



# The Space Coast Tusk



## A Newsletter for Conservative Republicans

**FLYING HIGH...AND DIGGING AND BORING TO KEEP BREVARD COUNTY RED AND GET CONSERVATIVES ELECTED**

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### BACHMANN, PERRY, ROMNEY NOW TOP TIER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

By Stuart Gorin

The phone indicated an "out of area" call, but I picked it up anyway. I recognized the same accented voice – Indian, perhaps? – that had called several times in the past with the same offer: free diabetic supplies if I qualified. In recent months, I have been inundated with phone calls relating to diabetes. Before hanging up, I always stated that no one in my household is diabetic.



This time, after repeating my statement with some annoyance, I decided to question the caller, asking the name of his boss, whom I could contact to stop these irritating calls. He surprised me, by saying "Barack Obama."

"Are you serious?" I said, asking if Barack Obama really had him call me personally, and he replied "yes." Why, I asked, and he said "because you are dying, and he wants to try to save you." Flabbergasted, I then suggested to him that he give the diabetic injection to Obama, and perhaps it would clear his head of his socialist views. This time, the caller hung up on me.

We have just started numbering "The Space Coast Tusk" in a series of Volume 2, and every anniversary August we will start a new volume.

Today, there are more than 700 people on our distribution list, and the newsletter goes to readers all over the country, and even outside it. Designer **Frank Montelione** and I hope to see the numbers grow even larger as we spread the word.

We continue to cover activities of the Brevard Republican Executive Committee, Republican clubs in the county, and conservative organizations, so both elected officials and the typical "man-in-the-street" are kept abreast of what is happening at the local, state and national levels.

All back issues of "The Space Coast Tusk" and its predecessor "The Tusk" are available in the archives at [www.brevardgop.org](http://www.brevardgop.org). And look for [Space Coast Tusk on Facebook](#).

To sign up for a complimentary subscription (or to unsubscribe, if you are so inclined), or to send your comments, suggestions or information to share, email: [spacecoasttusk@gmail.com](mailto:spacecoasttusk@gmail.com).

A number of political observers now see Minnesota Congresswoman **Michele Bachmann**, Texas Governor **Rick Perry** and former Massachusetts Governor **Mitt Romney** as the co-frontrunners in the heated-up Republican presidential race, following August 13 events in Iowa and South Carolina.



Bachmann, who won the non-binding straw poll in Ames, Iowa, by a close margin over Texas Congressman **Ron Paul**, and much larger amounts over the other contestants, is now favored to win next year's Iowa caucuses.

Romney, who scored well in the August 11 presidential debate, declined to participate in the straw poll and finished in seventh place, well back in the field. However, by focusing on New Hampshire, he is favored in that state's first-in-the-nation primary following the Iowa caucuses.

Perry, who attended the RedState convention in Charleston, South Carolina, where he announced he was joining the crowded presidential field, even gathered enough write-in (Continued on Page 2)

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votes to finish in sixth place in Iowa. He is seen as the potential winner in South Carolina's early primary next year.

To further complicate the mix, one early "top tier" candidate, former Minnesota Governor **Tim Pawlenty**, came in a disappointing third in the straw poll balloting, and announced he was dropping out of the race. He said he wished the scenario had been different, but voters were looking for something else, and he declined to immediately endorse any of his rivals.

Fourth place in the straw poll went to former Pennsylvania Senator **Rick Santorum**, which observers said exceeded his expectations and will keep him in the race a while longer, as it will the fifth place finisher, businessman Herman Cain.

The 16,892 Iowans who cast ballots in the straw poll made it the second largest in the state's history. Bachmann had 29 percent of the votes; Paul 28 percent; Pawlenty 14 percent; Santorum 10 percent; and the rest of the field was in single digits.

