

What's News

A Newsletter from the Conservatives on Main Street, Winnebago GOP

July 2023

738 North Main Street / 920-303-9270



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Elections, and Having to Do With

The next election in Winnebago County is **SPRING, 2024**. Plenty of time to volunteer to be a poll worker, door knock, and/or make phone calls.

If you are interested in running for local political office in the future, please contact campaign@winnebagogop.org call us at 920-303-9270 or stop in at 738 North Main Street for more information and to contribute to the conservative future of our country. Come talk it through with us.

Gov't Goings-On (partial listing only)

Neenah School District

- A tentative agreement has been reached on the contentious issue of the sale of the Shattuck School property. More information is to be provided at the July 18th school board meeting.
- The new high school on Rocket Way will be ready by the end of July and a public tour will be available in August. See the latest info on the new school here: <https://www.neenah.k12.wi.us/forward-together.cfm>
- Officer Clay Davis of Fox Crossing has been named School Resource Officer for the new High School.
- The Public is encouraged to attend NJSD board meetings, which are held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Zoom is available at <https://neenah-k12-wi.zoom.us/j/87027567480#success>

City of Oshkosh

- The Oshkosh Common Council is discussing the size of some committees and boards going from nine members to five, which some say could diminish the work these bodies do. At the last meeting, city staff was looking for direction from the council on whether the advisory panels in question – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Sustainability Advisory, Museum and Public Arts, Long Range Finance and Advisory Parks – should be five members or if some should remain nine or any be changed to seven members.
- The council approved a report in May that ended operations of the Committee on Aging, Stormwater Utility Appeals Board and Rental Housing Advisory Board as part of a standard five-year review with department heads and chairs. The report also recommended reducing all optional boards, commissions and committees that are between seven and nine members down to five. <https://oshkoshherald.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/June-28-2023-Oshkosh-Herald.pdf>

Oshkosh Area School District

- The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education heard a presentation that stated grades 3-8 did not meet a target proficiency in literacy in 2023.

Grades 3-8 were targeted to rise from 42% proficiency to 48% by the spring of 2023 but only saw it rise to 45% proficiency. School board member Kristopher Karns asked what the response is to missing these targets. **Editor's Note: Seems like a low bar to claim success for our kids.****

"It's not like we missed it by tenths of a percentage point," Karns said. "That's dozens of children."

The district has a target to get grades 3-8 to 60% proficiency by spring 2025. **** Ditto**

Herzog pointed out that this data includes students that may be three grade levels behind. "We're here to educate all kids – all means all," Herzog said.

<https://oshkoshherald.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/June-28-2023-Oshkosh-Herald.pdf>

Winnebago County

- The vacant 20th district seat has been filled by **Timothy Ernst**, a University of Oshkosh Communications Professor. This fellow is wildly liberal, as you might imagine, given his vocation. Calling all conservatives that reside in the 20th district – come talk to us about running for this non-partisan office in April 2024.
- Board discussions of merit pay for county workers will be held in the coming months.
- The plan for per diem adjustments is complete and has been submitted to the Judiciary and Public Safety committee.
- The committee restructuring plan has been submitted to the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee from the Structure Review Task Force.
- Department budgets are soon to be submitted to the County Executive. From there they will head to preview to their respective committees.

Wisconsin State Assembly and Senate

Our Representatives: Nate Gustafson-R, Dave Murphy-R, Lori Palmeri-D, Mike Schraa-R, Lee Snodgrass-D

Our Senators: Rachael Cabral-Guevara-R, Dan Feyen-R. Find them here: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/>

State Budget:

The state budget has passed the house and the Senate. Governor Evers has deftly used his line-item veto to eliminate and thwart some great intentions of the Republican dominated legislature.

- Legislative budget work started four months ago with the previous budget. The legislature ignored Governor Evers' proposed budget that called for a 23% increase in spending as a base line.
- State aid to municipalities has been increased based on a per capita schedule.
 - While Milwaukee and Milwaukee County are very upset about limitations imposed on what they can spend their newfound money on, they are mad as a wet hen.
 - Police and fire budgets are to be protected and increased.
 - No money can be spent on the money-losing FREE RIDE albatross of the trolley car system (the HOP).
 - They are authorized to increase their tax rates to deal with their huge deficit golden-goose municipal pension plan they passed years ago.
- The budget outlined the biggest tax cut in the state's history.
 - This tax cut WAS bigger than the last one the Republican controlled legislature passed two years ago over Tony Evers' objections.
 - In spite of his hissy fit, he did not veto that one because he took credit for the tax cut in the 2022 election.

- This year, with no reelection to worry about, Tony Evers used his veto pen to gut the middle-class tax cut, reducing the average filer's tax cut from \$573 to \$37.
- The next 16 generations of our children did not escape the democratic game plan of tax-and-spend, either.
 - The agreement was a substantial allowable spending increase of \$325 per pupil for each of the budget years under consideration. Tony Evers' tax-and-spend funding genetics overcame his honor with the line-item veto power held by the Wisconsin governor. It allows character by character deletions from the text. It looked like this:
 - The budget passed by the Legislature said, "... for the 2023–24 school year and the 2024–25 school year add \$325...."
 - The veto looked like this: "... for ~~the 2023–24 school year and the 2024–25 school year~~ add \$325...."
 - The signed budget now says, "...for 2023–2425, add \$325...."
- See a quick summary of budgetary highlights as it was sent to Governor Evers here: [A Budget Made for Wisconsin - YouTube](#)
- Through a survey and listening sessions, Mike Schraa found that the three top budget priorities for residents of the 53rd Assembly District were fixing roads and bridges (28%), cutting taxes (20%), and economic development (18%).
- Legislation was passed to prohibit municipalities from banning gas stoves.
- Legislation has been introduced to assure entry to Wisconsin's university, junior colleges, and trade schools for Wisconsin High School students that graduate in the top 5% of their class.

