



The Space Coast Tusk

Conservative, But Not Associated With Any GOP Organization

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(A REPUBLICAN NEWSLETTER WITH THE GOALS OF FLYING HIGH...AND DIGGING AND BORING TO HELP KEEP BREVARD COUNTY RED AND GET CONSERVATIVES ELECTED TO OFFICE)

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE – AUGUST 24, 2010

EDITOR'S NOTE

By **Stuart Gorin**



I made the decision, with legal assistance, for the publication to be independent, so neither it nor any organization would be afoul of the arcane McCain-Feingold regulations. These campaign finance laws say a political entity would be in violation if its publication combined information about both federal- and state-level campaigns, even including dates and locations of election sites. Also, “publicity” about candidates could be considered as “contributions” to them.

Because state-level candidates were listed in the last issue, no mention was made of the U.S. Senate and Congressional races; nor was the date of the Florida primary stated. This material is included in this issue.

Having said all this, be assured that important information about the Executive Committee, the Republican clubs and conservative organizations, will continue to be covered. The Space Coast Tusk is dedicated to informing you about Republican activities at the local, state and national levels.

After months of campaigning and squabbling, the long primary season is finally coming to an end, and we Republicans will select our candidates.

Bill McCollum or Rick Scott for Governor?

Thad Altman or Bart Carmichael for State Senate District 24?

Rob Dale, Tom Goodson, Erin Grall or Roger Shealy for State House District 29?

Lori Halbert or John Tobia for State House District 31?

Chuck Nelson or Clyde Thodey for County Commission District 2?

Mary Bolin or Matt Nye for County Commission District 4?

And numerous other races also on the ballot for the August 24 primary election.

The choices are yours, but don't forget to vote.

The Space Coast Tusk remains neutral for the Republican primary. It will not take sides in contested races. Note that the candidates listed above are in alphabetical order. But no matter who wins each primary race, it is up to all of us to support that candidate in the November 2 general election against the Democratic opponent.

For those who prefer to use the service, early voting, which began August 9, runs through Saturday, August 21, from 10 am to 6 pm at the following locations: Government Complex-North, 400 South Street in Titusville; Central Brevard Service Complex, 2575 N. Courtenay Parkway in Merritt Island; Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way in Viera; South Brevard Service Complex, 1515 Sarno Road in Melbourne; and South Mainland Service Center, 450 Cogan Drive SE in Palm Bay.

The deadline for requesting absentee ballots has passed, but the Supervisor of Elections Office has mailed around 40,000 to Brevardians, and has already begun the lengthy process of tabulating the results.

Elections Supervisor Lori Scott points out that early voting, and voting by mail, change the way candidates campaign, since traditional last-minute blitzes are no longer as effective because many voters already will have cast their ballots.

Political consultant Garrett Pomichter writes in Florida Today that while Election Day remains the staple of American voting, technology is helping the transition of more citizens voting early or by mail. This should be celebrated, Pomichter says, “as the far more significant tradition of American democracy – the peaceful transition of power from one generation to the next, reaching even more of our citizens.”

Additional information is available at the official website: www.votebrevard.com.

There are more than 152,000 registered Republicans in Brevard County. The question is, how many of them will make the effort to fulfill their constitutional right?

BREC RESOLUTION ASKS RPOF TO REFUND CAMPAIGN DONATIONS

The Brevard Republican Executive Committee (BREC) passed a resolution August 13 requesting the Republican Party of Florida (RPOF) to ask six candidates in contested primary elections to return donations it gave them in violation of state party rules or else match those funds to the candidates’ challengers.

The resolution also asks RPOF to issue an official statement apologizing to the candidates’ challengers, clearly stating that it is not endorsing one Republican over another in any primary election. And it asks RPOF to reserve its resources for supporting Republicans against Democrats and not Republicans against Republicans.