In becoming the latest Republican presidential candidate, Perry said, "a renewed nation needs a renewed president," and "It's time to get America working again. He said the recent downgrading of the U.S. credit rating "is just the most recent downgrade. For nearly three years, Perry added, "President Obama has been downgrading American jobs; he's been downgrading our standing in the world; he's been downgrading our financial stability; he's been downgrading confidence; and downgrading the hope of a better future for our children."

The convention venue in South Carolina hosted by the [RedState](#) website, brought together Tea Party and grassroots conservative activists for a weekend of speeches and networking.

[Fox News](#), which sponsored the Republican presidential debate on August 11, said it was "one hell of a rumble," as everybody had somebody to fight.

Eight candidates participated in the debate, and all were critical of Obama's economic policies, but Pawlenty also criticized Romney's Massachusetts health care program, and called Bachmann's congressional record "nonexistent." She retorted that Pawlenty's programs in Minnesota as governor "sounds a lot like" Obama's. Romney's response was that his program was a state matter, and not a federal one.

Clashing over Iran's nuclear ambitions and its threats to the United States, Paul said Santorum engages in "war propaganda," and Santorum responded that Paul is "obviously not seeing clearly" on the subject and does not understand the threats to the country from Islamic militants.

Former House Speaker **Newt Gingrich** reserved his criticism for the journalists on the questioning panel, saying they needed to focus on how the candidates would handle

various issues rather than resort to "gotcha" questions, such as asking him about staff defections on his campaign.

Cain stressed that he was the best choice for improving the economy, and added, "if we don't get this economic engine moving by putting fuel in the engine, all of the rest of it won't matter."

In his presidential debate debut, former Utah Governor and Ambassador **Jon Huntsman** defended his service as envoy to China under Obama.

One other presidential contender – Michigan Congressman **Thaddeus McCotter** – did not participate in the debate, but was on the straw poll ballot, finishing in last place.

Observers said after the debate that Romney and Bachmann were the "winners," while Pawlenty and Huntsman did not do as well as they could have.

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### PRESIDENCY 5, CPAC FL SET FOR ORLANDO IN SEPTEMBER



More than 100 Brevard Republicans will be delegates to **Presidency 5**, the presidential debate and straw poll organized by the Republican Party of Florida that will be held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, September 22-24.

RPOF chairman **Dave Bitner** said the event "will give the candidates an opportunity to bring their message directly to the people of Florida, while allowing voters to participate in a poll that has historically predicted the eventual Republican nominee for president." RPOF is partnering with Fox News to sponsor the candidates' debate.



On September 23, the **Conservative Political Action Conference** will hold its first regional conference – CPAC FL – at the same location. It will feature a straw poll of Republican candidates vying for Florida's U.S. Senate seat.

A number of presidential and Senate candidates are scheduled to address the day-long event, as well as Senator **Marco Rubio**, American Conservative Union chairman **Al Cardenas**, Faith & Freedom Coalition chairman **Ralph Reed**, and Americans for Tax Reform president **Grover Norquist**. There also will be panel discussions on reinvigorating the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment, education, and curing the addiction on foreign oil.

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### ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

-- Businessman **Herman Cain** easily won the Western Conservative Summit presidential straw poll in Denver on

July 31, drawing 246 ballots out of 508 cast, and beating his nearest runner-up by a 179-vote margin. Texas Governor **Rick Perry** – who declared his candidacy on August 13 – finished second. The same weekend at the Smart Girl Politics Summit in St. Louis, Minnesota Congresswoman **Michele Bachmann** narrowly edged out Cain.

-- Former Louisiana Governor **Buddy Roemer** joined the list of Republican presidential hopefuls on July 21, saying he is “ready to fight a corrupt political system.” Campaigning in New Hampshire, he has been focusing on two issues: unfair trade practices and campaign financing.

-- And, finally, after a bronze statue of former president **Ronald Reagan** was unveiled in London, [fark.com](http://fark.com) carried the following parody headline: “New statue promptly takes 15-point lead in GOP presidential poll.”

