

What's News

A Newsletter from the Conservatives on Main Street, Winnebago GOP

May 2024

738 North Main Street / 920-303-9270



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Elections, and Having to Do With

Where do I vote?

Am I registered to vote at my current address?

What will be on my ballot?

[Click here for answers to frequently asked election questions.](#)

What county district do I live in?

https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/sites/default/files/uploaded-files/2022_supervisory_district_plan_0.pdf

What Wisconsin Legislative voting districts have I been assigned by the Democrats?

<https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/?version=2024>

If you are interested in running for local political office, please contact campaign@winnebagogop.org call us at 920-303-9270 or stop in at 738 North Main Street for more information. Solid contributors to our local governmental bodies are needed.

Gov't Goings-On (partial listing only)

Winnebago County

- Winnebago County Public Health has published its 2023 Winnebago County Community Health Assessment (CHA), an overview of the community's health that identifies gaps and opportunities to improve the well-being of county residents. The assessment, which health departments are required to complete every five years, is available at winnebagocountywi.gov/health. Residents can provide thoughts and feedback at wchd.pub/chafeedback.

<https://neenahnewsnow.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/April-5-2024-Neenah-News.pdf> Page 8.

City of Neenah

- Sidewalks on Baldwin Street and Plummer Court were contentious issues at last week's Neenah Common Council meeting, drawing pushback from residents before they were approved. About six residents who live on Baldwin Street spoke at the meeting, opposing the city's plan to install sidewalks on both sides of the street. They also turned in a petition signed by neighboring homeowners against the proposal.

Two residents said they recently paid \$9,000 and \$10,000 to widen their driveways to meet city guidelines and said the space is now being taken from them. Concerns included that vehicles will hang over the sidewalks and if they park in the street they may be damaged or vandalized. In addition, they pointed out that street parking overnight is prohibited in winter.

<https://neenahnewsnow.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/April-12-2024-Neenah-News.pdf> page 3.

Neenah Joint School District

- Appleton assistant superintendent Steve Harrison has been chosen to lead the Neenah Joint School District as its new superintendent with the retirement of Mary Pfeiffer after 15 years in the role. Harrison will start in the position July 1 after the Board of Education approved his hiring in a meeting April 15.

<https://neenahnewsnow.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/April-19-2024-Neenah-News.pdf> page 1

School board meetings are open to the public and begin at 6:00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month. You can also attend by zoom: <https://neenah-k12-wi.zoom.us/j/87027567480#success>

City of Oshkosh



- Three new city council members were sworn in at the April 9th city council meeting, including Jacob Floam, far left, who was recommended by Winnebago GOP. Congratulations, Jacob.
- The council approved annexing part of the town of Oshkosh for Valley Christian School on Vinland Avenue at the same meeting.
- The city Common Council, along with the OASD, has approved the sale of Washington Elementary School for \$75,000. The school is currently in its last year of classes.
- A proposal to change the title of mayor to council president was defeated after it was unable to garner enough support from the council. This proposal was reported in the last edition of What'sNews. In Oshkosh, the mayor is responsible for presiding over meetings, announcing the quorum, receiving motions, supervising voting of the body, enforcing rules of order, making proclamations and making appointments subject to board approval.
- For anyone interested in participating in county governance without running for office, there are multiple opportunities to participate on established advisory boards and / or on committees with reserved spots for non-elected citizens of the county. For a survey of such positions and application dates, go to [OnBoardGOV | City of Oshkosh \(oshkoshwi.gov\)](https://onboardgov.com/city-of-oshkosh).

Oshkosh Area School District

- OASD has its first DEI Director, Anthony Miller, who has submitted a new equity plan. "The equity plan is designed to promote achievement and engagement for all students by helping all learners. Focusing on evidence-based strategies to support those who need it the most," Miller said. "Our goal is to improve our outcomes across the board, elevating standards and expectation for shared accountability. This initiative seeks to rectify past injustices within our system and to prevent future harm. During a presentation at a regular school board meeting, Kelly DeWitt asked questions about academic achievement. In the plan there is a goal to "increase academic achievement in literacy for students that are socioeconomically disadvantaged, students of color, and students with disabilities by 10%." DeWitt questioned how that goal can be achieved.

Editor's Note: Kelly DeWitt is on to something important. Students of color and with disabilities represent only a portion of OASD students. Overall student proficiency to grade level in the Oshkosh system hovers around 50% according to Wisconsin DPI.

- OASD, along with the city Common Council OASD, has approved the sale of Washington Elementary School for \$75,000. The school is currently in its last year of classes.
- The OASD Board of Education has a new member. Tim Hess, recommended by Winnebago GOP, came in second out of four candidates on April 2. Hess ran a campaign calling for district administrators to be held accountable. Winnebago GOP recommended Mr. Hess to add a second conservative voice to the board.
- Update: The Oshkosh Area School District now has an equity plan in place designed to promote achievement and engagement for students by helping all learners. The plan was approved by the Board of Education by a 5-2 vote with board members Tim Hess and Kelly DeWitt voting against. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) director Anthony Miller gave an overview of the plan that includes 40 points over many areas, including academic achievement and an anti-harassment policy.

In Hess' first meeting after being elected to the board, he spoke about his concerns with the plan, saying he believed there was not a way to evaluate if it is working.

He called for an amendment to add an evaluation plan to measure the success of some of the 16 categories that Miller identified that could be improved across the district, including trends and patterns in disciplinary actions. The amendment failed with Hess and DeWitt being the only supporters.

<https://oshkoshherald.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/May-1-2024-Oshkosh-Herald.pdf> Page 1.