The BREC executive board called for the full committee vote after it was learned that one of the incumbents aided, State Representative John Tobia in District 31 in Brevard County, received in excess of \$34,000 and the use of a campaign staff aide. Tobia’s challenger, Lori Halbert, was not provided with any funds.

RPOF’s Rule 8 (a) states that it “may endorse, certify or recommend candidates in contested Republican primaries only upon the unanimous approval of the Executive Board and the approval of 60 percent of the State Executive Committee at a meeting called for that purpose and at which a quorum is present.” This did not happen, and the resolution also states that the action is tantamount to an endorsement without the compliance of Rule 8 (a).

In the past, BREC as well as other Republican Executive Committees throughout the state, fought to maintain grass roots Republican Party leadership from the “bottom up” instead of RPOF’s “cram down tactics” to either mandate whom the County Republican Executive Committees must endorse in primary elections or give advantage to one Republican candidate over another in a primary.

This was one of the factors that ultimately led to the ouster of RPOF Executive Director Jim Greer.

In other BREC action:

-- The previously planned golf tournament fund raiser has been postponed, potentially to the January-February 2011 time frame; however, members will be polled about their willingness to participate before a final decision is made.

-- In preparation for the August 24 primary election, 120 people were given precinct training at district sessions.

-- New RPOF Field Director Charles Steen said victory offices soon will be open in Suntree and Titusville, and volunteers are being sought for phone bank activities after the primary is over.

-- Seven new BREC members were sworn in.

-- The next BREC meeting will be Thursday, October 14, and there will be no meeting in September.

McCOLLUM GREETES BREVAR D SUPPORTERS



Gubernatorial candidate Bill McCollum told a luncheon gathering of supporters at Cape Canaveral July 30 that his campaign is about creating jobs and bringing growth and capital to Florida.

Brevard County, he said, is the number one target for new jobs and businesses because of the Obama administration's plans to eliminate space programs.

The attorney general and former Congressman said his "Roadmap to Florida's Future" calls for tax relief, property tax cuts, regulatory and litigation reform, and improvements in the state's education programs, transportation systems and energy infrastructure.

McCollum said that if elected, he would call for local governments to freeze millage rates for two years at the current level to ensure that taxes are not raised during tough economic times. Tax relief, he added, would make Florida more competitive for attracting high-tech and other businesses to the state as well as retaining current firms.

He also pointed out that regulatory reform would increase state government efficiency by reducing red tape, and litigation reform would lower costs for small businesses and reduce the state's doctor shortage. The candidate's education proposals are to increase accountability, provide merit pay for teachers, support charter schools, and promote more choice for parents and students.

McCollum also stressed that he supports Arizona's immigration laws, is a firm believer in 10th Amendment states rights practices and 2nd Amendment rights to bear arms, and reminded supporters that he is leading the charge to have ObamaCare declared unconstitutional.

Three days later in Miami, McCollum and his Republican challenger Rick Scott took part in a debate for Univision TV. Questions were asked in Spanish and translated into English; their responses then were translated back into Spanish.

The two candidates attacked each other's credibility and record. McCollum portrayed Scott as being tainted by fraud and corruption, pointing to stock he received when ousted as CEO of Columbia/HCA amid a Medicaid/Medicare fraud investigation. Scott then called McCollum a career politician and said he has been investigated for possible ethics violations related to travel expenses.

Asked about rebuilding Florida's economy, McCollum reiterated his tax proposals: freezing local property taxes, cutting the corporate income tax and exempting the tax from businesses relocating to the state. Scott said he wants to phase out the corporate income tax and reduce property taxes, but he opposes dictating to local governments the details of their property tax structure.

Another 72 hours later, the bickering continued during a debate in Tampa, in which McCollum again tried to get Scott to answer for the hospital fraud scandal, and Scott kept calling McCollum a desperate career politician who will say anything to get elected.

Both McCollum and Scott continued to make campaign stops in Brevard County during early-to-mid August.