United States Congress

Our Representatives: Mike Gallagher-R, 8th Congressional District; Glenn Grothman-R, 6th Congressional District

Your Senators: Tammy Baldwin-D; Ron Johnson-R

(Editor's Note: I signed up for Tammy's email updates for my private email address. She ignored me. I thought Senators represented their entire state.)

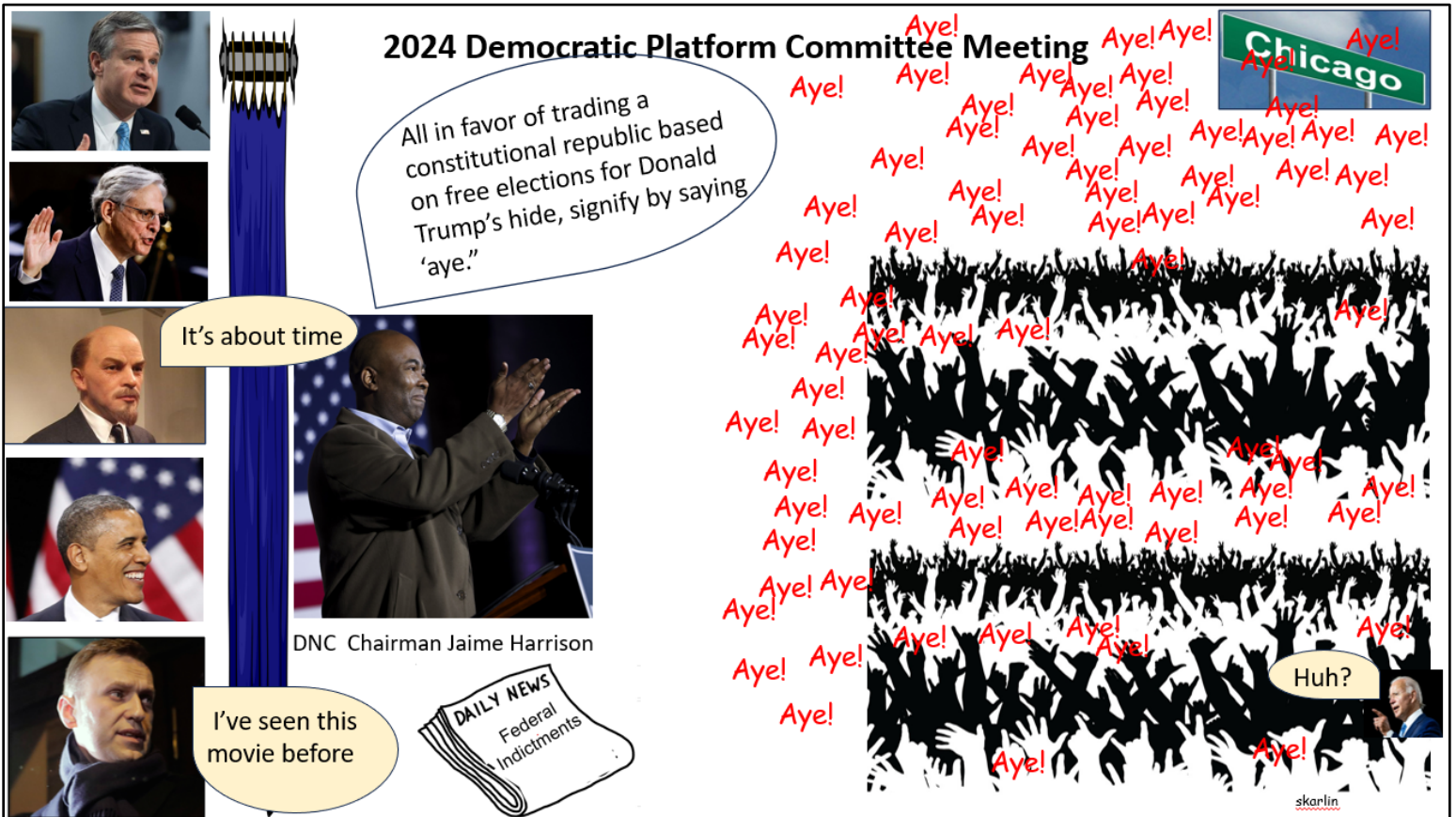
- The Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 has been signed into law as part of the debt ceiling negotiations. While we always hope more can be done, this law does put some barriers in place to block the unrestrained spending that has been a feature of our Dear Leader, Joseph R Biden and his ilk.
- H.R. 3564, *the Middle-Class Borrower Protection Act*, has passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support. This bill is in reaction to the Biden Administration's policy changes to force Americans that pay their bills and their mortgages to subsidize those that don't. The bill currently awaits action by the Senate.
- Senator Johnson is calling for an immediate review of reported reprisal against investigators who raised concern about the Hunter Biden investigation. Federal anti-gag provisions prohibit the use of taxpayer dollars to prevent government employees from communicating with Congress or reporting wrongdoing to specific federal agencies. Any effort to enforce a nondisclosure policy that fails to include a disclaimer of whistleblower rights is against the law.
- Senator Baldwin took issue with the Supreme Court's protection of an Americans right to self-expression in the **303 Creative LLC v. Elenis** case. "This is about fairness and freedom – about whether LGBTQ+ Americans deserve fairness and freedom to be treated just like everyone else. It is simply wrong to discriminate against any American based on who they are or who they love, and

Americans agree.” Her position amounts to forcing an individual to act against his own moral conscience in the interest of a group with other beliefs.

Thinking about running for local office?

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Hey, it's **NOT** just a joke!



How about another?

Free Legal Assistance from the Soros DA of your choice with Prequalification!

