



The Tusk

The Official Newsletter of the...

BREVARD REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



(The pachyderm uses his ivory tusk to dig and bore for work and food. We use our Tusk to dig and bore to help Keep Brevard County red.)

Editor: Stuart Gorin

Publisher: Jason Steele rfbjasonsteele@juno.com

Editor's Note: This is the official newsletter of the Brevard Republican Executive Committee. We intend to reach as many Republicans in the county as possible to keep them informed. And we need constant input – information from clubs, from district chairs, from committees, from state and local party officials, even from the average Republican-in-the-street that we can include in each issue. There are numerous Republican and Conservative events taking place in Brevard County, and we need the information in order to cover them. Also, let us know what you like about the newsletter, and what you would like to see different. E-mail stuartgorin@bellsouth.net.

individual candidates for office is at the individual club level, and NOT within the Executive Committee. When there is a contested primary election, he said, each club may support a candidate of its choice, but once the candidate is determined, there has to be party unity to support and elect that person over his or her Democratic opponent.

BREC is currently operating on a shoestring, Steele added, and he appealed for donations to help pay ongoing expenses until larger fundraisers can be organized.

STEELE URGES PARTY UNITY



BREC Chairman Jason Steele says there has been too much internal bickering among Brevard County Republicans, and it is now time to stop and to focus on the purpose of our Executive Committee, which is to elect Republicans to office.

Speaking at both the October 8 Brevard Republican Executive Committee, and earlier in the week to the Melbourne Area Federated Republican Women, Steele said different factions pulling against each other “is hurting us.”

Recognizing that there are differences among Conservative Republicans, Libertarian Republicans and Moderate Republicans, Steele said the place to support

BREC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS TO BE E-MAILED TO MEMBERS

The Executive Board has determined to notify Executive Committee members of future meetings by e-mail rather than by post card in order to save the cost of postage, printing and material.

However, if any member either does not have e-mail or would prefer to opt out of receiving one, he or she may notify Secretary *Ruthie Montelione* and will continue to receive post card notification.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE BEGUN

State Committeewoman Carlie Rogers and Committeeman Mike Thomas have begun a voter registration drive in an effort to increase the number of registered Republicans in Brevard County. One such effort was conducted October 17-18 at the Gun and Knife Show in Melbourne. Rogers says the table set up

at the show was well received and they were able to register several independents in order to have them vote in the next primary. The next Gun and Knife Show where we will again have a presence will be November 14-15.

Part of the effort will be a “Each One Reach One” campaign, during which Committee members are asked during the next month to register one Republican voter. If a prospective new voter wishes to register as a Democrat, the law says we must accept the application and forward it to the Election Board. Such action will not violate our oath, though, since the law is a requirement.



BOLIN SAYS COUNTY BUDGET SHOWS DECREASE

County Commissioner Mary Bolin says property tax TRIM notices for Brevard County residents will show a decrease this year since the Board was able to cut and freeze the 2010 budget. For the budget year, which began this month, the aggregate operating tax rate was held to \$5.47 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

The 4th District Commissioner, speaking to the recent New Millenium Conservative Club meeting, said lower property values will mean lower taxes, and the best benefits will be seen by those who bought their homes at high prices and then saw their values decrease.

But she noted that actual expenses are not necessarily set because the budget is just a framework for them to use. The commissioners also know they will have to cut the budget again on the next round, she added.

Bolin also said roads in the county are a priority for her, and she was pleased with the progress made on the Pineda Causeway extension, which had been on hold for 20 years. Expanding the road to four lanes over the railroad tracks near U.S. 1 had been a sticking point with the railroad, which finally agreed to the action, she said.

The long range vision after connecting A1A to I-95, Bolin added, is to continue the road into Viera West. The additional more immediate benefit is to relieve congestion on Wickham Road leading to and from the Interstate, she said.

FEENEY SPEAKS OF CASH FOR CLUNKERS “BENEFIT”



Former Congressman Tom Feeney says one benefit of the Cash For Clunkers program is that “it took 300,000 Obama stickers off the road.”

The comment drew large laughs at the recent Ronald Reagan Clubs, Inc. meeting in Rockledge, where on a more somber note, Feeney, the guest speaker at the meeting, said because of a number of Obama Administration programs and proposals, “the suicide of America is occurring and we are participating, but not willingly.”

The Democrats, he said, seem determined to undermine the United States by surrendering our interests abroad, and at home, by taking away individual freedoms.

Feeney, who was defeated in 2008, said that losing elections sometimes is a good thing because it can set the stage where you can lose the battle but still win the war – especially, if you stand up for principles.

Noting how many immigrants to the United States take advantage of health, education and welfare benefits upon their arrival, Feeney contrasted the situation to what occurred in the mid-1970’s, when refugees from Vietnam came with nothing more than the shirts on their backs.