CLERK OF COURT CANDIDATES DISCUSS ISSUES

The three Republican candidates for the soon-to-be-vacated position of Clerk of the Circuit Court took part in a debate before a joint meeting of the Republican Men's Club of Brevard and the Republican Women's Network of South Brevard July 15, explaining what would make them the best candidate and answering other questions.



Joanne Corby, a member of the Melbourne City Council, said she is capable of managing people who interpret the law, and she is a businesswoman who wrote a book called "Inside the Box," which is about business strategy using the outsider's perceptive and open communication to implement full-circle accountability.

Mitch Needelman, a former state legislator and law enforcement officer, said he believes in public service and he would bring leadership experience to the position. He stressed that during his eight years in Tallahassee, he did not vote to raise taxes.



Clarissa Harrell, an attorney and business owner, said her experience can be compared to that of the clerk's position, and she would not need any learning curve to do the job. In her law practice, she said, she handled 500 litigations before the courts.

Asked what would be the first order of business if elected, Corby said she would interview outgoing clerk Scott Ellis for a smooth transition, but would not make any changes for the sake of change. Needelman said since the office has 926 different functions, he would conduct an audit to assure that everything is all right in the clerk's office. Harrell said she had admiration for the current employees and would not conduct an audit of Ellis' tenure, which she said would be unnecessary.

Harrell said the biggest problem now in the clerk's office that she would face would be to remedy

friction points in interaction with other agencies. Needelman said it would be keeping the budget under control and preparing for an upcoming \$1.4 million deficit. Corby said it would be maintaining the checks and balances of the system among the courts, the tax dollars and records preservation.

The candidates also were asked what question they would ask of themselves on the job. Needelman said it would be is there enough time in the day to do it all, and the answer is yes. Harrell said it would be what would she bring to the table, and that answer would be her skills as a lawyer. Corby said she would ask about comparing Ellis and herself, adding that it would be one degree of difference – 211 degrees hot for him, and 212 degrees boiling for her.

On August 2, the three candidates appeared before the New Millenium Conservative Club and repeated their reasons for wanting the position and their qualifications.

Since there are no Democrats or independents running for the Clerk of Court position, the August 24 primary election will be universal, open to all voters in the county.

FORUMS HELD FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS 29, 31 CANDIDATES

The four Republican candidates for the District 29 State Legislature seat all touted their conservative roots during a candidate forum, but since their primary election will involve Democratic and independent voters as well as Republicans, they also stressed their willingness to avoid straight party line votes if they felt proposed legislation was not in their constituents' best interests.

By Florida law, they will be in a "universal primary" because no Democrats or write-in candidates qualified for the general election. The seat is open because **State Representative Ralph Poppell** is term-limited and cannot run again.



Participating in the forum were **Rob Dale**, a Rockledge certified financial planner; **Tom Goodson**, a Cocoa road contractor; **Erin Grall**, a

Vero Beach attorney; and **Roger Shealy**, a Titusville certified public accountant.

Brevard Community College, Florida TODAY, the League of Women Voters, and the Tiger Bay Club co-sponsored the event.

The four candidates all said they favored cuts to state programs that would reduce the size of the state budget. Dale cited the state department of management services as an area that could be reduced to what is essential. Goodson mentioned privatization of park operations, and Grall said Medicaid needs to be moved to the private market as a cost-reduction measure. Shealy pointed out that governments are instituted to protect the people's rights and liberties, and beyond law enforcement, he believes other agencies can be outsourced.

All four said they support oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico as long as it is done properly. Grall added that there also is a need to look at alternative forms of energy, and Goodson noted that after the space shuttle disaster, "We didn't stop flying it; we improved it."

Asked what would be the first bill introduced in the legislature if elected, Dale said he favors creation of a special taxing district through which Space Florida could create jobs. Shealy said the question to ask is whether a bill would decrease or increase government and if it would enhance personal liberties.