Charter Members

Do you qualify for a Get Out Of Jail Free Card?

Secular St Peter

- Valid ID's:
 - DEMCARD
 - BLM
 - ANTIFA
 - Silver Spoon
 - Big Guys
 - Epstein Flyer Miles
- Valid ID's:
 - REPCARD
 - Orange Hair
 - Whistle blowers
 - All suspects other than those listed at St Peter's right

DOJ

What he/she said HUH? (. . . you can't make this stuff up)

Repeat Notification:

--WARNING--
 SOME NEW YORK TIMES NEWS BELOW
 It is what they DON'T report that is disheartening.
 I hope you appreciate it. Reading that rag is getting me down.

Climate Change

No one knows how much, if at all, CO2 emissions will decline as EV use rises. Every claim for EVs reducing emissions is a rough estimate or an outright guess based on averages, approximations, or aspirations. The variables and uncertainties in emissions from energy-intensive mining and processing of minerals used to make EV batteries are a big wild card in the emissions calculus. Those emissions substantially offset reductions from avoiding gasoline and, as the demand for 1 July 2023 battery minerals explodes, the net reductions will shrink, may vanish, and could even lead to a net increase in emissions. Similar emissions uncertainties are associated with producing power for EV charging stations.

No one knows when or whether EVs will reach economic parity with the cars that most people drive. An EV's higher price is dominated by the costs of the critical materials that are needed to build it and is thus dependent on guesses about the future of mining and minerals industries, which are mainly in foreign countries. The facts also show that, for most drivers, there's no visibility for when, if ever, EVs will reach parity in cost and fueling convenience, **regardless of subsidies**. [emphasis mine]

<https://media4.manhattan-institute.org/wp-content/uploads/electric-vehicles-for-everyone-the-impossible-dream.pdf>

British Energy Security and Net Zero Secretary Grant Shapps blasted calls Monday for a rapid shift from fossil fuels during meetings with US Special Presidential envoy for Climate John Kerry. Shapp's remarks came during a US – UK climate summit in which both President Biden and King Charles III participated on Monday morning. They were made in response to Shell CEO Wael Sawan stating last week that the global energy system continues to “desperately need oil and gas” and that green energy development wasn't advanced enough to allow nations to abandon fossil fuels.

“There always has to be a transition . . . but it doesn't just happen overnight, in fact, it's idiotic to suggest you can,” Shapps said, per the BBC. If you tried to, you simply impoverish people and tell people they can no longer drive and they can no longer heat their homes.”

However, Kerry remarked Monday that companies changing their climate commitments is “moving in the wrong direction” in an interview with BBC. He also called for accelerating the green transition.

[UK climate envoy calls rapid green transition 'idiotic' during meetings with John Kerry | Fox News](#)

France's recent decision to ban short-haul flights in the name of climate change is already being criticized by activists for not going far enough.

In late May, the French government enacted a new law wherein domestic flights will be disallowed when a train ride of two and a half hours or less is available for the same destination.

Transportation minister Clement Beaune praised the law as an “essential step and a strong symbol in the policy of reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” adding that France is committed to fighting “relentlessly” to “decarbonize” day-to-day life.

French President Emmanuel Macron bragged on Twitter about being the “first” in the world to enact such a policy.

<https://justthenews.com/politics-policy/energy/activists-unappeased-after-france-banned-domestic-flights-climate-change>

Editor's Note: Pity poor Air France, the bureaucrats are here. And to think the French started the whole freedom thing. When Biden builds our railroad across the Indian Ocean, then what? (No joke!)

President Joe Biden unveiled this week a new transportation goal for his administration: to build a railway from the Pacific Ocean across the Indian Ocean.

<https://freebeacon.com/biden-administration/watch-biden-announces-plan-to-build-massive-railway-across-an-ocean/>

Snopes, the fact checkers, are even funnier:

At the time of publication, there was **no evidence** of an actual proposal to build a railroad over the Indian Ocean.

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/biden-ocean-train/>

The Department of Agriculture in Ireland said that a report outlining a 200,000 reduction in dairy cows was a “modelling document” and “not final policy.”

According to a Friday report, cows would have to be “culled” at a cost of approximately \$650,000 to taxpayers over the next three years to meet climate emissions requirements.

The Farming Independent received the documents via a freedom of information request. Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue has repeatedly suggested proposals for voluntary dairy reduction, according to the Irish Mirror.

Last month the European Commission announced approval of paying \$1.6 billion to buy out livestock farmers in the Netherlands to reduce nitrogen pollution, according to Reuters.

<https://justthenews.com/government/federal-agencies/ireland-dept-agriculture-says-200000-cattle-cows-being-cut-over>

Editor's Note: This is why the farmers became the largest in the upper house of their representative government in the Netherlands. See next.

A farmers' party has stunned Dutch politics and is set to be the biggest party in the upper house of parliament after provincial elections.

The [Farmers Citizen Movement] BBB aims to fight government plans to slash nitrogen emissions harmful to biodiversity by dramatically reducing livestock numbers and buying out thousands of farms.

But [the party's] appeal has spread rapidly beyond its rural heartland, on a populist platform that represents traditional, conservative Dutch social and moral values.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-64967513>

Last year, the Biden administration set an ambitious new goal for the USA: to deploy 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind capacity by the year 2030, increasing US offshore capacity more than seven hundred times over. The UK already has 15 GW of offshore wind, more than 300 times as much as the USA: and [British] experience should be a terrible warning to Americans.

Slightly less than half our electricity comes from gas-burning Combined Cycle Gas Turbines (CCGTs) and gas now costs £90 per megawatt-hour (MWh), nearly five times higher than normal. CCGTs are cheap to build (**around £650m per GW**) and operate. In normal times they would generate electricity at a total cost of £40 per MWh. That's now risen to nearly £150/MWh, thanks to Vladimir Putin and his impact on the gas market.

