.

Republicans in the Texas House lost a shocking 12 seats. Pro-life Whip Matt Rinaldi – a Faith and Family Champion – lost to a lesbian activist supported by the Human Rights Campaign (America's most

powerful pro-homo-sexual lobby) and Planned Parenthood.

Overall Tarrant County, America's largest urban Republican county, went blue – as did Dallas, Harris, Travis, and even Williamson and Hays counties.

That's not all. State Appeals Courts serving Dallas, Houston and Austin all turned blue. 19 Republican incumbent judges lost their seats, which could hugely impact our future legal efforts – like our same-sex benefits case.

All over American, including in Texas, Republicans running in upper-middle class suburbs got clobbered. Taken as a whole, Texas can no longer be classified as a 100% Red State. The Lone Star State may have started turning purple.

The Third Court of Appeals. The Third Court of Appeals is especially important in both civil and criminal litigation inasmuch as appeals involving legislation could begin with this court. But all four of the Republicans running for seats on this court were defeated, leaving the court with a 4-2 Democrat majority. This represents a stunning change from the decades during which Republican were in the majority on that court. What happened?

According to the Austin paper, “Democrats rode the coattails of U. S. Senate candidate Beto O'Rourke to sweep four Republican incumbents from office. Massive turnout by Democrats in Travis County – which provided almost half of the votes cast in the court's 24-county Central Texas district – swamped Republican voters from other counties.”

One indication that many voters paid little, if any, attention to the backgrounds of the four winning candidates for those judicial positions is the fact that only one of the successful Democrat candidates has judicial experience, Gisela Triana, a state district judge. The ousted Republicans had a total of 28 years experience on the appeals court.

State-Wide Appeals Courts. On the other hand Republicans won all six races for the state's top courts, including the Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Williamson County. Providing support for the contention in the above “Overview” that Williamson County, in races involving the entire county, went blue is the fact that both U. S. Senate candidate Beto O'Rourke and District 31 Representative candidate MJ Heger carried Williamson County, even though they lost their races because of support in other counties. Other Republicans, however, did well in races for county-wide offices.

Harris County. Providing evidence that large, urban counties in Texas went blue is what happened in Harris County, the state's most populous county: Nearly every Republican in Harris County was unseated on Nov. 6, including 59 judges and the top executive of the county, Ed Emmett, who won in 2014 with 83% of the vote.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, Emmett, the county judged, “lost to novice Lina Hidalgo, a Democrat, who said she has never previously attended a meeting of the Harris County Commissioners Court, which she will soon oversee. The 27-year-old won by less than 2 percentage points and now helps run a metro area that encompasses some 4.6 million people, the third-most-populous county in the U.S.” What happened in Harris County? See the next section.

The “Straight-Ticket” Voting Provision – to end by 2020. The *WSJ* article also reports, “More than 75% of ballots cast in Harris County were straight-ticket votes. Roughly 55% of those went to Democrats giving little chance on a lengthy ballot with more than 90 races. More than 1.2 million people voted in Harris County this year, far more than the 688,018 in the last midterm.

The Beto factor. *The Texas Tribune* explains, “a lot of new Democrats came to the polls to cast their ballots for U. S. Rep. O'Rourke. In the process, many voted for other Democrats down the ballot who they knew little or nothing about.”

“Ballot Harvesting.” Originally, “ballot harvesting” was political jargon for a practice in which organized workers or volunteers collect ballots for certain voters and drop them off at a polling place or election office.” But a more realistic and more current description is one found in the Austin paper:

It's a practice long used by special-interest groups and both major political parties that is viewed either as a voter service that boosts turnout or a nefarious activity that subjects voters to intimidation and makes elections vulnerable to fraud.

The groups rely on data showing which voters requested absentee ballots but have not turned them in. They then go door-to-door and offer to collect and turn in those ballots for the voters – often dozens or hundreds at a time. Some place ballot-collection boxes in high-concentration voters areas, such as college campuses, and take the ballots to election offices when the boxes are full.