Editor's note: Sounds like Tim Hess might be a good addition to the school board, concerned along with Kelly DeWitt about measuring effectiveness of board initiatives and expenditures.

Wisconsin State Assembly and Senate

Our county 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/>

- The new legislative maps are in effect for all of us for the upcoming primary elections in August, and the final November elections. You can verify your new voting districts (and who all of a sudden might be representing you until the next election here:

<https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/?version=2024>

This map is interactive. Enter your address at the top right. A dot will show up on the map indicating your physical location. Select the map you wish to view in relation to your address in the top left. To avoid confusion, check off just one map at a time.

Wisconsin Supreme Court

- The Wisconsin Supreme Court's liberal majority last month quietly amended the high court's internal operating procedures, according to documents obtained by Wisconsin Watch — changes that could speed up the disposition of several upcoming high-stakes political cases.

The changes limit the time dissenting justices have to respond to certain orders to two days; allow the court to shorten the window for parties to respond to certain petitions to less than the 14 days allowed in state law; and allow the court to agree to hear cases by a majority vote of members present at a meeting, rather than a majority of the entire court.

The changes were not publicly announced, but after Wisconsin Watch learned about them and asked the justices for comment, liberal Justice Rebecca Dallet said in a statement they “were made primarily to ensure that any one person could not hold up the work of the entire court.”

The move comes as a wave of politically contentious litigation — mostly filed by Democrats and their allies — works its way through the courts. Issues expected to come before the court include abortion access, collective bargaining rights for public sector unions and several election- and voting-related matters.

<https://neenahnewsnow.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/March-29-2024-Neenah-News.pdf>
page 10.

Editor’s Note: All emphasis mine just in case you thought courts were supposed to worry about law and not politics.

- Liberal justices who control the Wisconsin Supreme Court showed signs Monday of being willing to overturn a ruling that all but eliminated the use of absentee ballot drop boxes in the swing state.

At issue is whether the court should overturn its July 2022 ruling that said nothing in state law allowed for absentee drop boxes to be placed anywhere other than in election clerk offices. Conservative justices controlled the court then, but the court flipped to 4-3 liberal control last year, setting the stage to possibly overturn the ruling.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/wisconsin-supreme-courts-liberal-justices-show-signs-of-waiting-to-overturn-ballot-drop-box-ban/ar-BB1mhk1N>

Originally in the Associated Press

Editor’s Note: And on a whim, the liberals can erase election integrity that was ruled constitutional only 2 years ago.

United States Congress

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

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

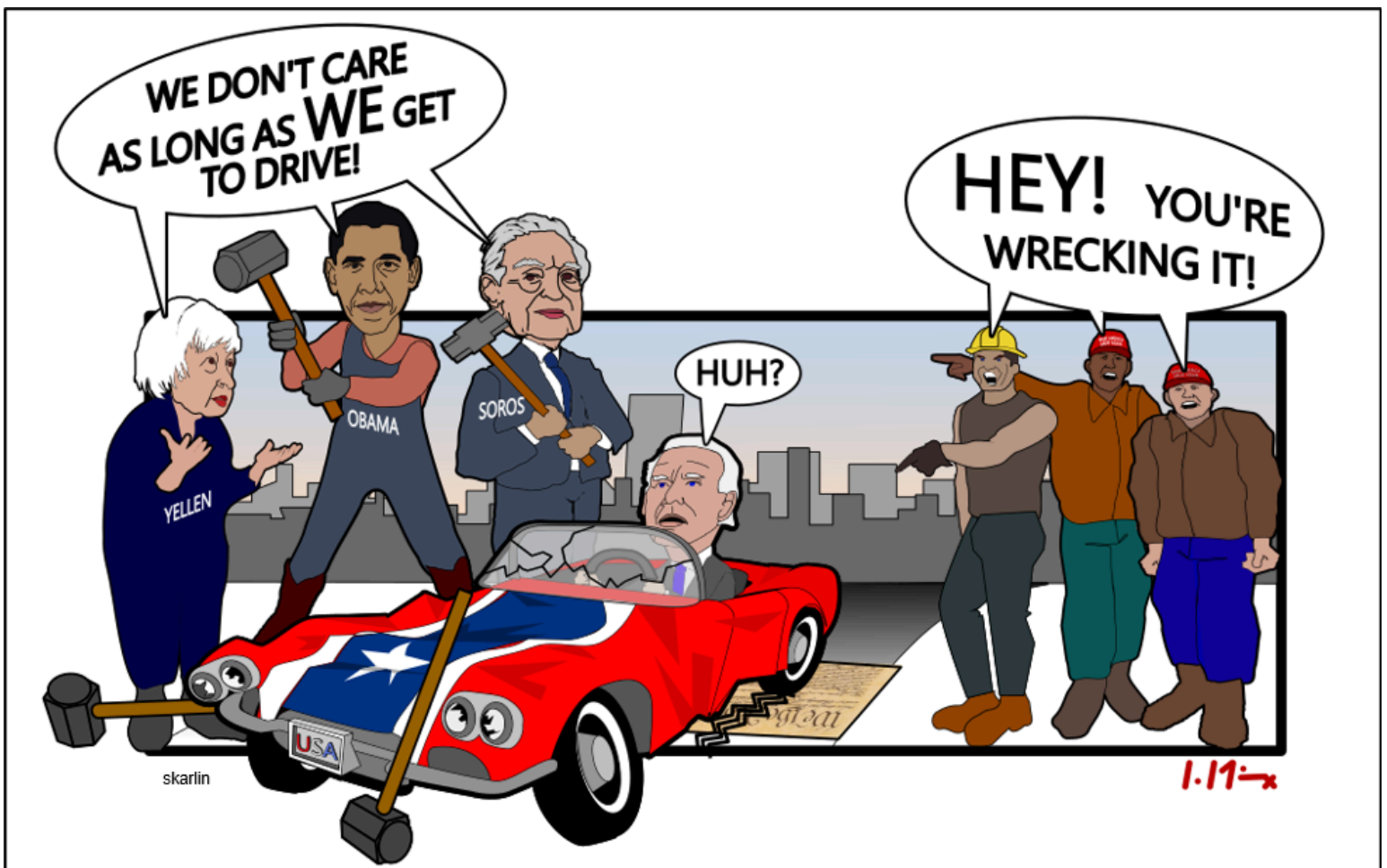
(Editor’s Note: I signed up for Tammy’s email updates for my private email address. She ignored me. Here I thought Senators represented their entire state. Go figure.