As an example, the offshore wind farms Hornsea Two and Moray East were completed in 2022 with capital costs of **£2.77 billion per GW and £2.75bn/GW, more than four times the cost of CCGT capacity.** They're expensive to maintain, which is not surprising since offshore windfarms have all their many generators mounted at the top of 200-metre tall masts far away from land. Estimates of maintenance costs are as high as £200m per GW installed, per annum. The nominal cost of offshore wind generation is £170/MWh – noticeably higher than that for CCGTs, even in these dire times of high gas prices.

The other factor to bear in mind is that not only is wind capacity extremely expensive to build, but wind farms do not deliver anything like their rated capacity over time. This is bad news for the customer, because the higher the capacity factor – that is, the higher the percentage of the rated capacity the powerplant actually delivers over time – the cheaper the energy. In 2022 the UK's onshore and offshore windfarms operated with a capacity factor of 33 per cent. In 2021 it was only 29 per cent.

[Britain's green energy disaster should be an awful warning to Americans \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)

In the 1970s, a local nonprofit created the Osborne Reef by dropping more than two million tires into Florida's coastal waters in an attempt to create an environment where marine life would thrive.

The project generated a lot of buzz. It was approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the dumping operation was supervised by a U.S. Navy minesweeper. Goodyear, which provided many of the tires, even christened the reef by dropping a gold-plated tire into the ocean from the Goodyear Blimp.

In the years to follow, many of the tires — which were held together only with nylon rope and steel clips — came loose, making the “reef” useless as a habitat and, in some cases, damaging real coral reefs nearby. [Group shares eerie photos of disastrous man-made reef off coast of Florida: ‘500,000 tires left sitting at the bottom of the ocean’ \(msn.com\)](#)

January 6 and the Gulag

Contrary to what apologists have been saying since Carlson began airing the footage, all this material has not previously been made available to the J6 defendants, some of whom have been jailed without trial for two years, in violation of their constitutional right to a fair and speedy trial.

“It is egregious the way these people have been treated, for as much as two years pretrial, before any finding of fact. When people find out what has been going on in the DC gulag, it is going to shock the American conscience forever,” the lawyer said.

A new book about the J6 prisoners, “Due Process Denied,” tells a tale of hell in the Washington, DC, “gulag,” the Central Detention Facility in southeast Washington where most have been housed.

Cynthia Hughes writes poignantly of one defendant who committed suicide rather than go back to jail.

The defendants have been kept in a separate unit with mold on the walls, brown water and generally unsanitary conditions, are subjected to 23 hours a day of solitary confinement, denied adequate food, medical treatment and religious services.

Their only solace is that every night at 9 p.m., they gather to sing the national anthem.

If this were happening in an authoritarian overseas country, the State Department would rightly decry the injustice.

The shabby treatment of the J6 defendants is a stain on this country’s reputation that has not gone unnoticed around the world.

<https://nypost.com/2023/03/08/an-egregious-denial-of-due-process-for-jan-6-protesters/>

After Jan. 6, Washington, D.C., jail officials decided that all Capitol riot detainees be held in “restrictive housing” as a safety measure for the accused. However, the accused found themselves in solitary confinement 23 hours a day before their trials even started.

“I do not believe in solitary confinement for extended periods of time for anyone,” Warren, a Massachusetts senator and former Harvard Law School professor, said of the Jan. 6 rioters when asked by the *Washington Examiner*.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/aclu-capitol-rioters-in-solitary-confinement>

Natan Sharansky spent 405 days in a punishment cell. This was considered “a kind of record,” he says. [emphasis mine] A punishment cell is small, cold, dark. You get three pieces of bread and three cups

of water a day. You are completely isolated. **“According to the experts, you’re supposed to go crazy after 15 days,” says Sharansky. [again, emphasis mine]**

He fears that Alexei Navalny will break his record. “He definitely will,” on the current pace. Sharansky was in prison for nine years. Navalny has been in prison for only about two and a half years. And already he has spent almost 200 days in a punishment cell.

Sharansky was a prisoner in the Soviet Gulag, from 1977 to 1986. Navalny is generally regarded as the leader of the Russian opposition — the political opposition to the dictator, Vladimir Putin. He was imprisoned in January 2021.

[‘We Have to Resist’ \(msn.com\)](#)

Sex and the City

During New York City’s annual Drag March last Friday, chants of “We’re here, we’re queer, we’re coming for your children!” could be heard in a viral video, engendering outrage from conservatives and causing NBC News unbelievably to run to the defense of the LGBTQ activists.

The leftist media outlet, in an apparent effort to diffuse the explosive situation, attempted to mollify parents on Tuesday by telling them this is nothing new and that the chant had been used for years at Pride events. Instead of assuaging fears blooming out there that LGBTQ radicals are doing exactly what they claim to be doing, that statement solidified concerns from parents.

Los Angeles-based NBC News journalist Tyler Kingkade, who tellingly used to be an editor at HuffPost, wrote a piece justifying the obscene display, noting, “To conservative pundits, activists, and lawmakers, the video confirmed the allegations they’ve levied in recent years that the LGBTQ community is ‘grooming’ children.”

<https://www.bizpacreview.com/2023/06/28/nbc-news-tries-to-defend-were-coming-for-your-children-pride-chant-and-its-so-much-worse-1372672/>

The National Education Association (NEA) on Monday recommended that teachers include the controversial book "Gender Queer" on their summer reading lists.

The book was featured in the NEA's "Great Summer Reads for Educators!" list that showcased 11 books. Among those books are "White Fragility," a book that insists that White Americans use anger, shame and guilt to avoid taking responsibility for racial inequality.