The difference, he said, was that social service offices did not have anyone on their staffs who spoke Vietnamese, so there was no one to tell them they could obtain benefits without working. As a result, the Vietnamese practiced Republican values, and prospered, Feeney added.



ROMNEY SEES 2010 AS A “VERY GOOD YEAR” FOR REPUBLICANS

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney says “it ought to be a very good year for Republicans in 2010 and beyond” given what President Obama has done on his stimulus, on cap and trade, health care, card-check, missile defense, Honduras and Israel.

The unsuccessful GOP presidential candidate made the remarks in a lengthy interview recently with the national conservative weekly “Human Events”. He declined to state any future political plans, but did say

he would be busy campaigning for Republican congressional and gubernatorial candidates.

On foreign policy matters, Romney said the threat of nuclear terror and nuclear attack has gotten larger, and he cannot understand President Obama's decision to walk away from the U.S. missile defense commitment to Poland and the Czech Republic. The Guantanamo Bay prison, he said, should be kept open because "bringing those terrorists to our soil would pose a potential threat in terms of their interactions with prisoners here."

Concerning domestic issues, Romney said the inappropriately crafted stimulus "could have actually created jobs and boosted the economy on a more immediate basis" but it failed to do so, and on health care, "the idea of a public option with a government insurance plan is absolutely wrong and deserves to be taken off the table."

EARLY LOOK AT 2010 CONGRESSIONAL RACE PICTURE

In order to recapture control of Congress in the 2010 elections, Republicans have to win back 42 seats in the House of Representatives and 11 in the Senate – a tall, but not impossible, order to overcome.

Traditionally, after the inauguration of a new president, the party in power loses seats in the first mid-term election that follows. Over the past century, that has averaged 28 House and three Senate seats.

Three factors in the current scenario, according to The Wall Street Journal's Gerald Seib, are the outcome of the current health debate, the pace of the economic recovery, and how popular President Obama will be by the middle of next year.

Seib says National Republican Campaign Committee officials have 70-80 House seats on their "watch list," where they believe they have a chance to take a seat away from Democrats. In 2008, Democrats won 49 of those seats in districts taken by Republican John McCain in the presidential race.

But Democrats do have the advantage of the power of incumbency, Seib notes. Despite the very low rating given to Congress in polling – currently around 21 percent – the actual re-election rate for incumbents in both parties has been in the mid-90 percent range.



RNC WOMEN'S INTERACTIVE NETWORK LAUNCHED

The RNC's recently launched Women's Interactive Network is aimed at mobilizing more women at the local level to be grassroots advocates for the Republican Party in advance of the next rounds of elections.

The goal, the RNC said, is to help train women to be media-savvy activists and volunteers to register more Republican voters. It noted that women represent a majority in politics by outnumbering men in both registered and actual voters.

For additional information on the interactive network, visit <http://www.gop.com/women/>.

JEB BUSH ADDRESSES EDUCATION REFORM SUMMIT



Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush addressed the recent National Summit on Education Reform held in Washington, DC, saying education "should be custom-designed to maximize every child's God-given capacity to learn."

Following are excerpts of his remarks:

"To really transform education, we need to embrace the fundamental concept that education should be custom-designed to maximize every child's God-given capacity to learn. And then we need to allow freedom, innovation and competition to reshape the education system around the goal of ensuring their success.

"Under this system, rigorous academic standards would be demanded – not debated. Standards would be fewer, deeper and more relevant to the world students will enter when they leave school.

"We would require more math and science because that is what the emerging job markets demand. We would require a second language or maybe even a third because the global demographics are changing and so should we.

“We would make a high school diploma mean the student is ready for the rigors of college as well as the challenges of the workplace. Not one or the other, but both.

“And we wouldn’t think twice about testing students to make sure they were measuring up to these higher expectations....

“We would give parents a choice and a voice in where their children go to school, arming them with quality information and requiring their engagement. Call it a scholarship, call it a grant, call it a voucher, call it whatever you want. Students should not be doomed to life of poverty because their parents didn’t have the financial freedom to opt out of a failing school.

“Knowing what we know – that a quality education is the proven path to prosperity – how can we deny a child that lifeline to that better living and a more secure financial future?

“The great social, moral and economic challenge of our time is providing a high quality education to every child in our nation. Our success will define our destiny. An educated and highly skilled workforce will attract the investment that fuels job creation and wealth. A quality education will sustain our quality of life and the standard of living that is still the envy of most of the world.”