- As we all know, after months of back and forth, the Senate and the House both passed a foreign military aid bill with money for Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan. There was no money for the (already funded, though not used by Biden as intended) border protection in the bill. While this disappoints me and I assume a LOT of you, I regret to tell you that a 2-man majority is not a lot to work with since just a very few hold outs from either the “uni-party” wing of the Republicans, or the staunch, conservative “MAGA” wing can blow any deal whatsoever out of the water. Say what you will, Republicans in every state need to take a clear look at our situation and work for election results to make a difference with more control for conservatives. Doing that will require different strategies in the different states.
- An overriding concern of mine is the consequences of Republicans resigning their seats in the last several months. These include Kevin McCarthy who resigned after he was voted out of the

speakership, Ken Buck from Colorado, and our own Mike Gallagher in District 8. I do not know what the procedures are to replace these guys based on the laws of the affected states. I do know that any time these seats are left open and therefore not voting, or if they are filled by a Democratic appointed by a Democratic governor, our slim majority in the house is weakened further. While this will have repetitive repercussions in the legislative process, my concern is focused more on two other issues.

- o If a few more representatives from the Republican caucus go MIA, we lose the majority in the house. This means Hakim Jeffries sets the agenda and his Democratic friends take over the chairmanships of all the committees. So much for any-and-all investigations, futile or not, which are currently contributing to the country's record of official dereliction of duty and (Biden) corruption.
- o Worse, if a third-party candidate or any other situation denies any candidate 270 electoral college votes on November 5, the election is referred to the House, which then selects the president. Think hard before sarcastically wishing for the worst of all worlds.

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



How about another?



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

Who bought all those designer tents for the campus protests?

President Joe Biden has been dogged for months by pro-Palestinian protesters calling him “Genocide Joe” — but some of the groups behind the demonstrations receive financial backing from philanthropists pushing hard for his reelection.

The donors include some of the biggest names in Democratic circles: Soros, Rockefeller and Pritzker, according to a POLITICO analysis.

[Pro-Palestinian protesters are backed by a surprising source: Biden's biggest donors - POLITICO](#)

Editor's Note: These are the Biden Backers!!!

This says it all. Pick your side.

A majority of House Democrats voted against a bill put forth by GOP lawmakers that would require federal law enforcement to detain migrants who have entered the U.S. illegally and face charges for assaulting police officers.

It is among a series of legislation that the House GOP has vowed to bring to the chamber's floor in the coming days in honor of National Police Week. Republicans said in a release on Wednesday that the bills "highlight our continued support for America's law enforcement offices."

<https://www.newsweek.com/democrats-voting-migrants-police-bill-1901252>

Special Section: Your Money

Our Economy in the words of Biden's Chairman of Economic Advisors: Be afraid. Be very afraid.

<https://www.msn.com/en-za/news/other/biden-s-economic-adviser-jared-bernstein-can-t-explain-how-money-works/ar-AA1o7fvC>

Editor's Note: The article is only to identify the guy. The point of this post is the video.

California is undergoing a significant overhaul in its electricity billing method. The state lawmakers approved a complex energy bill two years ago with minimal debate, enabling sweeping changes in how most Californians are billed for electricity.

This shift was initiated by Pacific Gas & Electric, which had requested such changes from the state public utilities commission.

Governor Gavin Newsom introduced this legislation as part of a substantial 2022 budget revision. Within four days, it passed through an Assembly committee hearing without discussion, received approval from both the Assembly and Senate, and was signed into law by Newsom.

Ultimately, what this means is that California's investor-owned utility companies are now permitted to charge residents a monthly fee regardless of how much electricity they draw from the state grid.

The three largest investor-owned power companies in the state advocated for the change, arguing that it would promote the use of electric vehicles and electric-powered appliances.

<https://www.savvydime.com/outrage-builds-over-major-changes-in-the-way-californians-will-pay-for-electricity-ext/>

Editor's Note: The electricity user also has to pay by the kilowatt-hour used as well.

Key Bridge

With the wreckage of Baltimore's Francis Scott Key Bridge behind him, President Joe Biden on Friday promised the city that the "nation has your back" in rebuilding the bridge and reopening its pivotal port.

Biden reiterated that the federal government would cover the full cost of repairs, even as conservatives in the House balk at the idea. But he added that the U.S. would pursue damages from "responsible" parties, without naming them.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2024/04/05/biden-promises-rebuild-baltimore-bridge-00150863>

Editor's Note: Is this even legal? Who knows. Biden's boys never bother with the law. Doling out money is always his first reaction.

Key Bridge --- minutes later:

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen on Wednesday appeared to walk back comments from President Joe Biden that U.S. taxpayers would foot the bill for the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse.

Appearing on MSNBC Wednesday, Yellen said money from the bipartisan infrastructure law could "potentially be helpful."