At a separate forum sponsored by the same groups, District 31 Republican candidates **John Tobia** of Melbourne, the incumbent; and challenger **Lori Halbert**, an Indian River town councilwoman; were joined by three Democratic candidates who will compete in their own primary.

Tobia said in response to a question about Florida's \$6 billion deficit that he supports sales tax incentives that drive business, but also pointed out that unfunded mandates adversely affect the state. He said Medicaid is the major part of the problem and Florida needs to start tearing away the strings attached to it and start its own system.

Halbert said the deficit can be reduced by implementing a system of activity-based accounting

and hiring only the number of people there is work for.

On the subject of support for the space industry, Halbert said she favors turning the space center into an international learning facility and partnering with Florida Tech and the University of Central Florida. The facilities and the knowledge are there, she added. Tobia said three things already being done to try and save the space center are offering tax incentives to businesses willing to relocate there, incentives to businesses that hire space workers, and allocating funds to retrain space workers.

Both candidates said they favor offshore oil drilling. Halbert said Florida would benefit from the jobs it would create, and Tobia said the proposed constitutional amendment to ban drilling off the Florida coast was "simply a political ploy by our once Republican, now independent governor."

REPUBLICANS VIE TO REPLACE KOSMAS IN CONGRESS

Five Republican candidates seeking Florida's 24th Congressional District seat, taking part in a forum August 4, were united in their quest to oust incumbent Democratic Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas, but cordial to one another.

State legislator **Sandy Adams** said the government needs to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit and stop putting roadblocks in the way of business.

Businesswoman **Karen Diebel** said she strongly favors local control of schools and supports doing away with the U.S. Department of Education.

Leadership management consultant **Tom Garcia** said being the world's leader in space is a national security issue, and much more money is needed for the space program.

Attorney **Deon Long** said he is a strong proponent of nuclear energy and also supports offshore drilling for oil, but closer to shore so wells can be capped quicker when leaks occur.

Businessman **Craig Miller** said the government needs to let the private sector deal with the issue of

health care, adding that ObamaCare is a huge tax and mandate.

The Space Coast Economic Development Council and the Titusville Area Chamber of Commerce co-sponsored the forum.

CULBERSON, COAST GUARDSMAN ADDRESS REAGAN CLUB

Sebastian Inlet Commissioner Jim Culberson, who is running for re-election, says the inlet is vital to keeping the Indian River viable and productive as a resource for marine businesses. It is considered the major area for surfing, fishing and boating on Florida's East Coast.

Addressing the July 22 meeting of the Ronald Reagan Clubs, Inc., Culberson presented a history of the man-made inlet, dating back to the original sand dredging in 1872 to clean up the river. Throughout the years, he said, the inlet was closed and reopened several times, but without the proper maintenance dredging permit.

It was not until 2007, Culberson said, that the Sebastian Inlet District was able to obtain a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers to complete the inlet's channel all the way to the Intracoastal Waterway.

He pointed out that the district commissioners have been holding down taxes for citizens within the Sebastian Inlet District (which runs from Viera to Vero Beach), and are holding reserves for future dredging operations, which cost as much as \$1 million each. In addition to dredging, he said, other responsibilities for the Sebastian Inlet District include beach replenishment, erosion control, environmental protection and public safety.

Culberson has two challengers on the non-partisan primary ballot – Pete Murphy and Joseph Pearce.

Also on the Ronald Reagan Clubs program was **U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer Marshall Riff**, who gave an overview of Coast Guard history and missions, focusing on the Port Canaveral Station, where he is assigned.

Riff pointed out that while the Coast Guard is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, it comes under

the control of the Department of Homeland Security rather than the Defense Department.

Dating back to the Revolutionary War days, the Coast Guard has had responsibility for protection of U.S. ports, Riff said, adding that more recent missions include search and rescue operations, drug interdiction, and assistance in cases of man-made and natural disasters.