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### BREVARD REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

-- BREC Vice Chairman **Bob White** announced at the August 11 meeting that he is resigning his position due to being stretched too thin, but will remain a member of the committee. He serves as chairman of both the Republican Liberty Caucus of Central East Florida and the Liberty Catalyst Fund. Elections for a new vice chairman will be held at the September 8 BREC meeting.

-- Supervisor of Elections **Lori Scott** pointed out that her office is busy preparing for four elections to be held in Brevard County during the next 15 months. This coming November 8, non-partisan races will take place in 11 municipalities and two special districts. For 2012, the State Legislature is still working on when to have the presidential primary. The primary for state and county races will be August 14, 2012, and the general election will follow on November 6, 2012.

-- Conducting the first phase of precinct training for BREC members, District Two Chairman **Michelle Herbeck** said precinct chairmen need to obtain maps of their precincts and lists of voters and “super voters,” who go to the polls for every election; build teams of volunteers to walk their precincts or call neighbors to get out the vote; and partition their precincts and set timetable and calendar goals. She said additional training information will be presented at future meetings.

-- **Lonnie Hawkins** and **Greg Fink**, two directors from Political Matrix, a strategic planning and creative development firm based in Pensacola, announced they have created a website for BREC at no cost – [www.brevardrepublicans.org](http://www.brevardrepublicans.org). The company also works for conservative Republican political candidates using market strategy, polling, research, and advertising to maximize the effectiveness of their messages. A portion of the fee charged to any candidate they sign up in Brevard County, they said, will be given to BREC.

-- Chairman **Barbara Davis** reminded members that the special ceremony honoring the Greatest Generation will be held August 27 at 2 pm at the Marks Street Senior Center in Orlando. The Greatest Generation tour is sponsored by the Republican Party of Florida.

-- Three new BREC members were sworn in.

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### BREVIARDIANS GIVE LEGISLATORS REDISTRICTING INPUT

Nearly 100 people told a group of Florida legislators at a packed hearing in Viera on July 28 how they would like redistricting lines to be drawn for the state’s congressional and legislative districts.

The hearing, chaired by State Senator **Don Gaetz** of Niceville, was one of 26 scheduled throughout the state to obtain public input.

Citizen comments ranged from support for the legislative effort to criticism that the lawmakers did not draw maps first, to give voters something to look at. Gaetz explained that by having the hearings first, there would be no preconceptions created by politicians, and public ideas would be free and unrestricted.

There was also pro-and-con comment on Amendments 5 & 6 from the 2010 ballot, which require the Legislature to draw congressional and legislative districts that are geographically compact, respect municipal boundaries and preserve traditional minority neighborhoods. They also prohibit lines being redrawn to give an advantage to an incumbent or a political party. Voters approved those measures, but they are now in a court challenge.

Speakers’ views on what to include in each new district were wide-ranging, with some saying that for a specific city, legislative boundary lines should be inclusive of that city’s boundaries, while others called for representation in Tallahassee by more than one legislator for the city.

Many spoke against the idea of gerrymandering, calling specific attention to Representative **Tom Goodson**’s District 29, which snakes its way for miles from northern Brevard County down to the Indian River-St. Lucie counties border. This district, they said, should cover a shorter, but wider, area of Brevard. One speaker drew a laugh from the audience and from Goodson as well, by expressing surprise that when the District 29 lines were originally drawn, they did not also include parts of Key West.

Because Florida’s population grew by more than 2.8 million residents since the 2000 census, the state earned two additional congressional seats. After the Legislature reconvenes in January, it will give final approval to new maps for 27 congressional districts, the 120 State Legislature districts, and the 40 State Senate districts.

The Legislature has created two websites for additional information: [www.flsenate.gov/redistricting](http://www.flsenate.gov/redistricting) and [www.floridaredistricting.org](http://www.floridaredistricting.org).