"My expectation would be that ultimately there will be insurance payments, in part, to cover this. But we don't want to allow worrying about where the financing will come from to hold up reconstruction," Yellen said.
[Janet Yellen walks back Biden's comments US taxpayers on hook for Baltimore bridge collapse \(msn.com\)](#)

California GOP leaders are calling for more accountability after an audit released earlier this week indicated that the state spent around \$24 billion to tackle the homeless crisis over the past five years but did not consistently track whether the huge outlay of public money did anything to actually improve the problem.

The state auditor's report found that despite roughly \$24 billion spent on homeless and housing programs during the 2018-2023 fiscal years, the problem didn't improve in many cities, according to the state auditor's report. (emphasis mine)

Among other things, the report found that the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), which is responsible for coordinating agencies and allocating resources for the homelessness programs, **stopped tracking whether the programs were working in 2021. (Emphasis mine)**
<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/california-gop-leaders-call-accountability-state-cant-account-24b-spent-homeless-crisis>

Editor's note: See [Quote of the Day](#).

The price tag of President Joe Biden's student loan amnesty just keeps growing -- and it's not the neediest who are getting the money, either.

According to the New York Post, a new study by the University of Pennsylvania estimates that a new round of student loan cancellation programs raises the amount that taxpayers are stuck holding to \$559 billion total, including \$84 billion under new provisions announced last week.

The kicker? The newest provisions under the Saving on a Valuable Education, or SAVE, plan will benefit those in higher tax brackets the most.

[Biden's Student Debt Cancellation Has Taxpayers Paying \\$559 Billion. Benefits Wealthier Families \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in Western Journal

Editor's Note: see next.

Someone's got to pay — even if borrowers don't have to pay their student loans back.

Those payers end up being the taxpayers who will foot the bill left by President Joe Biden's student debt handout, according to a [report](#) from the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget (CRFB).

The price tag could run between \$870 billion and \$1.4 trillion if the student debt handout, as well as other Biden policies, are put into effect.

<https://ijr.com/report-bidens-student-loan-relief-could-cost-as-much-as-1-4-trillion/>

Capital Gains

The proposal, released last month, notes that the administration wants to increase the top marginal rate on long-term capital gains dividends up to 44.6 percent, which would make the tax rate exceed 50 percent in states like California, New Jersey, New York and others.

Critics note that the idea will 'disincentivize investing' and could massively hurt U.S. industries like tech while further shrinking the middle class.

Capital gains are profits made from selling assets like stocks, businesses, homes and other investments. The sale of these assets can usually trigger a taxable event.

[Biden proposes the biggest capital gains tax in 100 YEARS \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in the Daily Mail

President Joe Biden's latest budget was dead on arrival in Washington. It has no chance of getting passed by a Republican-controlled House of Representatives. Many members of Congress may not even have read it.

That's something they may come to regret, because it's actually a campaign document for the presidential election. And as such, it's pretty clever.

Among its features, buried in the fine print, is a big stick that Biden can be expected to use against Donald Trump in the fall.

That stick: **a hefty 25% tax on unrealized capital gains for people worth more than \$100 million.**

(Emphasis Mine) Hmmm. Who do we know who is worth more than \$100 million and likes to brag about paying no taxes?

[Joe Biden proposes hitting Donald Trump with a \\$1 billion tax bill \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in MarketWatch

Editor's Note: Whoa, Hoss! Let's apply this principle to you and me. Let's say you or I buy a house for \$200,000. We have not sold it, but now the property market makes a big move and it is valued by the city at \$300,000. (think inflation). At the end of that year, we owe the Feds an additional \$25,000 (25% of the additional valuation). We must pay it by Tax Day, April 15. Then, the market crashes and God forbid, we have to sell for the original \$200,000. Good luck with grocery bills IF we can even ASK for our money back from the IRS. Oh, don't worry. I am not reaching. This will trickle down to us, too.

The tension between the U.S. and [China](#) has escalated into a full-blown financial conflict that's edging towards catastrophe. Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen's request for China to purchase \$400 billion in U.S. debt went unanswered, leading to a series of economic and political retaliations that are shaking the foundations of global stability.

The American response has been to keep the monetary presses running, flooding the market with U.S. dollars. Projections suggest that if the U.S. maintains its current military and economic strategies, its national debt could soar to an astronomical \$54 trillion by 2034.

[U.S. and China's standoff over debt reaches scary level \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in Cryptopolitan

Editor's Note: Lucky our friends in China would never use this against us.

President Joe Biden has repeatedly said he won't hike taxes on anyone earning less than \$400,000, but then this week he promised on X to hike taxes on just about everyone.

Now, to be fair, Biden may not have understood that's what he's saying. (words are from the article, but the emphasis is mine).

Letting the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act expire and "stay expired" would be a massive middle-class tax hike because the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act was a massive middle-class tax cut. Yes, wealthy people also saw their taxes reduced by the TCJA, but the law actually shifted a greater portion of the tax burden onto the wealthy.

[Biden calls for middle-class tax hike - Washington Examiner](#)

Approximately 100,000 migrants known as "Dreamers" will receive tax breaks due to the Biden administration allowing participants in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA) to enroll in the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) health insurance.

The [move, announced on Friday](#), will go into action this November, around the same time President [Joe Biden](#) is slated to face presumptive [Republican](#) nominee [Donald Trump](#) in a 2020 election rematch. [Migrants Get New Tax Credits \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in Newsweek

In a recent report, Financial YouTuber John Williams discussed the potential impact of a proposed multi-trillion-dollar stimulus package on the US economy. Here's what he said.