He said the Port Canaveral Coast Guard Station averages 120 search and rescue missions a year, enforces security zones for cargo and cruise ships, and provides support to NASA during space flights.

Attendees at the meeting participated in an unofficial straw poll of primary ballot candidates, in which the more conservative candidates garnered the most votes. Among the "winners" were Marco Rubio for the U.S. Senate, Rick Scott for Governor, Jeff Kottkamp for Attorney General, Joanne Corby for Clerk of the Circuit Court, Bart Carmichael for the State Senate, Roger Shealy and Lori Halbert for the State Legislature, and Clyde Thodey and Matt Nye for the Brevard County Commission.

MEET AND GREET SCHEDULED AUGUST 21

Alice Kreitz is holding a meet and greet for voters to ask questions of candidates on Saturday, August 21, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at her Pinewood Village Club House in Melbourne. It is located at 1713 Thrush Drive, off Parkway Drive, west of U.S. 1.

Candidates for all offices on the ballot have been invited to the non-partisan event. All are welcome, and refreshments will be served.

POLITICAL JOTTINGS AND DOTTINGS

-- Attendees at a Christian Family Coalition candidates forum August 7 heard Republican hopefuls attack issues instead of each other. **Gubernatorial candidates Bill McCollum and Rick Scott** shook hands and both promised to cut taxes to help create jobs and vowed to fight implementation of ObamaCare. They also said their religious faith would help guide them as they governed. The same promises to oppose big government were made by **attorney general candidates Holly Benson, Pam Bondi and Jeff**

Kottkamp. Invited Democratic and independent candidates declined to attend the forum.



-- At its summer meeting in Kansas City on August 6, the Republican National Committee officially designated Tampa as the site of the 2012 Republican National Convention, affirming the site selection committee's earlier choice. **RPOF Chairman John Thrasher**, who attended the meeting, said, "It's a great day for Florida, and I couldn't be more proud of the hard work our Vice Chairman Debbie-Cox Roush, Al Austin and his team, the Republican grassroots community of Tampa Bay, and so many others put into making this day possible."

-- Breaking with his boss, **Lt. Governor Jeff Kottkamp** announced he is endorsing Republican Marco Rubio for the U.S. Senate seat that Governor Charlie Crist seeks. Stressing that he is a lifelong Republican, Kottkamp said he no longer shares the same position any more on a number of issues with Crist, and the person he supports will go to Washington and fight the Obama agenda. Kottkamp is in a close race for attorney general with prosecutor Pam Bondi and former administrator and state legislator Holly Benson. While Rubio did praise Kottkamp, he added that all three are very good candidates for the post.



-- The American Spectator reports that **Senator George LeMieux**, despite being appointed to his position by now-Independent Governor Charlie Crist, is showing Floridians he is gaining conservative bona fides by his voting record, his support for issues dear to the hearts of the Republican base, and his endorsement of former State House Speaker Marco Rubio as his successor instead of Crist. By speaking at a recent Hillsborough County GOP event, the magazine said, LeMieux may have gained some support if he decides to run for the Senate on his own in 2012.



-- A study by **Smart Politics**, a non-partisan blog by the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, says Republicans are poised to win more gubernatorial seats in 2010 than in any election during the past 90 years. Eric Ostermeier, the University of Minnesota professor who moderates Smart Politics, says the latest surveys give Republicans the advantage in 28 of 37 states holding gubernatorial races this year. Florida is listed on the site as one of the states in which Republican candidates hold a narrow advantage.

-- **The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR)** says in its new report, "The Fiscal Burden of Illegal Immigration on U.S. Taxpayers," that the burden is \$84.2 billion at the state and local level. Of that amount, the report notes, the cost to Florida is \$5.46 billion. The full text of the report includes a program by program breakdown of the share of federal, state and local government spending on illegal aliens and their families. It can be viewed at www.fairus.org.