PUNDIT “PEARLS”

Political Analyst Charlie Cook, writing on “New Odds” at nationaljournal.com:

“Months ago, when Democrats were riding high from their second consecutive wave election and an unusually large number of Republican senators were deciding to retire, it looked plausible that Democrats would hold the line in 2010 and possibly even add a seat or two. With the political climate and circumstances in key states now very different, those odds have changed. Next year there are seven Republican retirements compared to only three for Democrats, but none of the open GOP seats are in Democrat-friendly states. The only ones in states Obama carried – Florida, New Hampshire and Ohio – are fickle and more purple than blue. Additionally, the likelihood of young and minority voters turning out in large numbers for Democrats like they did last year is

low. This makes Democratic hopes in each of these states problematic at best....At the same time, things look very tough for Democrats in three toss-up races: Neither Senator Christopher Dodd in Connecticut nor Majority Leader Harry Reid in Nevada is polling well, and the GOP has a chance in the Illinois open seat contest.”

Executive Editor Fred Barnes, writing on “The Republican Revival” in The Weekly Standard:

“Ignore anyone who says Republicans have no chance of winning 40 seats in next year’s mid-term elections and grabbing control of the House of Representatives. A landslide of that dimension is quite possible. All it would take is for current political trends to continue. If that happens, Republicans will win the House in a landslide....Republicans are sure to benefit from a windfall: the explosion of populist opposition to Obama, congressional Democrats and their liberal agenda. Some of these opponents are Republicans, but many of them aren’t. They’re ex-Perot backers or unaffiliated conservatives. Put the populists together with Republicans and independents now leaning Republican, and you have a majority coalition. It hasn’t fully coalesced yet, but there’s a possibility, even a good possibility, it will. In that case, the prospect of Republicans’ winning 40 seats becomes quite credible.”

QUOTABLE QUOTES



State Senator Mike Haridopolos, writing on “An Agenda for Florida” in [Florida Today](http://FloridaToday.com):

“Economic growth. Increased sovereignty. Transparency in government. Citizen participation.

Tax relief. Spending restraint. These are the principles underlying the Florida Senate’s upcoming agenda for the session that begins in March. As the incoming Senate president, I have the responsibility to produce an agenda that moves Florida forward. Because I believe in proactively seeking public input, I would like to invite you to visit my website at www.senatormike.com so you can share your thoughts directly with me....To begin with, the Senate will resist calls to increase the state sales tax or to implement a state income tax. During these tough economic times, Floridians cannot afford to sacrifice more of their hard-earned money to the taxman.”



Former White House Adviser **Karl Rove**, writing on “The GOP is Winning the Health Care Debate” in the [Wall Street Journal](#):

“Passing health care reform could be harmful to the health of congressional Democrats. Just look at how President Barack Obama’s standing has fallen as he has pushed for reform....Among seniors, opposition to ObamaCare hit 63 percent in last month’s Economist/YouGov Poll. But the number from that poll that should spook Democrats is this: 47 percent of seniors said they ‘strongly’ oppose health care reform, just 27 percent ‘strongly’ support it. Seniors are the biggest consumers of health care, and their family members will probably take their concerns seriously....This battle is far from over. But what Democrats have to keep in mind is that there are two fights going on here – one over health care and another over which party will control Congress after next year’s elections. By waging the first, they may be setting themselves up to lose the second.”



RNC Chairman Michael Steele, writing on Obama’s Health Care Plan in the “RNC Grassroots Quarterly”:

“Republicans want to reform our health care system by making common-sense improvements that would reduce costs, preserve quality, and keep families and their doctors in charge of health care decisions. Republicans want to make health care affordable and accessible for Americans regardless of pre-existing conditions. Republicans want to let small businesses join together to purchase quality health care benefits for their workers at a more affordable price, just as unions are allowed to do.... Republicans want to end lawsuit abuse that drives up costs throughout our health care system....The Republican National Committee has launched a website – www.BarackObamaExperiment.com to inform Americans about the risky experiments that the president is conducting on our economy and our country.”

Rush Limbaugh, writing on Barack Obama in his “The Limbaugh Letter”:

“It is hard to believe, but we elected a president who despises this country as it is – which is what he means when he says he intends to ‘transform’ it. He apologizes for the U.S. on every foreign trip. His

natural allies are anti-American tyrants. He’s alienating our freedom-loving allies. He’s dismantling our nuclear arsenal....Barack Obama believes this country has been immoral and unjust since its birth. So he will make America just, and moral, and fair. We will give up our free enterprise with its evil profits and will give up our prosperity. We will give up our defenses. We will return ourselves to poverty and vulnerability to be equal with the rest of the world. So he intends....President Obama overlooked one small detail in his grand schemes: the love of freedom brimming in millions of American hearts.”