The proposed stimulus package includes various measures aimed at providing relief to struggling Americans. Among these are \$1,400 direct payments to millions of individuals and significant aid earmarked for small businesses, including over \$28 billion allocated specifically for restaurant owners.

One key aspect of the stimulus package is its potential to alleviate the burden of debt for many small businesses. Williams suggested that the injection of funds could lead to a reduction in debt levels among businesses, offering them much-needed financial respite in the short term.

But he added that there's a flip side. All this extra cash flowing around could also push prices up faster. Critically analyzing the potential implications of the stimulus package, Williams raised concerns about the long-term consequences of increased debt and inflation.

[White House Begins a Multi-Trillion Stimulus Package For America \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in I sold My House.

Editor's Note: The inflation of the last three years (17% in 3.5 years) was caused by the massive original "Build Back Better" COVID relief stimulus. If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you always got. And we thought the only vote buying program was student loan forgiveness.

President Biden's labor head could be forcing US taxpayers to foot the bill for roughly \$32 billion in unemployment fraud she caused when serving during the COVID-19 pandemic as California's top labor official, Republican senators wrote in a Wednesday letter.

Sens. Bill Cassidy and Mike Crapo expressed concerns in a letter to Labor Secretary Julie Su about December Labor Department guidelines that may "allow California to shift the consequences of a still unknown amount of federal funds that was lost" by its Employment Development Department (EDD) during her tenure.

The \$32.6 billion in COVID relief to fraudsters amounts to as much as one third of the total erroneous unemployment insurance payments, according to a Government Accountability Office report last September.

[Biden's labor secretary could be forcing taxpayers to foot \\$32B in unemployment fraud she caused in California: GOP senators \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in New York Post

Editor's Note: Think it doesn't matter to us in Wisconsin?

How do you spell F-E-D-E-R-A-L-I-Z-A-T-I-O-N OF D-E-B-T?"

Government in Business

Fisker, an electric vehicle startup based in California, has decided to reduce the prices of certain models in its lineup in an effort to stave off bankruptcy following the collapse of a potential partnership with another car manufacturer.

[Electric vehicle manufacturer slashes prices in last-ditch bid to avoid bankruptcy \(msn.com\)](#)

Editor's Note: The only thing you can give away in price cuts are the profits. Think Solyndra. Originally in State of the Union.

California has one of the highest minimum wages in the country, and as of April 1, 2024, that minimum wage will be raised to \$20 an hour. While this may appear to be an exciting prospect for food industry workers, the law is wreaking havoc on fast food industry chains who will no longer be able to afford to pay their employees without hiking up prices.

Now, fast food giants such as McDonald's, Popeyes, and Pizza Hut are forced to rely on layoffs to account for the new minimum wage. Pizza Hut already laid out its plan to lay off more than 1,200 employees.

[California Fast Food Workers Laid Off in Drove as New Minimum Wage Requirement Takes Effect \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in World Matrix

Editor's Note: What happens when the government thinks it runs the economy? Read Atlas Shrugged, by Ayn Rand

A new law in Seattle aimed at protecting delivery drivers has customers opting out of ordering takeout and restaurants seeing plummeting sales. The controversial minimum wage hike for gig workers has the city council scrambling to walk back the harsh effects of the well-intended but poorly executed effort to boost pay.

Delivery drivers are now guaranteed an hourly minimum wage of \$19.97 in Seattle, which is meant to account for costs like gas and vehicle maintenance.

However, the additional fees charged to customers have led to a huge drop in delivery orders, negatively impacting drivers' total pay.

[Seattle's \\$20 Minimum Wage Backfires as Delivery Orders Plummet \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in The Daily Reel

Environment

"We calculated that if you add on the socialized infrastructure costs, and then in particular add on California's zero emission vehicle mandate, which adds cost to all of us because the automakers have to pay to produce more EVs in California, and they spread that cost to the whole country, the federal fuel economy regulations alone are subsidizing each EV by about \$20,000. Add all this together, and each EV is getting almost \$50,000 in subsidies," he said.

[Electric vehicles are 'direct wealth transfer' from owners of gas-powered vehicles to EV owners, experts say \(msn.com\)](#)

Originally in Fox Business

Signs of the Times

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

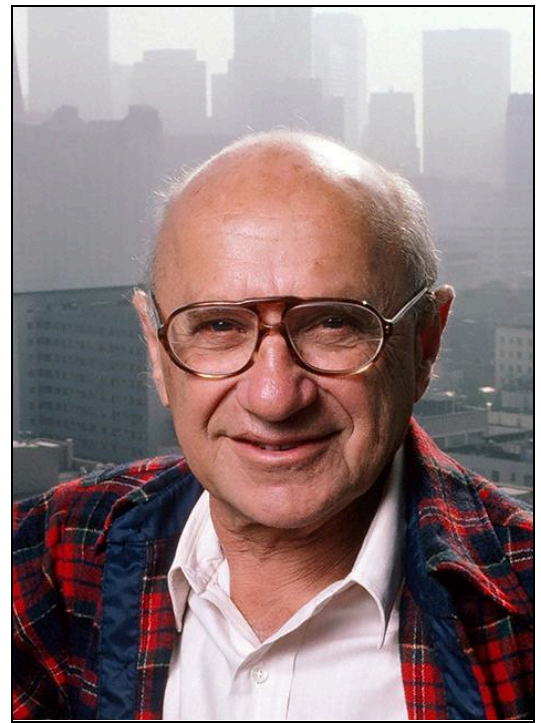
All proceeds from merchandise sales go to support our volunteer efforts in Winnebago County



Get a new American Flag at Winnebago GOP Headquarters

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

- 1) You can spend your own money on yourself:** If you spend your own money on yourself, you're very careful on what you spend it on. You make sure you get the most for your dollar.
- 2) You can spend your own money on someone else:** When you spend your own money on someone else, you're careful on not spending too much. You don't worry as much about the gifts you buy for other people as the things you buy for yourself.
- 3) You can spend somebody else's money on yourself:** You're careful to get good things for the money. But you're not very worried about getting the best bang for your buck. You're happier to spend more of somebody else's money within reason.
- 4) You can spend somebody else's money on somebody else:** You become a "distributor of welfare funds." You're interested in making your own life as good as you can. But you're not going to be anywhere near as careful as spending this money on other people.