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## LEGISLATURE PLANNING FOR NEXT SESSION

By **Steve Crisafulli**

District 32 State Representative



As many of you know, the Florida Legislature will be convening for the legislative session earlier than usual in 2012 due to reapportionment. With that in mind, it's time to start thinking about the year ahead.

Interim committee weeks begin in September - this is when legislative policy committees come together to start planning for the year ahead. There is no doubt that reapportionment will be the biggest topic of the upcoming session, but the legislature will not lose sight of its focus on the challenges of balancing our budget, growing Florida's economy, raising the bar on education, and curbing ever growing healthcare costs, all without raising taxes or allowing government to intrude further into our personal lives.

This legislature will continue to focus on protecting current businesses and attracting new businesses to our state. That means we will look at any and all opportunities to increase our competitiveness across the country as well as around the globe, which will allow us to grow our market base by attracting new industries and technologies and strengthening those already in our state.

With the leadership in Tallahassee and the vision of this legislature, I am confident 2012 will be a great year for the citizens of Florida.

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## MAFRW PREPARING FOR "HONOR THE MILITARY" DINNER

By **Grace Boyd**

Every two years, the Melbourne Area Federated Republican Women Club (MAFRW) hosts a dinner honoring those who are serving and have served in the military.

This year, special recognition will be given to female members of our club who have served or are currently serving. We have a large display called the "Honor Roll" with the names of members, their family, friends, and associates who are serving or have served in the military.

In addition to the dinner and special recognition feature of the evening, we hold both a live auction and a silent auction.

All funds raised in the auctions are used to support our military overseas, local veterans housing, and the new Veterans Home being established through association with Bridges.

The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Viera on Saturday evening, November 12, at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$37 per person. For reservations, please mail your check to P.O. Box 410143, Melbourne FL 32941. For more information, visit our webpage at [www.melbournegopwomen.org](http://www.melbournegopwomen.org).

Donations from businesses and individuals of items to be included in the auctions – such as hotel weekends, trips, dinner events, theatre tickets, sports tickets, jewelry, art work, pottery, and gift certificates, to name a few – are welcome. Please contact **Deanna Reiter** at 863-2165 or **Tammy Sandberg** at 794-1953 to contribute to these auctions.

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## POSEY SAYS AMERICA CANNOT BE THE WORLD'S POLICEMEN



America cannot afford to be the world's policemen, either financially or with the lives of our troops, **Congressman Bill Posey** told the ACT! For America Space Coast Chapter meeting in Viera on August 9.

Posey, who said he is "not politically correct," added, "We are engaged in wars and have a threat at home to which we are doing very little."

Regarding Egypt, he said the United States helped the Muslim Brotherhood when President **Hosni Mubarak** was kicked out of office, and concerning Libya, he said that we are helping terrorists, who are "the wrong side." Congressional resolutions on Afghanistan, Posey added, "support a crooked dictator in a no-win war." Noting that the Taliban in Afghanistan "had nothing to do with 9/11," he said the fundamentalist Muslim group is no threat to America "except when we go after them."

When Minnesota Congressman **Keith Ellison**, a Muslim, took the oath of office on a Koran and was criticized for it, Posey said, the argument was made that it was okay, because the Koran that was used had belonged to President **Thomas Jefferson**, as if to imply that Jefferson supported Islam. That was not the case, Posey stressed, saying at the time of his presidency – when Barbary pirates were capturing U.S. ships in the Mediterranean in the name of Allah – Jefferson wanted the Koran in order to better understand the enemy.

Posey said that when he received a briefing from NASA, and was told of the space agency's outreach to predominantly Muslim Indonesia, his question to officials, which went unanswered, was, "What is NASA's outreach program for Christians, or Jews, or Buddhists, or Hindus?"

The congressman has sponsored legislation on American law for American courts, in an effort to stop the spread of sharia law in the United States. Most Americans are not aware of the problem, he said, and the Obama administration has clear differences toward international law.

“We are penalizing our friends and helping our enemies,” he said.