"Gender Queer" has courted major controversy among America parents for being in public school libraries throughout the U.S. and has been challenged for its depictions and descriptions of oral sex as well as discussions on masturbation.

[The largest teachers union in America recommended educators include ‘Gender Queer’ in their summer reading | Fox News](#)

College Loan Forgiveness

Nancy Pelosi; August 26, 2022

"People think that the president of the United States has the power for debt forgiveness. He does not. He can postpone. He can delay. But he does not have that power. That has to be an act of Congress. And I don't even like to call it forgiveness because that implies a transgression. It's not to be forgiven, just freeing people from those obligations," Pelosi, D-Calif., said in response to a reporter's question at her weekly press conference in July 2021.

<https://www.ksl.com/article/50464681/what-nancy-pelosi-said-then-and-now-about-a-presidents-power-to-forgive-student-loans>

Nancy Pelosi; June 30, 2023

"Wrongly, the Majority Opinion, in this case, ignores the convincing arguments on the President's legal authority that were made in the last year by the Department of Education and by former House Education Committee Chairman George Miller," Pelosi said. "President Biden is to be commended for his action to ease the student loan burden, which disproportionately harms women and people of color. Energized by our commitment to equity, justice, and opportunity, the fight is not over."

[Nancy Pelosi ignores Supreme Court citation in statement following student loan ruling \(msn.com\)](#)

June 30, 2023

New York Times columnist Ron Lieber's piece on Friday showed sympathy for the "enormous disappointment" felt by people not getting their loans forgiven after the ruling and offered alternative "ways to get your student debt wiped away."

Lieber mentioned "Income-Driven Repayment," "Public Service Loan Forgiveness," "Closed or low-performing schools," "Bankruptcy Discharge," and "Disability Discharge," before getting to the final option, "Death."

At least, that's what it said before a public outcry on Twitter.

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/new-york-times-column-suggests-death-solution-student-debt-court-strikes-biden-handout>

Editor's Note: He deleted the section on death. Here is the modified article from the coach that wants YOU to pay for it all.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/30/business/student-loan-debt-forgiveness.html?searchResultPosition=3>

Hunter and Joe – an incomplete thumbnail sketch of our first family

"Burisma had no choice but to "pay the Bidens," the executive told the confidential source, because of an investigation into Burisma by Ukrainian prosecutor **Viktor Shokin**.

The confidential source reportedly suggested that the exec "pay the Bidens \$50,000 each."

It's "not \$50,000," the Burisma executive replied. It's "\$5 million."

"\$5 million for one Biden, \$5 million for the other Biden," the executive told the confidential source, according to a source familiar with the FD-1023 document.

[From FD 2023 transcript of FBI interview with confidential source](#)

Chronology of a thumbnail sketch of a criminal enterprise

April 2014, Hunter Biden joins Burisma Holdings Board.

April 2015, Vadym Pozharskyi, A Burisma board advisor, is introduced to Joe Biden by Hunter.

June 2015, US Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland writes a letter to Viktor Shokin on behalf of US Secretary of State John Kerry praising his efforts and confirming the US Governments firm support for his efforts.

December 2015, Joe goes to Ukraine to support the fragile democracy.

March 2016, Joe tells President Poroshenko he is not getting the \$1B unless he fires Viktor Shokin, the Chief Prosecutor investigating Burisma, citing Shokin's own corruption.

March 2016, President Porshenko fires Chief Prosecutor Viktor Poroshenko

Unspecified date before Trump's Inauguration (i.e., while Joe was still Vice President), Burisma owner Mykola Zlochevsky offers Joe and Hunter \$5 million each for helping to end Ukrainian investigation into Burisma corruption.

July 2019, President Donald Trump asks Zelensky to look into corruption surrounding Biden and Shokin leading to Trump's first impeachment.

Discussions in the Press – as the sordid details slowly come to light

Date Published: June 7, 2014

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Vice President Joe Biden's visit Saturday to support Ukraine's fragile democracy came soon after his youngest son was hired by a private Ukrainian company that promotes energy independence from Moscow.

Hunter Biden's employment means he will be working as a director and top lawyer for a Ukrainian energy company during the period when his father and others in the Obama administration attempt to influence the policies of Ukraine's new government, especially on energy issues.

"The primary problem here is the fact that Hunter Biden has set up a financial arrangement with someone who might have business pending before this administration," said Craig Holman, an ethics expert with Public Citizen, a Washington-based government reform organization.

White House officials declined to comment on Hunter Biden's association with Burisma and the company's holdings in Crimea and east Ukraine.

<https://apnews.com/article/joe-biden-europe-business-c49555d51eb243e09a42f7577fc5937f>

Date Published: December 9, 2015

WASHINGTON — When Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. traveled to Kiev, Ukraine, on Sunday for a series of meetings with the country's leaders, one of the issues on his agenda was to encourage a more aggressive fight against Ukraine's rampant corruption and stronger efforts to rein in the power of its oligarchs.

But the credibility of the vice president's anticorruption message may have been undermined by the association of his son, Hunter Biden, with one of Ukraine's largest natural gas companies, Burisma Holdings, and with its owner, Mykola Zlochevsky, who was Ukraine's ecology minister under former President Viktor F. Yanukovich before he was forced into exile.

But Edward C. Chow, who follows Ukrainian policy at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the involvement of the vice president's son with Mr. Zlochevsky's firm undermined the Obama administration's anticorruption message in Ukraine.

"Now you look at the Hunter Biden situation, and on the one hand you can credit the father for sending the anticorruption message," Mr. Chow said. "But I think unfortunately it sends the message that a lot of foreign countries want to believe about America, that we are hypocritical about these issues."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/09/world/europe/corruption-ukraine-joe-biden-son-hunter-biden-ties.html>

Date Published: October 14, 2020

Hunter Biden introduced his father, then-Vice President Joe Biden, to a top executive at a Ukrainian energy firm less than a year before the elder Biden [pressured government officials in Ukraine](#) into firing a prosecutor who was investigating the company, according to emails obtained by The Post.