Instead of designated individuals being authorized to collect ballots, in California, a law allows voters to give any third party – not just a relative or someone living in the same household, as was previously the law – to collect and turn in anyone else's completed ballot.

Given that California law, the election results in California should not have surprised anyone. As reported

in the Daily Caller, “As the polls closed on election day, six Republican House candidates were ahead in their respective races. However, as the absentee and provisional ballots rolled in over the intervening weeks, all six lost to their Democrat opponents.”

California's Bizarre Election Laws: The Wave of the Future? California has some unique if not downright bizarre election laws which appeal to radical leftists. One is a recently-passed state law which prescribes that the two candidates receiving the most votes during a primary election for a given position appear on the general election ballot regardless of party affiliation. California's Sen. Harris, a panelist on the Kavanaugh hearings, won a Senate seat under that law.

According to writer Katy Grimes, California not only automatically registers all 'eligible' voters to vote when they first obtains or renew their driver's licenses, they also provide, pre-voter registration for teenagers, and illegal aliens; felons and inmates now able to vote. San Francisco also allows illegal aliens to vote in a local election.

THE “EXCEPTIONALISM” OF AMERICA: DO WE KNOW WHAT IT IS? ARE WE ABOUT TO LOSE IT?

THE FAMOUS DIALOG WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION:

Lady, to Benjamin Franklin: “What kind of government have you given us?”

Benjamin Franklin: “A Republic - if you can keep it”

“Exceptionalism” Explained. Professor of history Allen Guelzo, in an op-ed piece appearing in a November issue of the *Wall Street Journal*, makes the following observation:

From time out of mind, human societies had organized as hierarchies – pyramids with kings at the top, nobles in the middle, and commoners on the bottom. But the Enlightenment overthrew hierarchy, starting in the 17th century with Newton and other naturalists. They dismantled the “Great Chain of Being,” which described creation as a hierarchical system, and came to understand nature as a rational order.

By the 18th century, Enlightenment thinkers transferred the overthrow of hierarchy to the political realm, arguing in the same vein that no human being was born with inherent qualities that entitled him to rule or be ruled. When the American colonists rebelled against King George III, their replacement was not another hierarchy, but a republic with no orders, ranks or prelates, religious liberty for all, and an equal title for everyone to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This was simply without precedent.

Rush Limbaugh amplifies what professor Guelzo has stated with these comments:

The story of humanity on planet Earth since the beginning of time has been one of bondage and base survival struggle. The vast majority of people who have lived did not know freedom or liberty. They did not have the right to own property, or the right to dissent, and they certainly didn't have economic opportunity. Most lived very hard lives under tyranny, authoritarianism, dictatorship.

There never was a nation before the United States which founded and organized itself on the belief that the citizen is sovereign, the center of political power – the free, liberated citizen is master of his own destiny.

Humanity has always been dominated by rulers who govern by intimidation, punishment, brutality. The United States is the exception. America was founded on the premise that we are all created by God, we are all created equal, and we are all created yearning for freedom, the natural desire of the human spirit. This had never happened before.

For the first time in human history, the Constitution of this country was written to limit the power of its leaders, to limit the power of its government. In terms of founding, never had such a thing before been imagined. That's what's so remarkable and miraculous.

The importance of understanding “exceptionalism.” Guelzo offers the following warning about rejecting exceptionalism: “But to reject exceptionalism is also to reject the fundamental philosophical principles on which the republic was founded, relegating the guarantee of 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness' to the level of tribal myth.”

The present embrace of socialism. Charles Kesler, professor of government, in a recent issue of *Imprimis*, illustrates the drift of the nation by pointing out that, “in Bernie Sanders' campaign, the youngest generation of liberals is embracing socialism openly – something that would have been unheard of during the cold war.” Like other learned observers, Kesler says America may be entering a period when there are two contrary visions of the country: One is based on the original Constitution and the other being what progressives and liberals, for 100 years now, have called the “living” Constitution.