-- As part of the year-long celebration next February 6 of the centennial of Ronald Reagan's birth, **The Reagan Foundation** has posted more than 100 videos of the president's greatest and most moving speeches on its You Tube page. For free access, go to the website www.reaganfoundation.org and click on the You Tube link.

-- **Florida Young Americans for Freedom (YAF)** – which currently has chapters in Palm Beach, Tampa and Jacksonville – is planning expansion this year in 15-20 colleges and in high schools and middle schools across the state. FYAF state chairman Daniel Diaz says the group is dedicated to fighting the liberals in these institutions and continuing the legacy of producing the nation's future conservative leaders. Its website is www.flayaf.com.

-- The seven Republican candidates vying to challenge Democratic Congressman Alan Grayson are critical of his use of tax dollars to mail 100,000 DVDs to his constituents, and one of them – **attorney Todd Long** – is suing Grayson to reimburse the government \$73,000. Grayson used his congressional franking privilege to mail his legislative highlights reel, which Long says is tantamount to campaign literature and thus ineligible for tax paid mailings.

QUOTABLE QUOTES



Public relations executive and author Craig Shirley, writing in his new book **“Rendezvous With Destiny: Ronald Reagan and the Campaign That Changed America”**:

“The Detroit convention ended well enough. Joe Louis Arena went bonkers with cheering the last night of the convention when George Bush joined Reagan in a victory clasp. Then their wives, Barbara and Nancy, joined them. When former president Ford appeared, the applause and cheers continued unabated. T-shirts on the floor read, ‘Why not an actor – we’ve had a clown for 4 years.’ The highlight of the night, of course, was Reagan’s speech. Reaction was almost universally positive from the American media, political observers, and the party the Gipper now led....The Gipper’s speech succeeded because Reagan knew that campaigns and conventions and all the minutiae they entailed were not about the candidate or the party or the media. Ultimately, politics was about what a politician was going to do for the voters and where he wanted to lead them. Reagan told the American people he trusted them to trust themselves – which meant, in turn, they could trust him.”

Talk Show Host Sean Hannity, writing in his new book **“Conservative Victory”**:

“I’m proud to call myself a Reagan conservative. I firmly believe in American exceptionalism, in limited government, and in maximizing our individual liberties. I wholeheartedly subscribe to Ronald Reagan’s view that America is not the cause of corruption and evil abroad, but rather the cure for it. On foreign policy, I believe in peace through strength – in maintaining the strongest military in the world and adapting our defenses and intelligence capabilities to the modern threats we face in the war on terror. On domestic policy, I’m a supply-sider on taxes and believe we should drastically cut government spending. And on social policy, I believe we should protect the life of the unborn and the institution of traditional marriage. Though contemporary critics derided Reagan’s views as simplistic and dangerous, time has shown that his



big-picture approach to government – emphasizing the ‘three-legged stool’ of a strong defense, a strong economy, and strong social values – was both powerful and prudent. He believed, as I do, that freedom is a God-given right, and that government should not regulate or control every aspect of our lives.”

Media Research Center president Brent Bozell, writing on the CNSNews.com website on the liberal JournoList:



“The Daily Caller has unearthed a treasure trove of liberal journalists talking (nastily) to themselves in a private e-mail list about how they should use their media power to remake the world in their image....Liberal journalists in this crowd favor only discourse that ‘serves the people’ – meaning, a ‘debate’ that advances the ball for socialism. Any other uncooperative or unhelpful line of journalism or questioning or discussion or balance or objectivity is ‘idiocy’ that should be ‘killed.’ At its heart, liberal bias isn’t just about slanting the news against conservatives, it’s about slanting the news to discredit and then ignore conservatives until they sit grumpily on the ash heap of history. If that includes censorship, like yanking the journalist credentials of Fox News, some on the JournoList eagerly have encouraged it....These leaked messages are serious business. What they prove is that the ‘mainstream’ media today are often just a shameless channel for leftist message coordination, and that anyone who assumes he’s simply getting the ‘news’ from the national media is a very callow and uninformed consumer. What’s most shocking is the silence. How many in the ‘mainstream’ press are publicly denouncing those members of JournoList for their blatant disregard of journalistic ethics?”