The never-before-revealed meeting is mentioned in a message of appreciation that Vadym Pozharskyi, an adviser to the board of Burisma, allegedly sent Hunter Biden on April 17, 2015, about a year after Hunter joined the Burisma board at a reported salary of up to \$50,000 a month.

“Dear Hunter, thank you for inviting me to DC and giving an opportunity to meet your father and spent [sic] some time together. It’s really [sic] an honor and pleasure,” the email reads.

An earlier email from May 2014 also shows Pozharskyi, reportedly Burisma’s No. 3 exec, asking Hunter for “advice on how you could use your influence” on the company’s behalf.

[Email reveals how Hunter Biden introduced Ukrainian biz man to dad \(nypost.com\)](#)

Date Published: January 23, 2018

Regarding the firing of Viktor Shokin, Ukrainian prosecutor in March 2016.

TEXT SLIDES:

In 20[16], Ukrainian Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin, in his investigation of corruption involving Burisma Holdings, a natural gas company, identified Hunter Biden as the recipient of \$3,000,000 from the company.

Not wanting this corruption exposed, Joe Biden swung into action, using US loan guarantees as hostage while demanding that Shokin be fired. Amazingly, Joe Biden now brags about his actions in this matter.

Quoted from a Video Recording:

I remember going over convincing our team that we should be providing for loan guarantees and I went over I guess the 12th or 13th time to Kyiv and, uh, and I was supposed to announce that there was another billion dollar loan guarantee.

And I had gotten a commitment from Poroshenko and Yatanyuk that they would take action against the state prosecutor [Viktor Shokin] and they didn’t.

So, we were walking out to the press conference, going to, and I said, “No, I’m not, we’re not going to give you the billion dollars.”

They said, “You have no authority. You’re not the President.” I said, “Call him. I’m letting you know, you’re not getting the billion. I’m going to be leaving here,” and I think it was what, six hours. I said, “I’m leaving in 6 hours. If the prosecutor is not fired, you’re not getting the money.”

Well, son-of-a-bitch. [general laughter]. He got fired, and they put in place someone who was solid.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UXA--dj2-CY>

January 31, 2022.

During former President Donald Trump’s first impeachment trial two years ago, House Democrats alleged that Ukrainian Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin was fired in March 2016 because State officials were widely displeased with his anti-corruption efforts and not because Shokin’s office was investigating the Ukrainian gas firm that had given then-Vice President Biden’s son Hunter a lucrative job.

But the memos obtained by Just the News and the Southeastern Legal Foundation under a Freedom of Information Act request show senior State Department officials — including then-Secretary of State John Kerry — were sending the opposite message to Shokin the summer before his firing.

[Biden Boomerang: Newly released State memos undercut Democrats’ Ukraine impeachment story | Just The News](#)

February 1, 2022

In a letter dated June 9, 2015, then-Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland wrote “We have been impressed with the ambitious Reform and anti-corruption agenda of your government” in a letter that was delivered to the [Ukrainian} prosecutor two days [later].

Nuland wrote that “Secretary Kerry asked me to reply on his behalf” to let Shokin know “he enjoyed the full support of the United States as he set out to fight endemic corruption in the former Soviet republic,” Just the News wrote.

This letter was sent just six months before Biden began a pressure campaign to remove Shokin in December 2015, and appears to conflict with testimony given to Congress, Republican congressional investigators and Trump’s former impeachment defense lawyers say.

Then-vice president Biden succeeded in getting Shokin fired in March 2016, after reportedly personally [threatening] former Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko that he would withhold \$1 billion in US loan guarantees if Shokin wasn’t removed.

<https://thepostmillennial.com/state-department-memos-contradict-democrats-ukraine-impeachment-narrative>
[February 1, 2022](#)

June 10, 2023

President Joe Biden was referred to as the “big guy” by the Ukrainian oligarch who owned the Hunter Biden-employing energy giant Burisma, sources say an FBI record reveals.

Mykola Zlochevsky, the Ukrainian owner of Burisma, was the "foreign national" involved in the alleged "criminal bribery scheme" detailed in an FBI confidential human source form and Zlochevsky referred to Joe Biden as the “big guy” during a conversation a number of years before the June 2020 date of the bureau [FD-1023] form, according to sources familiar with the FBI record who described its contents to the *Washington Examiner*.

The sources told the *Washington Examiner* that the Ukrainian oligarch discussed an alleged bribe of \$5 million to Joe Biden and of \$5 million to Hunter Biden, according to the paid FBI informant who said he heard this from Zlochevsky. The sources said Zlochevsky said he believed it would be difficult to unravel the alleged bribery scheme for at least 10 years because of the number of bank accounts involved.

[Joe Biden referred to as 'big guy' in dealings with Ukraine, FBI record reportedly reveals | Washington Examiner](#)

July 15, 2023

A top Senate Republican revealed Monday that an FBI informant said the Ukrainian oligarch involved in an alleged “criminal bribery scheme” with Joe and Hunter Biden also claimed to have 17 recordings of his conversations with the president and his son.

Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) revealed on the Senate floor that a largely unredacted version of the bureau’s FD-1023 confidential human source form said that “the foreign national who allegedly bribed Joe and Hunter Biden allegedly has audio recordings of his conversations with them — 17 such recordings.”

Mykola Zlochevsky, the Ukrainian owner of Burisma, was the "foreign national" involved in the alleged "criminal bribery scheme" detailed in the FBI form, and Zlochevsky referred to Joe Biden as the “big guy” during a conversation several years before the June 2020 date of the bureau document, according to sources familiar with the FBI record who described its contents to the *Washington Examiner*.