Milton Friedman

Learn more about Nobel Prize winner Milton Friedman here:

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Milton-Friedman>

See more Milton Friedman quotes here:

<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/milton-friedman-quotes>

From The Literature

Quotes from literature and books that reflect on our current world.

One might say that romance with revolution died with Solzhenitsyn. The line from the Bastille to the gulag is not straight, but the connection is unmistakable. Modern totalitarianism has its roots in 1789. "The spirit of the French Revolution has always been present in the social life of the country," said Gorbachev during his visit to France last week. Few attempts at ingratiation have been more true or more damning.

Indeed, the French Revolution was such a model for future revolutions that it redefined the word. That is why 1776 has long been treated as a kind of pseudo-revolution . . . The American Revolution was utterly lacking in the messianic, bloody-minded idealism of the French. It rearranged the constitutional furniture. Its revolutionary leaders died in their own beds. What kind of revolution was that?

Thirteen years later, . . . [it] . . . has become conventional wisdom: a successful revolution, perhaps the only successful revolution of our time.

The French Revolution failed, argues Scharma, because it tried to create the impossible: a regime both of liberty and of "patriotic" state power. The history of the revolution is proof that these goals are incompatible.

The American Revolution succeeded because it chose one, liberty. The Russian Revolution became deranged when it chose the other, state power. The French Revolution, to its credit and sorrow, wanted both.

Its great virtue was to have loosed the idea of liberty upon Europe. Its great vice was to have created the model, the monster, of the mobilized militarized state—revolutionary France invented universal conscription, that scourge of the 20th century only now beginning to wither away.

The French cannot be blamed for everything, alas, but their revolution, with its glamour and influence, did not only popularize, it deified revolution. There are large parts of the world where even today the worst brutality and arbitrariness are justified by the mere invocation of the word *revolution*—without reference to any other human value.

For the Chinese authorities to shoot a dissident in the back of the head, they only have to show that he is a “counterrevolutionary.” In Cuba, Gen. Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez, erstwhile hero of the revolution, is condemned to death in a show trial and upon receiving his sentence confesses his sins and declares that at his execution his “last thought would be of Fidel and the great revolution.”

--Charles Krauthammer, *Things that Matter*, Random House NY, 2013, page 134.

Originally published in the *Washington Post*, July 14, 1989.

Good news, Bad news

This is a longer and more convoluted story than usual for “Good news, Bad news.”

First the bad news: Around 1:30 p.m., members of the task force went to serve a warrant on a person for being a felon in possession of a firearm, Johnny Jennings, the chief of police of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, said at a news conference Monday evening.

In all, four members of the task force were shot, three of whom died.

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/north-carolina-student-said-have-protected-american-flag-dead-body-marxist-horde>

Editor’s Note: The fourth officer died later at the hospital. May they rest in peace.

Then some good news: [The] suspected attacker was found dead in the front yard of a barricaded home after a standoff that lasted three hours, police said.

<https://www.wral.com/story/one-person-arrested-during-pro-palestine-protest-on-nc-state-campus/21407769/>

Editor’s Note: Editor’s opinion of death by cop requires more explanation than is relevant here.

Followed by more bad news: Anti-Israel protesters targeted the American flag on The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s quad — *which had been flying at half-mast after four Charlotte officers were killed in the line of duty. At one point, they replaced it with a Palestinian flag . . .* (emphasis mine)

[One person arrested during pro-Palestine protest on NC State campus \(wral.com\)](https://www.wral.com/story/one-person-arrested-during-pro-palestine-protest-on-nc-state-campus/21407769/)

Editor’s Note: WRAL is the local NBC mainstream media outlet. See their antiseptic coverage of this at the link. Stick with the video coverage at least until he talks about the group coming to the aid of their “comrade.” Dog whistles, anyone?

Followed by more good news: A student who defended the American flag at a North Carolina campus Tuesday from an anti-Israel mob, said the protesters would have had to yank the flag from him over his “dead body.”

“I don’t understand how people can act like this,” said Dan Stempel, a junior studying political science at the university. He was one of over a few dozen students who stood up to a mob of hundreds as they tried to desecrate the American flag. Stempel and his fellow classmates held the flag for over an hour until police were able to clear the protest and safely hoist it back on the flagpole. All the while, the students experienced profanity and middle fingers from protesters, along with bottles, rocks, and water being thrown at them.

“So take a stand. Be a man. Take a stand,” he [Don Stempel] added.

[North Carolina student said he would have protected American flag with his 'dead body' from 'Marxist horde' | Fox News](#)

And it goes on: More Good News:

On Wednesday, a [GoFundMe](#) was started by John Noonan with the title: "Pi Kappa Phi Men Defended their Flag. Throw 'em a Rager."

A description for the fundraiser referred to protesters as "commie losers" and an "unwashed Marxist horde," while painting the ones who held up the U.S. flag as "a platoon of American heroes" and "triumphant Brohemians ... fueled by Zyn and White Claws."

<https://www.wunc.org/news/2024-05-02/unc-frat-party-fundraiser-protest-gofundme-ralston-noonan>

Editor's Note: Who is John Noonan?