Dan Stein, president of the **Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR)**, writing on immigration in **“The Washington Times National Weekly”**:



“The administration’s goal is a sweeping amnesty for millions of illegal aliens and the virtual dismantling of all meaningful immigration-related enforcement. Not only is immigration enforcement not a priority for the current administration, but it is

a threat to their overall political strategy that must be attacked aggressively....In filing suit against Arizona, the administration is delivering an only slightly veiled and deeply troubling message to other states: Enforcing immigration laws locally may be right for your state; it may be popular with the voters; you may even prevail in the end. But we would rather fight you – American citizens – than fight illegal immigration....In the end, many local governments will have little choice but to endure the expense of a court battle as the costs of providing basic services to illegal aliens escalate. The decision of the Obama administration to bleed the taxpayers of Arizona signals that before Americans can protect themselves against the harmful effects of mass illegal immigration, they will have to fight a very costly battle with their own government.”

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Politics is the art of negotiation. It is not the art of ‘I get everything I want the first time we go through the building.’ You never get everything you want, but you can work toward the things that you want.”



-- Talk show host **Michael Reagan**, addressing a Young America’s Foundation seminar at the Reagan Ranch Center in Santa Barbara, California

EDITORIAL EXCERPTS

[The Wall Street Journal](#) on Charlie Crist as “Son of Specter”:

“When Pennsylvania primary voters bounced Democratic turned Republican turned Democratic Senator Arlen Specter into retirement this spring, an opening arose for the role of America’s champion of political opportunism. Florida Governor Charlie Crist looks like a worthy successor as he tries to ride the Gulf oil spill to the Senate....It’s not as if drilling poses an imminent danger to the Sunshine State. Florida law has prohibited it in state waters since 1990. With a straight face, Mr. Crist said that “politics has nothing to do with this.” He merely felt “a compelling duty to protect Florida” by enshrining

a ban in the state constitution. Two years ago this summer, Governor Crist felt differently. Angling to become John McCain’s running mate, he had reversed his longstanding opposition to lifting a moratorium on coastal drilling. The new Charlie is against drilling after he was for it after he was against it. All clear now?....Since tearing up his GOP card, he has gone from an opponent to a supporter of gay adoption and easing travel restrictions to Cuba. He opposes the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy for the military and vetoed a bill that placed restrictions on abortions; a few months before, he backed them. He now cozies up to teacher unions and the AFL-CIO. These flip-flops are supposed to attract Democrats and independents this November. Count the drilling ban as a play for environmentalists and the Obama White House.”

[The Washington Times National Weekly](#) on Obama and the Tea Party:

“The sea change in the public mood has come about because the ruling party’s policies are deeply unpopular. Democrats and willing media outlets are promoting the idea that an ‘anti-incumbent’ mood has seized the public, but this is not true. Incumbents aren’t the problem; Americans are objecting to the hard-left policies, programs and legislation pushed by the Obama administration and the Democratic Congress. Analysts peddled the same generic ‘anti-incumbent’ line to explain Democratic defeats in the 1994 mid-term election until they noticed that not a single Republican in Congress had lost a seat. A ‘throw the bums out’ election may target a very specific group of bums. The Tea Party movement has crystallized public discontent. It arose as a genuine grass-roots citizens protest, of the type that Obama supporters extolled ad nauseam in 2008 until their grass roots withered....Rarely if ever in American history has a government been so at odds with the views of mainstream voters. This government has saddled us with debt, fueled wild expansion of government power, increased Washington’s interference in everyone’s daily lives and made the country weaker at the world becomes more dangerous. It’s no wonder the people are growing increasingly tired of change wrought by the O Force.”