Posey told the ACT! members, who are a collective voice for the democratic values of Western civilization, that our concerns about radical Islam “are real.”

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### McKNIGHT ADDRESSES REPUBLICAN MEN’S CLUB



Retired Army Colonel **Danny McKnight**, whose military career included combat deployments in Panama in 1989 and Somalia in 1993, told the Republican Men’s Club of Brevard on July 21, that political correctness can be the death of our country.

His Somalia deployment provided the basis for the movie “Black Hawk Down,” and McKnight shared his story with the group, saying that political correctness caused the needless death of six of his friends in the Somalia operation.

He spoke of his 3<sup>rd</sup> Ranger Battalion, which had received orders to deploy to war torn Mogadishu to capture **Muhammed Farah Aideed**, who was wanted by U.N. Secretary General **Boutros Boutros-Ghali**. Unknown to most Americans, both Aideed and Boutros-Ghali were long time adversaries, and Boutros-Ghali wanted him captured, not killed, to satisfy his rage and embarrass Aideed.

McKnight shared how his new book “Streets of Mogadishu: Leadership at its best, political correctness at its worst” details how the Clinton administration, having the desire to appease the United Nations, placed irresponsible impairments upon our task force for the sole purpose of being viewed politically correct without regard to the lives of our American soldiers. He said, “Political correctness is dangerous and makes me want to throw up regularly. It’s just ridiculous.” Visit his website [www.dannymcknight.com](http://www.dannymcknight.com) for more information or to order his book.

McKnight stated that Republicans can win the election in 2012, and President Obama can be beaten. He said, “Obama is now in worse shape than he was 2 ½ years ago when he ran. He has said and done so many things that are anti-American. This is a guy who can’t even present a Medal of Honor correctly.”

“How do we beat him?,” McKnight asked. “We’ve got to get up and just go get it done. Do not be complacent. Believe that people don’t like him, and he won’t get re-elected. We can’t just say we’ll be okay. We’ve all got to do something about it. My greatest fear is that we will get four more years of what we have today, and that fear will only happen if you and I let it. So, I promise you – I’m begging you; I challenge you – we cannot let it happen.”

## REACTION TO DEBT LIMIT LEGISLATION

(Just before the United States would have defaulted on its debt obligations, President Obama signed compromise legislation on raising the debt ceiling by \$2.1 trillion. The measure passed in the Senate by a vote of 269-161, and in the House by a 74-26 margin. A nationwide poll taken by the Gallup organization showed that Republicans and conservatives disapproved of the debt-limit legislation by better than two-to-one margins.)

### Senator **Marco Rubio**:

“I cannot support this plan because it fails to actually solve our debt problem, fails to diminish the risk of a credit rating downgrade and is not a long-term solution to avert a debt crisis. This plan still adds at least \$7 trillion to our debt over 10 years. It fails to immediately start downsizing government, leaving 98 percent of deficit reduction until after the 2012 election. By not addressing the biggest driver of our debt, health care spending, this plan ensures Medicare’s looming bankruptcy, while protecting Obamacare’s \$2.6 trillion blank check. It contains no real structural reforms to spending, such as a Constitutional balanced budget amendment.”

### Congressman **Bill Posey**:

A Balanced Budget Amendment is needed to ensure that Washington’s addiction to spending is broken. Washington must begin to live within its means. Somehow that principle had to be tossed-out to get the Senate and Administration on board with this deal. This bill grows the debt to \$16.7 trillion without implementing a long-term plan to control spending. The real crisis is not the Administration’s impending arbitrary deadline to raise the limit, but the lack of a plan to ever repay this money and reverse this terrible trend of deficit spending and debt accumulation.”

### Congresswoman **Sandy Adams**:

“We passed legislation that doesn’t include any new taxes and will cut spending now and control spending for years to come. For years, Congress has blindly spent money that it doesn’t have, but the American people’s voices were heard by sending 87 new members to Congress who are serious about getting our nation’s fiscal house in order. While this legislation doesn’t come close to fixing Washington’s broken policies, it is a step in the right direction. We didn’t get into this fiscal mess overnight and it is unrealistic to think we will get out of it overnight.”