Grassley added Monday that, according to the FD-1023, “the foreign national possesses 15 audio recordings of phone calls between him and Hunter Biden” and “two audio recordings of phone calls between him and the-Vice President Joe Biden.”

Sources previously told the *Washington Examiner* that the Burisma owner discussed an alleged bribe of \$5 million to Joe Biden and of \$5 million to Hunter Biden, according to the paid FBI informant who said he heard this from Zlochevsky. The sources said Zlochevsky said he believed it would be difficult to unravel the alleged bribery scheme for at least 10 years because of the number of bank accounts involved. House Republicans said the alleged bribery scheme was related to Joe Biden’s efforts as vice president to pressure the Ukrainian government to fire Ukrainian prosecutor Viktor Shokin. Republicans said the FBI form indicated the alleged bribes were aimed at shaking off a corruption investigation.

Burisma became a hot-button issue when President Donald Trump referenced it in a July 2019 call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The call spurred a whistleblower complaint, which sparked Democratic-led impeachment proceedings in the House, where Democrats denied Shokin had truly been investigating Burisma and Republicans argued he had been.

Trump and his Republican allies claim Joe Biden improperly used his position as vice president to pressure Ukraine to fire Shokin to protect his son from an investigation into Burisma. Democrats deny this and argue the focus on Burisma was part of an effort to dirty up Joe Biden.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/justice/burisma-owner-17-records-joe-hunter-biden-grassley-fbi>

Let’s not forget China.

June 23, 2023

First son Hunter Biden angrily threatened a Chinese businessman over a deal in 2017, saying the associate would “regret not following” his direction and using his father, Joe Biden, as leverage.

Hunter told [Chinese Energy Conglomerate] CEFC employee and translator Raymond Zhao that he was “sitting” with his dad and the two “would like to understand why the commitment made has not been fulfilled,” according to a July 30, 2017, WhatsApp message disclosed to Congress by IRS whistleblowers who were investigating the first son’s finances. **[see next]**.

“Tell the director that I would like to resolve this now before it gets out of hand, and now means tonight,” Hunter told Zhao.

“And, Z, if I get a call or text from anyone involved in this other than you, Zhang or the chairman, I will make certain that between the man sitting next to me and every person he knows and my ability to forever hold a grudge that you will regret not following my direction.”

Raymond Zhao, an executive with CEFC China Energy, was helping Hunter and his associates — including first brother James Biden — further their business with the Chinese energy conglomerate.

The exchange implies that Hunter was concerned he would be shut out of a lucrative opportunity with CEFC chairman Ye Jianming, in which — according to IRS supervisory agent [whistleblower] Grant Shapley — millions of dollars were at stake.

CEFC was at the forefront of Chinese President Xi Jinping’s Belt and Road Initiative, and Ye Jianming earned the nickname “Belt and Road billionaire” for his success.

In another message dated Aug. 3, 2017, Hunter wrote to [CEFC associate Gongwen “Kevin” Dong](#) that he wanted to “put this to bed tonight ... and get to work. I am tired of this Kevin. I can make \$5M in salary at any law firm in America.

<https://nypost.com/2023/06/23/why-hunter-biden-threatened-his-chinese-business-associate/>

July 15, 2023

There's a lot to discuss. . . . let's look at one piece of new evidence that was released. It's a WhatsApp message from July 30, 2017, [see previous] that [Shapley says](#) the IRS discovered not on Hunter Biden's laptop but during the execution of a warrant to search iCloud records. In it, Hunter Biden was speaking to a man named Henry Zhao, a Chinese businessman involved in Biden's shady dealings in China and also, reportedly, an official in the Chinese Communist Party.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/in-hunter-biden-case-a-whatsapp-smoking-gun>

And now, A Word from Our Sponsors

Check out the conservative political swag available at Winnebago GOP Headquarters.

Shirts, yard signs, buttons, stickers, and flags – good old conversation is free!

All proceeds from merchandise sales go to support our volunteer efforts in Winnebago County



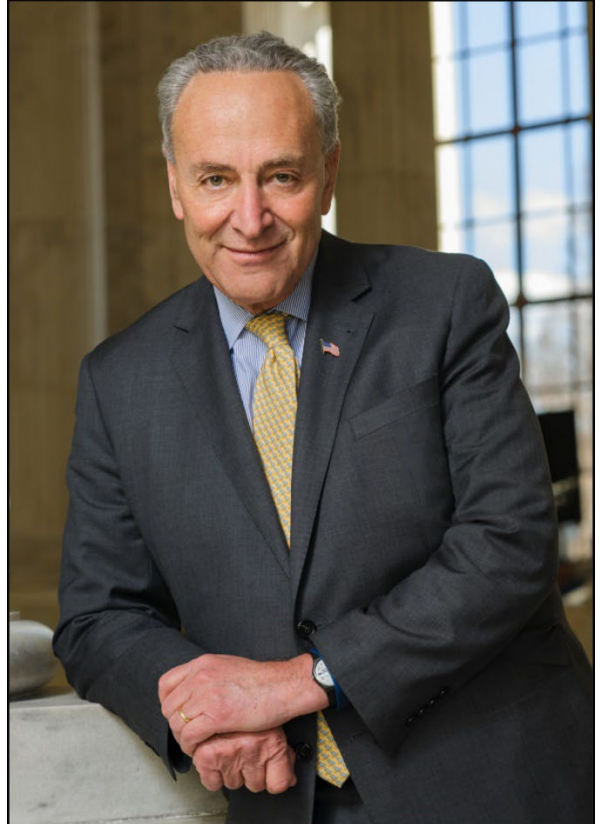
QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Let me tell you: You take on the intelligence community — they have six ways from Sunday at getting back at you.”