Heritage Foundation official Brian Dowling, writing on “Legislative Lowdown” in “Human Events”:

“Barack Obama is the best community organizer of conservatives since Ronald Reagan. Not even that great conservative icon Sarah Palin, even if she had been elected vice president, could have put together hundreds of town hall meetings with thousands of conservatives turning out and decrying the Socialist aspects of the liberal health care bills....Who else but President Obama could inspire the huge rally in Washington, D.C. on September 12, where hundreds of thousands declared their intention to take back the nation? Glenn Beck and FreedomWorks couldn’t have done it without the expertise and hard work of the Obama Administration. Conservatives need to take a moment to thank the one guy who could organize a community of conservatives in a mere nine months of work. Thank you, President Obama.”



Syndicated columnist **Cal Thomas**, writing on “Obama’s Problem” in [The Washington Times National Weekly](#):

“As the president’s approval ratings fall and rise and fall again, some of his supporters in journalism and politics are returning to days of old when the label ‘racist’ could end any discussion and force the accused either into stunned silence, or groveling repentance. I suspect the tactic won’t work this time because Obama supporters will have difficulty explaining how a mostly white country could elect a black man president last

November and ten months later become a racist majority....Despite his race, Mr. Obama is being treated just like any other politician, which proves he's being treated equally. He is getting the same heat every president gets, sooner or later."

Columnist Jeffrey Kuhner, writing on "Obama's Next Push Will Be Amnesty" in the [Washington Times National Weekly](#):



"It is no surprise that, after passing health care 'reform,' President Obama plans to move on to his next big domestic initiative: granting citizenship to more than 12 million illegal immigrants. For decades, Beltway and business elites have championed a policy of open borders and unlimited Third World immigration. Amnesty is simply its logical culmination: the triumph of political and corporate interests over patriotism. America has endured a massive invasion of millions of illegal immigrants....Mr. Obama is an internationalist socialist. His ultimate goal is to erect a liberal ruling class: to forge a Democratic majority coalition – one that would dominate for decades. Amnesty would put millions of illegal immigrants into the voting booths – and into the welcoming arms of Democrats. Amnesty also would sound the death knell of traditional America."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, Nov. 2

New Millenium Conservative Club Meeting at 6:30 pm at the Suntree/Viera Library, guest speaker will be "Tusk" editor Stuart Gorin, call 255-0619 for information

Wednesday, Nov. 4

Melbourne Area Federated Republican Women Meeting at 11 am at the Holiday Inn Viera, call 727-1212 for reservations; additionally, the club's Honor the Military Banquet at the Holiday Inn Viera at 6 pm on the same date, the guest speaker will be Col. Danny McKnight of Black Hawk Down fame; there will be a reading of individual names of family and friends who are active or retired, living or deceased, who have served in the military to honor them; and items will be auctioned to support our military; call 223-5921 for reservations

Thursday, Nov. 5

South Brevard Republican Women's Network Dinner Dance at 6 pm at The Tides at Patrick Air Force Base, cost is \$35 and tickets for an American Eagle Gold Bullion Coin raffle are being sold, call 725-1736 or 684-2141 for reservations

Thursday, Nov. 12

Brevard Republican Executive Committee Meeting at 7 pm at the County Government Building on Fran Jamieson Way, call 777-9086 for information.

CONSERVATIVE INSTITUTIONS

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



This Arlington, Virginia-based organization teaches conservatives the nuts and bolts of how to succeed in the public policy process, focusing on the commitment to free enterprise, limited government, strong national defense and traditional values. Rather than analyze policy, it stresses how to influence policy through direct participation in activism and leadership.

The Institute helps students form independent conservative groups, publish independent conservative newspapers, manage grassroots-oriented campaigns, run successfully for elected office and succeed in the competitive field of broadcast media. Over the years, its 58-member staff has trained more than 76,000 students. The training center houses classrooms, multi-media studios and dormitories.

Classes and training also are conducted in locations throughout the United States, on such topics as grassroots campaigns and getting out the vote.

Morton Blackwell, the Institute's president, founded it in 1979. He has been a long-time Republican activist in Virginia and Louisiana, and has served as Young Republican National Federation vice chairman at large.

For further information or to contribute to this organization's worthy goals, visit www.leadershipinstitute.org.

Did You Know

The Executive Committee is ruled by the Republican Party of Florida's Model Constitution for Counties.

Did You Know

Section 4 – Removal for Non-Attendance at County Executive Committee Meetings

(a) A county executive committee member who is absent for **three (3) consecutive regular meetings without a valid excused absence** shall be removed from the County Executive Committee as of the date of the third consecutive missed meeting.

(b) **Prior to missing such third consecutive meeting, any member may request, in writing, that an absence be excused indicating the reason for such absence.**

Did You Know

That all you need to do to request an absence is to call or email your Chairman, Secretary, or District Chair who will then notify the Secretary.

COMICAL CLOSURE

A surgeon, an architect and a Democratic politician argued about whose profession was the oldest. The surgeon said that since Eve was made from Adam's rib, a surgical procedure had to come first. The architect said before that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural procedure. The Democratic politician said that even earlier, somebody had to create the chaos.