### Heritage Foundation President **Ed Feulner**:

“Americans are disappointed. They are disappointed that the debate over our debt limit was about the needs of politicians instead of the needs of the country. They are disappointed with a broken government that refuses to fix itself. And they are disappointed that the Budget Control Act...does not

make the transformative changes this nation requires. There are several elements of this plan that are simply unacceptable, even when framed inside the narrow political confines that limited a better outcome (i.e., the White House and Senate are still controlled by spend-tax-and-borrow liberals)...The debt limit deal is a disappointment, but conservatives have made a real difference. We can be proud of the progress we made changing the dialogue in Washington.”

Political analyst **Dick Morris**:

“Make no mistake about it, this was a huge victory for the Republican Party and the Tea Party, more the Tea Party. Unlike the continuing resolution, where (House Leader John) Boehner just folded and gave away the store to Obama, here, largely I think because of the outrage that kindled, he held firm and he accomplished three huge things: first of all, at least, one trillion dollars in spending cuts over the next decade...secondly, no tax increases...and finally he succeeded in getting a vote on a balanced budget amendment.”

Columnist **Tony Blankley**:

“It is true that the Tea Party has 'won' within the context of what constitutes a political win in Washington. But have they accomplished enough to change our future? No, by this deal, they have not. To have a chance at actually changing our future, Washington would have to risk shocking and unpredictable change that might rock, temporarily, the financial prosperity of the nation. The establishment is not ready for that.”

Radio talk show host **Monica Crowley**:

“The debt deal is a kaleidoscope of a mixed bag: it reduces the level of spending, though by a paltry amount and not nearly enough to begin putting a dent in our staggering \$14.3 trillion national debt. It has enshrined in law caps on discretionary spending, though how either the reductions or the caps will be enforced and not evaded remains to be seen. A vote on a Balanced Budget Amendment is on the horizon, a symbolic but important move at this point. The deal does not take on the biggest of the big budget monsters: Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. You cannot begin to deal with the deficit and debt without profound structural reform in those three programs...Meanwhile, President Obama persists with pressing for higher taxes that would kill off this economy for good, because he can't get enough class warfare.”

Political consultant **Karl Rove**:

“Neither party helped itself with the public during this struggle, but Democrats hurt themselves most of all. They made a huge strategic mistake by failing to raise the debt ceiling late last year when they still controlled Congress. Instead, Democrats tried to make the GOP complicit in their

spending excesses....President Obama paid the highest price during this long confrontation. By the time he signed the debt ceiling, he had enraged his own party, issued demands that were routinely ignored, reinforced his reputation as being obsessed with raising taxes, and failed to produce a concrete plan of his own....Entitlement reform in the current political context can be achieved only by having a Republican Senate and a Republican president join the Republican House. This is not ideal, since reforms of this magnitude are better done in a bipartisan manner. But there doesn't appear to be any alternative. The crisis is real and the need for action overwhelming. And so the GOP must take its case to the people in 2012 in the hope of earning a mandate. The prospects for this are much better than they were before the debt-ceiling debate – a clash from which Mr. Obama and his party might not fully recover before the election.”

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## POLITICAL JOTTINGS AND DOTTINGS

-- State Senate President **Mike Haridopolos** dropped out of the race for the U.S. Senate, saying he could not campaign for the post and still conduct the state's affairs in Tallahassee at the same time. “I am re-dedicating myself to finishing the job you sent me to do here in Florida,” he said. There had been some speculation that Haridopolos might run instead for one of Florida's new House of Representatives seats after redistricting is completed, but he also said he will not seek any other office in 2012.