Noonan, a Washington, D.C., consultant who has advised moderate Republican presidential candidates on national security issues, is a frequent commentator on defense issues on social media.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/lifestyle/other/organizer-of-viral-fundraiser-for-unc-frat-rager-creating-board-to-pl-an-party-give-to-charities/ar-AA1o40uq>

Originally on WRAL News

And still more Good News--

Country music singer John Rich has offered to put on a free concert for fraternity members at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill who were shown protecting an American flag during a campus protest earlier this week.

The gesture was caught on camera at UNC Chapel Hill's main quad on Tuesday, where pro-Palestinian demonstrators replaced the U.S. flag with a Palestinian flag, sparking clashes between protesters and counter protesters amid wider demonstrations.

Hours later, Rich announced that he had been successful in his attempts to contact the fraternity brothers, writing: "I've made contact with the Patriots at UNC! Working on a date to have a massive event to celebrate our flag and those who love her."

Rich added that he would keep his followers "posted," adding of the proposed event: "**Let's call it #Flagstock.** Can you make Flagstock trend? LESSGO!"

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/john-rich-sends-offer-to-unc-frat-brothers-who-protected-american-flag/ar-AA1o1T5H>

Originally in Newsweek

Editor's Note. You watch how big this gets leading up to November 2024. You heard it here first. FYI, John Rich's play here is on WOODSTOCK, the ultimate hippie event of the 20th century.

Letters to the Editor

Thoughts? Opinions? Complaints? Compliments?
communications@winnebagogop.org

OPEN BOOK POP QUIZ:

Email your answers to Communications@winnebagogop.org. **We have lowered the bar: Reply with TWO correct answers** 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 or may not award a prize to more than one winner. Judgment of the editor is final.

1. When did Israel effectively turn over the administration of the Gaza Strip to the Palestinian Authority?
 2. Why won't anyone offer the Palestinians a "two-state" solution?
 3. What famous American statesman said Americans must choose Freedom or Democracy?
 4. Who has been dating Alex Soros, George Soros' son? Hint: Inside baseball
5. **IN YOUR OPINION: which Ivy League school embarrassed itself the most with their resolution to on-campus protesters / picnickers and WHY? The editor is CONDUCTING A SURVEY. Thank you in advance for your input.**

Answers to March's pop quiz:

1. Prior to October 7, 2023, who administered government services in the Gaza Strip and since when?
Answer: The Palestinians through HAMAS for whom they voted after the Israelis handed over control in 2005.
2. Where do the highest-ranking leaders of HAMAS live?
Answer: Qatar
3. How many Palestinian refugees has Egypt, which borders the Gaza Strip, taken in since 10/7/23?
Answer: None. They reinforced their border to assure their ban on Palestinians remained functional.
4. In 2012 who told Dmitry Medvedev that he would have more flexibility to deal with the Russians after his next and final election?
Answer: Obama—2011 hot mic moment.
5. What is RICO?
Answer: Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act

Before you go a few thoughts

Editor's Note: The opinions and beliefs below are the editor's alone, and not the position of the Republican party

Question 1. Upon what is the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem built? Answer: The ruins of (Jewish) King Solomon's temple.

Question 2. Which came first? The building on the top? Or the building underneath? Answer: Duh.

"The crowning achievement of King Solomon's reign was the erection of the magnificent Temple in the capital city of ancient Israel – Jerusalem. His father, King David, had wanted to build the great temple a generation earlier, as a permanent resting place for the Ark of the Covenant which contained the Ten commandments. A divine edict, however, had forbidden him from doing so: "You will not build a house for My name," God said to David, "for you are a man of battles and have shed blood."

Sacrifice was the predominant mode of divine service in the Temple until it was destroyed by the Babylonians some four hundred years later, in 586 BC. (Editor's Note: Mohammed was born in 570 AD)

"Over the centuries, the Muslims who eventually took control of Jerusalem built two mosques on the Temple Mount, the site of the two Jewish Temples. This was no coincidence; it is a common Islamic custom to build mosques on the sites of other people's holy places."

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-first-temple-solomon-s-temple>

But that is neither here nor there in these enlightened days, and we are not here to discuss dusty, ancient history. History, unlike science, can never be settled. (see 1984, by George Orwell). My topic today is action vs reaction.

Conservative talking heads have concluded that the spontaneous and simultaneous eruption of like-patterned anti-Israel college protests are the result of some shadowy background figure orchestrating events. I have a slightly different take on it.