Wall Street Journal columnist Daniel Henninger comments on the tendency of the media and leftists to blame Donald Trump for what they perceive to be wrong in America. Note, in this regard, an op-ed piece by Dana Milbank appearing in the Austin paper had this glaring headline: **“Bush's Funeral Was a Powerful Renunciation of Trump.”** But Henninger contends, “if you want to discover why America lost the personal and political values of George H. W. Bush, forget Donald Trump. Look deeper.”

A Deeper Look: A Comparison of the American and French Revolutions. In her 2011 book, "Demoniac: How the Liberal Mob is Endangering America," Ann Coulter explains how Democrats "are heirs to the French Revolution, the uprising of a mob," whereas "conservatives are heirs to the American Revolution and harmonious order of a republic."

She explains, "The American Revolution was a movement based on ideas, painstakingly argued by serious men in the process of creating what would become the freest, most prosperous nation in the history of the world."

She then explains, "The French Revolution was a revolt of the mob. It was the primogenitor of the horrors of the Bolshevik Revolution, Hitler's storm troopers, Mao's Cultural Revolution, Pol Pot's slaughter and America's periodic mob uprisings, from Shays Rebellion to the current attacks on White House employees and Trump supporters. The French Revolution is the godless antithesis to the founding of America."

Following are three observations consistent with those of Coulter by columnist Robert Knight: (1) Unlike America's revolution, which the colonist fought to restore God-given rights usurped by King George III, the French revolution ushered in the false religion of socialism, grounded in atheism, (2) the French Revolution emboldened Karl Marx and socialist thinkers, culminating in Vladimir Lenin's communist takeover of Russia in 1917, followed by Adolf Hitler's National Socialist Workers Party's takeover of Germany in 1933, and (3) to the founders Americans were created in the image of God; each person has a sacred right to life, but people are morally flawed from birth. Hence, government exists to protect human life, but government itself must be restrained lest any man or men acquire too much power. This was truly revolutionary, unlike the French experiment, which quickly devolved into tyranny leading to Napoleon's ascent.

Comments of Pat Buchanan:

Even in this world, it is hard to recall a civilization that rejected its God, repudiated the faith and morality by which it grew great, embraced what was previously regarded as decadence and survived. Yet, America has never been more disunited and divided – on politics and policy, religion and morality. We no longer even agree on good and evil, right and wrong.

Are we still one nation under God?

Comments of Joseph Farrah, publisher of Whistleblower and founder of WorldNetDaily:

The U. S. system of government has run its course – not because of any shortcomings in the vision of the founders but because of the shortcomings of the citizenry. Nothing short of a miracle of God can save it.

Comments of David Limbaugh, columnist, author, guest on TV shows:

Leftists are not about to live and let live. They are about wholesale control. There is not live and let live in their bones. In view of this, it is amazing that so many conservatives, traditionalists and Christians are blind to the hostile, aggressive and unquenchable appetite of the leftist movement.

Is our side asleep? Have they given up? Are they numb? Do they care? Are they cowards? My suspicion is that it's more a reflection of the bullying and propaganda than a societal change of heart.

But I haven't given up hope. We can't give up on America. I don't believe American conservatism and traditional values are dead, but they are very, very sick.

ARE DEMOCRATS/LEFTISTS CONCERNED ABOUT VOTER FRAUD?

Foreword. There is some evidence that Democrats/leftists are concerned about voter fraud if one of their candidates lost an election and there had been some indications that supporters of a winning Republican candidate had engaged in some form of ballot tampering. But is that concern consistent?

A case in point. In North Carolina, election officials have refused to certify election results showing that a Republican won the 9th Congressional race, and are investigating reports that Republican political operatives "harvested" ballots and then didn't turn them in. The state elections board – which is headed by a Democrat - plans to review the evidence at a public hearing on January 11. The head of the state Republican Party said he would be open to holding a new election if there is evidence of fraud.