-- Since Sheriff **Jack Parker** announced he will not be a candidate for re-election in 2012, at least three Republicans have declared their candidacy for the position: **Wayne Ivey** of Merritt Island, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) agent in-charge for Brevard and Volusia counties; Sheriff's Deputy **Gary Harrell** of Melbourne; and Sheriff's Deputy **Cliff Webster** of Mims.

-- Attorney General **Pam Bondi** says an 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals ruling August 12 that struck down as unconstitutional the Obamacare requirement that all Americans must carry health insurance, “upholds our position that the federal health care law exceeds Congress' power.” She added, “We have prevailed in preventing Congress from infringing on the individual liberty protected by the U.S. Constitution.” The ruling, which is expected to be challenged in the U.S. Supreme Court, still concludes that most of the federal law can stand without the individual mandate, citing such provisions as providing sufficient break time to nursing mothers, money for abstinence education, and an excise tax on indoor tanning salons. Florida led 26 states in challenging Obamacare in court.



-- The Brevard County legislative delegation will meet September 7 to hear presentations from local government entities, organizations and individual citizens concerning issues to consider bringing up before the State Legislature in

2012. The meeting will take place at the County Commission chambers on Fran Jamieson Way in Viera, beginning at 3 pm. Anyone wishing to be placed on the meeting agenda should contact **Bethany Iliff** in Representative **Ritch Workman**'s office in writing, at 33 Suntree Place, Suite D, Melbourne, FL 32940 by mail; <mailto:Bethany.Iliff@myfloridahouse.gov> by email; or 321-757-7021 by fax no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, August 26.

-- **Dana Blickley** of Titusville, a 2012 Republican candidate for property appraiser, told the New Millennium Conservative Club on August 1 that her goal is to make the Brevard County office a model for the state's other 66 counties to emulate. She said she has 20 years of experience in property appraising. Two other Republican candidates were invited to the club's meeting but were unable to attend: incumbent property appraiser **Jim Ford** of Titusville; and former BREC chairman **Jason Steele** of Viera.

-- Congresswoman **Sandy Adams** has introduced legislation in Washington to give Brevard County new resources to recruit and retain employers and keep their highly-trained shuttle workforce on the Space Coast. This jobs bill, called the Shuttle Workforce Revitalization Act of 2011, would create an historically underutilized business (HUB) zone. The HUBZone program was enacted under the Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997 to promote economic development growth in distressed areas.

-- Past NRA President **Marion Hammer** says Florida's new law prohibiting health care providers from asking patients about firearms kept in their homes is "imperative" because some doctors – both inside and outside the Sunshine State – are pursuing a "political" anti-gun agenda. The legislators have said "It's none of their business if they have guns," Hammer adds. Governor **Rick Scott**'s press secretary, **Lane Wright**, says the law protects patients from "potential discrimination and harassment in cases where it is not relevant" to health care or safety.

-- State Senate President **Mike Haridopolos** reports that while Standard & Poor's has downgraded the nation's credit rating, it upgraded Florida from negative to stable, as a direct result of the actions taken during the 2011 Legislative Session. He points out this came from reducing spending, decreasing taxes and eliminating red tape so that Floridians can get back to work, and making Florida the state of opportunity for businesses and families alike by reforming the state's entitlement programs, including pensions, welfare and Medicaid systems. While they talk about cut, cap, and balance in Washington, Haridopolos adds, "We actually did it here in Florida. We cut spending by \$4 billion to balance our state budget, and we put a spending cap on the ballot for voters to consider next November."

-- "[The Weekly Standard](#)" lists Florida as one of nine states carried by **George Bush** in 2004 that flipped to **Barack Obama** in 2008, but will be tough for the president to retain in 2012. According to a Sunshine State News poll in July, the news magazine reports, "only 38 percent of Floridians approve of the job the president is doing, and 54 percent disapprove."

-- District 4 Vice Chairman **Josiah Gattle** is working to organize a Teenage Republican Club in Cocoa that would include students from the University of Central Florida and Brevard Community College campuses.