CONSERVATIVE INSTITUTIONS

(Each issue will focus on a different national organization that is making a difference for the conservative cause.)

Americans for Prosperity and AFP Foundation



The Washington, DC-area based Americans for Prosperity and Americans for Prosperity Foundation educate citizens about economic policy and support cutting taxes and government spending in order to halt government encroachment in their economic lives.

Tim Phillips of Leesburg, Virginia – the president of both organizations – says citizen grassroots activists are the “heart and soul” of AFP and AFP Foundation, and more than one million of them throughout the nation, and in 30 state chapters, are fighting for free-market principles at the national, state and local levels. The Florida chapter is headquartered in Palm Beach Gardens. Citizen activists organize events, write letters to the editor, and petition lawmakers to uphold freedom and prosperity.

AFP Foundation’s educational programs and analyses help policy makers, the media and individual citizens understand why policies that promote the American enterprise system are the best method to ensure prosperity for all Americans. The Foundation also supports removing unnecessary barriers to entrepreneurship and restoring fairness to the judicial system.

A current AFP project is November Is Coming, in which citizens are urged to sign a petition proclaiming opposition to government mandates, special deals and higher taxes. Elected officials are being told that “if you vote yes to big government programs or any other freedom-killing legislation, I will vote no on you in the next election.” That includes voting yes to the government takeover of health care, a cap-and-trade energy tax, or any more bailouts or failed government stimulus, or a failure to stop any attempts to regulate the Internet. President Obama recently accused Americans for Prosperity of being a front group for foreign-

controlled corporations or big companies. Calling this attack “sad and outrageous,” Phillips said the president and the Left know “we are making a crucial difference – and that’s why we need to keep the pressure on.”

AFP Foundation is sponsoring a “Defending the American Dream Summit” August 27-28 in Washington, DC. Earlier this year, AFP held a “Hands Off My Health Care” cross-country bus tour, a national “Hot Air Tour” with a balloon fighting global warming alarmism, and a “Save My Ballot Tour” highlighting the importance of workplace secret-ballot elections.

For additional information, or to make a donation, visit the websites www.AmericansforProsperity.org or www.AmericansforProsperityFoundation.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be no BREC meeting in September due to the Jewish New Year holiday, and to all our Jewish friends, a happy and healthy New Year!

Announcing a new Meetup for Brevard 912!, Sunday, August 22, 2010 5:30 PM, Beef O’Brady’s, 724 S Patrick Dr, Satellite Beach, FL [Information Sharing for the 8/28 Restoring Honor Rally](#)

September 1 – Melbourne Area Federated Republican Women meeting, Holiday Inn, Viera, 11 am.

September 13 – New Millenium Conservative Club meeting, Pizza Gallery, Viera, 6:30 pm.

September 16 – Republican Women’s Network of South Brevard meeting, Eau Gallie Yacht Club, 11 am.

September 16 – Brevard Republican Men’s Club meeting, Doubles Hoagies Restaurant, Indian Harbor Beach, 7 pm.

September 21 – North Brevard Republican Club meeting, La Cita Country Club, Titusville, 7 pm.

September 22 – Brevard Young Republicans meeting, Pizza Gallery, Viera, 6:30 pm.

September 23 – Ronald Reagan Clubs meeting, Jimmy’s Restaurant, Rockledge, 7 pm.

September 24 – Republican Hispanic Club meeting, Piccadilly Restaurant, Melbourne, 7 pm.

For information about the Space Coast Florida Republican Winners meeting, call club president Beth Allen at 302-8839 or Nancy Baker at 783-9631.

COMICAL CLOSER

Did you hear about the man who went on E-Bay looking for a Mickey Mouse outfit? He was told he was the leading bidder to own the entire Obama Cabinet.



SEPARATED AT BIRTH????



Democratic Congressman Alan Grayson



Cartoon Ogre Shrek