Differing Views on Voter Fraud by the Left and Right. This report suggests there is interest in exposing vote fraud by the left if the potentially offending parties support Republicans. But that interest seems to be lacking if the offending parties appear to support Democrats. Hans von Spakovsky, who is on Heritage Foundation's Election Law Reform Initiative, contends that, "According to the left, voter fraud does not exist and any effort to address it is really about voter suppression and racially-motivated disenfranchisement." He also reports that, "The Heritage Foundations' election fraud database tracks a growing list of proven examples of election misconduct across the country – 1,177 cases so far - and many of its entries involve efforts to manipulate, forge, or change absentee ballots and coerce or intimidate absentee voters."

The differences in how the left and right view voter fraud was illustrated in a report appearing in the March 2018 newsletter, a portion of which now follows:

TRUMP ENDS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COMMISSION ON ELECTION INTEGRITY

In May of 2017 President Trump signed an executive order creating the Advisory Commission on Election Integrity chaired by Vice President Mike Pence. It was tasked to investigate ways to improve confidence in the electoral system and to investigate “vulnerabilities in voting systems and practices used for Federal elections that could lead to improper voter registrations and improper voting, including fraudulent voter registrations and fraudulent voting.”

But on January 3rd, President Trump disbanded the Commission, stating, “Despite substantial evidence of voter fraud, many states have refused to provide the [Commission] with basic information relevant to its inquiry.” He then continued, “Rather than engage in endless legal battles at taxpayer expense, today I signed an executive order to dissolve the Commission.”

Hans von Spakovsky, a member of the Commission, points to some significant problems with a number of states refusing to provide information to the Commission as reported by Trump: “A third of the states flatly refused to give the commission the voter registration and voter history data we requested – even though it is supposed to be publicly available information. States routinely provide that same data to political parties, candidates, and other third parties.”

He then posits some motives for this refusal, motives the reader will likely find highly disturbing in view of the widespread corruption of which the population is aware at virtually all levels of government and by many government agencies, such as the Justice Department, FBI, Internal Revenue Service and on and on. Speaking in stark terms, Spakovsky contends: “There are only two possible explanations for their refusal: either they were part of the partisan resist-Trump-at-all-costs movement, or they were afraid of what we might find.”

Unsurprisingly, a number of demagogic statements made by Democrats ensued in the wake of Trump's announcement. Sen. Schumer claimed that the Commission constituted a “front to suppress the vote.” In addition, he insisted the Committee's disbandment demonstrates that “ill-founded proposals that just appeal to a narrow group of people won't work, and we hope they'll learn this lesson elsewhere.” House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi said that the entire point of the Commission had been to “enable voter suppression” and promote “bigoted delusions of widespread voter fraud.”

But claims that there is no evidence of “widespread vote fraud” may be premature if not unwarranted. Author Jason Snead comments why there may be a lack of such evidence: “That sad reality is a result of the lack of adequate safeguard in many states – policies such as voter identification and proof of citizenship requirements – that make it possible to detect fraud. Even when fraud is detected, many prosecutors opt not to pursue cases for the simple fact that their priorities lie elsewhere.”

Author Arnold Ahlert explains why many states are simply unable to produce evidence because of their system of conducting elections: “Americans might be shocked to discover that at least 38 states currently or will soon allow voters to register online, and 14 currently or will soon permit voters to register on Election Day. Moreover, according to Ballotpedia, 34% of the states have no ID requirement to vote, 24% have non-strict, non-photo voter ID laws, 20% have non-strict, photo ID laws, 6% have strict, non-photo ID laws, and 16% have strict, photo ID laws.

Ahlert contends there could be problems when states allow voter registration to take place as a part of the process of issuing driver's licenses. He notes that “twelve states – California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Vermont and Washington, plus the District of Columbia – allow illegal aliens to obtain driver's licenses.”