-- A Young America's Foundation High School Conference in the Washington, DC, area last month featured a number of conservative speakers addressing more than 100 participants from 25 states. A highlight for the students was hearing from **Teresa Scanlan**, the 18-year-old Miss America, who stressed that she believes the U.S. Constitution should be the guiding force of the federal government, and discussed the importance of incorporating faith into one's everyday lifestyle.



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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH



"Blaming the Tea Party for our credit downgrade is akin to Nero blaming the Christians for burning Rome. Tea Party Americans weren't the ones 'fiddling' while our country's fiscal house was going up in smoke."

-- Former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin

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### REAGAN QUOTE

(Each month for the rest of the Centennial year, we will carry a meaningful quote from Ronald Reagan's speaking and writings.)

Speaking on the federal deficit in a September 26, 1987, radio address to the nation:



"Congress consistently brings the government to the edge of default before facing its responsibility. This brinkmanship threatens the holders of government bonds and those who rely on Social Security and veteran benefits. Interest rates would skyrocket. Instability would occur in financial markets, and the federal deficit would soar. The United States has a special responsibility to itself and the world to meet its obligations."

## CONSERVATIVE INSTITUTIONS

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



An alliance of civilian, active duty and retired military people in all 50 states, the Livonia, Michigan-based Center for Military Readiness has been promoting sound military personnel policies in the armed forces since 1993.

It gives voice to the problems and concerns of men and women in uniform who are concerned about policies that make their lives more difficult or more dangerous, and is obliged to keep the U.S. military the strongest in the world.

The organization fought the Obama administration's move to end the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that will now allow homosexuals to serve openly on active duty. Such action, the CMR says, "threatens to undermine morale, recruiting, retention, and overall readiness."

A CMR report on the Department of Defense's Inspector General saying "improper activities" were used to repeal the law, points out that the executive summary of a survey of troops and their families was "spun" to indicate that many respondents indicated the effects of a repeal of the law would be "positive, mixed or nonexistent." Using other criteria, the report said, a larger number could have indicated results of "negative, mixed or no effect."



Now that the administration has ignored the Inspector General's comments and is going ahead with its decision, the Center "has no plans to stay silent," says its president, **Elaine Donnelly**. "This time, the challenge is to take our military back."

Donnelly, a former member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS), said the group plans to survey the 2012 presidential candidates on what each will do to restore sound priorities and high standards in the military, and to update its website to reach the new media and social networks.

CMR says on its website that sound personnel policies are as crucial as advanced weapons systems in preserving readiness and a strong national defense, and that essential elements of military culture – such as discipline, readiness, and high standards in training – must not be compromised or degraded in order to advance sociological goals at the expense of readiness.

The publication "CMR Notes" is issued ten times a year. For additional information, or to contribute to CMR's efforts, visit the website: [www.cmrlink.org](http://www.cmrlink.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 1 – Heritage Isle Republican Club, Viera, 7 pm.
- Sept. 7 – Melbourne Area Federated Republican Women meeting, Holiday Inn, Viera, 11 am.
- Sept. 8 – BREC meeting, Temple Israel, Viera, 6:30 pm.
- Sept. 15 – Brevard Republican Men's Club meeting, Doubles Hoagies Restaurant, Indian Harbor Bch, 7 pm.
- Sept. 20 – North Brevard Republican Club meeting, La Cita Country Club, Titusville, 7 pm.

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## COMICAL CLOSER

**George Bush, Queen Elizabeth and Vladimir Putin** all die and go to Hell. The Devil tells them there is a phone they can use to call back to Earth. Putin calls Russia, speaks for five minutes, and is charged one million dollars. The queen calls England, speaks for 30 minutes, and is charged six million dollars. Bush calls the United States, speaks for four hours, and is charged five dollars. The others want to know why Bush's call is so inexpensive, and the Devil replies with a smile, "Since **Barack Obama** took over, the country has gone to Hell – so it's a local call."