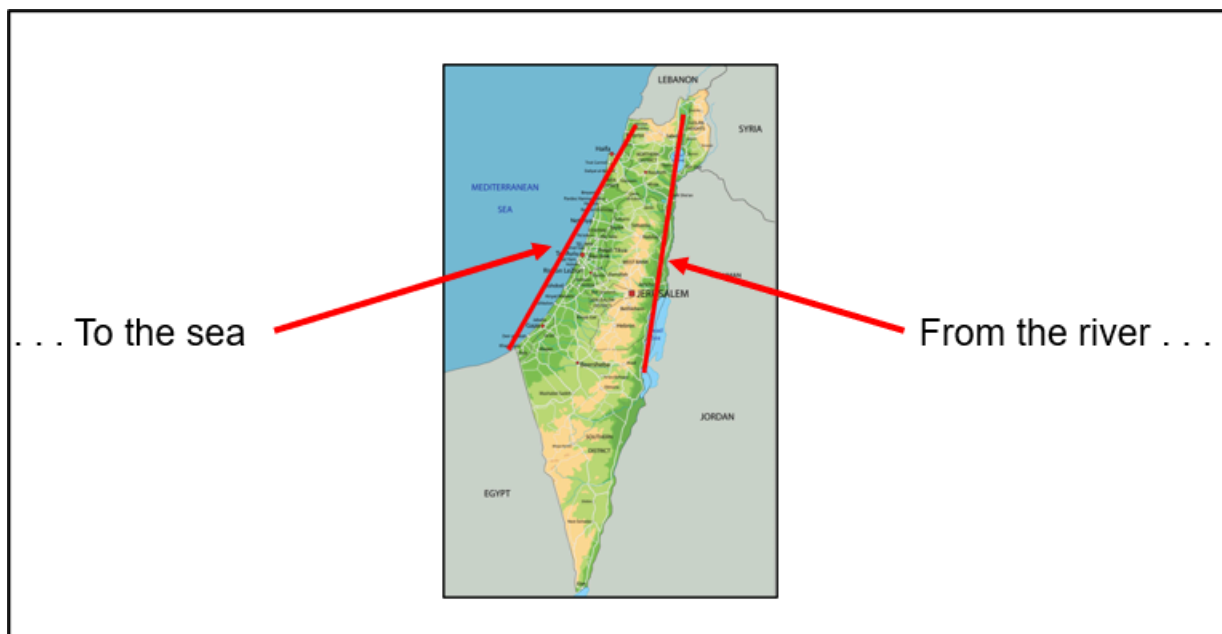
These protests are simultaneous but logically they are months late. The initial impetus for the protests has its origin in Israel's response to the Hamas attacks on Israel on October 7, 2023. The serious protesting by the devoted revolutionaries started when the weather turned nice. Besides. Springtime is the season of love, and protests and riots can really stir the old hormones, eh?

Two things can be true at once. The second truth is that the shadowy figures funding and directing the herd of rugged individualists are well-known to most. The shadowy figures have known for a long time that nice weather is a prerequisite for a devoted stand-on-principle-to-the-death uprising by today's crop of scholars. This is especially true of the Ivy Leaguers with their scholarships and bright futures.

What most don't know is that those that are funding and supporting the occupiers, rioters, and protestors are also the source of major funding for the Democratic Party and Joe Biden. [Click here](#). You see, half of the crowds are amateurs, the other half are paid professionals with fancy tents for everyone and plenty of ideas for disruption of the school year (but not the sacred summer break, I assume). That is what they do. Now you know why Biden has not been complaining about the violence and protests on campus. It also goes a long way to explain why Biden won't speak out loudly for the Jews. The Jews are part of the traditional Democratic power base – until the Arab community in gotta-win Michigan, spurred on by the squad, threatened Biden's 2024 reelection.

The riots have provided some good laughs so far:

- How about the gal that demanded basic humanitarian aid from the Columbia administration because they were getting thirsty and did not want to drink tap water?
 - “Like, could people please have a glass of water?” the young woman told reporters outside Hamilton Hall, which a defiant mob of pro-terror protesters violently stormed early Tuesday and took over. -- <https://nypost.com/2024/04/30/us-news/clueless-columbia-protester-demands-school-help-get-food-water-to-illegal-occupiers-basic-humanitarian-aid/>
- Or the other Columbia revolutionary that asked the cops that pushed their way into their occupied building if she could please just go home now because she had to study for finals? (Sorry, no link. That quote came from an audio track on talk radio).
- Now we are really getting to the hilarity. The Columbia Law Review got ready for their summer break with a Declaration of Independence that made the founding fathers of the country seem like pikers:
 - “We believe that canceling exams would be a proportionate response to the level of distress our peers have been feeling,” the editors said. <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/columbia-law-students-want-school-to-cancel-finals-pa-ss-all-students-because-they-re-irrevocably-shaken-after-protest-breakup/ar-BB1IRKmM>
- How many of these boobs know which river and which sea they are talking about freeing up for the Palestinians? (The Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea if you are following along at home, AKA Israel.)



- And what about the “Gays for Gaza” protesters? This new class of geniuses were not fortunate enough to be there at Columbia in 2007 when Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad told a graduate seminar:

"In Iran, we don't have homosexuals like in your country. In Iran, we do not have this phenomenon. I don't know who has told you we have that."

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/story?id=3642673>

He also said Iran only wanted nuclear knowledge for peaceful development, even though at the same time the Ayatollah (that outranks a President) was saying Israel would cease to exist.

I have always wondered if those bright bulbs asked any follow – up questions to that statement. Probably not. Why would they question a suppressed citizen of the world that was standing up to the imperialists? Would you have had a follow up question for the Prez?

- Given the students’ interest in divestment from Israel, should we ask them to include prohibitions for themselves on all medicines and other technological contributions to our way of life for which they should be thanking Jewish people?

That’s enough hilarity for me. Let’s look at this from another, more sober angle. What lessons are WE ALL learning in these last sunny days of this semester?

1. We have raised a generation that thinks they will pay no price for their actions, but rather will be rewarded for bad behavior. Well, Dr. Spock DID tell us not to spank the kids.
2. The Rule of Law is an obtrusive concept and is disposable for an individual’s convenience.
3. This generation has been taught that force is the best way to negotiate because evidently OUR generation has no confidence in ourselves or in our morality.
4. Whatever passes for education in the Ivy League schools, let alone state universities like UW Madison and UW Milwaukee, this generation will be running our country 25 years from now. See the agreement written by the protestors and published by the UW Milwaukee Administration [HERE](#)

5. Thank God for COVID. It gave parents a chance to see what our schools have been teaching our kids. At this point it is a rear-guard action, but they woke the Mama Bears up. We dads have to step in, too.



Priorities

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.

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