January 3, 2017, to Rachel Maddow on live TV
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OYyXv2I4-I>

If you really want more quotes from or want to know more about Chuck Schumer, you can find them yourself.

This quote selected in the wake of the federal indictments of Donald Trump by the party in power in Washington.



So let's throw in a free quote of the day:

“Why is there never a headline that says, ‘Government program ends as its intended goal has been achieved?’”

For more insight into the thinking of Oleg Atbashian, go to
<https://thepeoplescube.com/peoples-blog/>

To learn more about Oleg Atbashian, go to
<https://atbashian.com/about-oleg/>



Good news, Bad news



First the bad news: The Secret Service and the FBI seem to have lost the knack for solving complex crimes. (Someone please ring up Inspector Clouseau).

The good news? Now we all know how stupid they think we are.

Letters to the Editor

Send your thoughts, opinions, complaints (or compliments) to
communications@winnebagogop.org

OPEN BOOK POP QUIZ:

Email your answers to Communications@winnebagogop.org. 80% correct qualifies you to win \$10 worth of merchandise of your choice from Winnebago GOP Headquarters. Answers may or may not be found in the current newsletter. May award a prize to more than one winner. Judgment of the editor is final.

Who are:

1. Alexei Navalny
2. Nikolay Zlochevsky
3. Gary Shapley
4. The “wizards behind the curtain” in the first cartoon on page 5?
5. John Galt

Before you go a few thoughts

Bidenomics Fact Check

Joe Biden is hitting the campaign trail and touting the successes of Bidenomics. He and his staff are very happy with what they have accomplished. In a set of recent speeches, Joe has said he has created an historic low unemployment rate, and that inflation continues to trend down. Problems are solved and it's all blue skies ahead:

Indeed, the economy has steadily improved over the past year of Biden's term in the White House. Unemployment stands near a historic low at 3.7%. The inflation that has plagued Biden's presidency has fallen to 4% from a peak of 9.1% last June.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/watch-live-biden-delivers-economic-policy-speech-on-bidenomics-in-chicago>

Really? Let's talk unemployment rates first. The United States calculates the unemployment rate by considering how many people are looking for a job vs the number of people that are working. If someone is not looking for a job, "it" is not included in the unemployment rate. PBS reports that the current unemployment rate is **NEAR A HISTORIC LOW at 3.7%** in June of 2023 (before any revisions that are quite common). Pre-COVID, in December 2019, the unemployment rate calculated the same way was 3.5%. So, this fact is considered accurate by the media, but stretched by Biden. Biden's unemployment rate is *near* a historic low. I think we can all agree that of the last two Presidents, Biden is second best in this regard.

And then there is this:

In addition, the employment–population ratio (the percentage of the population age 16 and over who are employed) continued to increase as well, reaching 61.0 percent. There were 5.8 million people unemployed in the **fourth quarter of 2019**, down 341,000 from a year earlier, **and the jobless rate declined to 3.5 percent, the lowest rate in 50 years.**

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2020/article/job-market-remains-tight-in-2019-as-the-unemployment-rate-falls-to-its-lowest-level-since-1969.htm>

BUT let's look behind that statistic at another. Let's look at the total number of Americans employed vs the rate of unemployment. President Biden skips over this number.

As of June 2023, there were **135,860,000** Americans working full time.

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/192361/unadjusted-monthly-number-of-full-time-employees-in-the-us/>

In December 2019, again before COVID, there were **158,600,000** Americans Working full time. (See citation)

Most labor force measures continued to improve throughout 2019. Total employment, as measured by the Current Population Survey (CPS), expanded by 2.0 million, reaching **158.6 million** by the end of the year.

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2020/article/job-market-remains-tight-in-2019-as-the-unemployment-rate-falls-to-its-lowest-level-since-1969.htm>

And now a refresher course on the inflation rate. We can all agree that lowering the inflation rate is a very good thing. But watch the words and ask yourself if the newscasters know what they are talking about, or just reading their script. If the inflation rate is going down, it does NOTHING to fix what happened to us in the past. The NEW inflation rate, whatever it is, is COMPOUNDING the reduction in your buying power. It is not FIXING anything. Prices today are just rising slower than they did last year. Here is the simple math you probably already know but humor me.

See the chart below. Although the WORST inflation rate was 9.1% in June of 2022, for this conversation just look at the ANNUAL AVERAGE column, second from the right.

I have added the furthest right column with a bank account of \$1,000.00 going into the first year of Trump's Presidency.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave	Current Value**
2023	6.4	6.0	5.0	4.9	4.0	3.0	Avail. Aug. 10							\$ 793.29
2022	7.5	7.9	8.5	8.3	8.6	9.1	8.5	8.3	8.2	7.7	7.1	6.5	8.0	\$ 812.80
2021	1.4	1.7	2.6	4.2	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	6.2	6.8	7.0	4.7	\$ 883.47
2020	2.5	2.3	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2	\$ 927.05
2019	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.8	\$ 938.30
2018	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.4	\$ 955.50
2017	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.1	\$ 979.00
2016	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.1	1.3	\$1,000.00

Source: <https://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>

** 2023 current value adjusted to reflect only the ½ year for which data is available

2% inflation per year is considered healthy and desirable.

Feel free to share this with your friends and neighbors if you think it will encourage them to think, act and vote more conservatively than they might otherwise.

Letters to the editor of **What's News** are accepted but may or may not be published. Send your thoughts to communications@winnebagogop.org Include your name and email address, and whether you wish to remain anonymous if your letter is selected for publication.

This newsletter is shared for the purpose of informing conservatives anywhere and everywhere on the political spectrum of a little bit of the good, the bad, and the ugly in our country and world today.

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