

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NORTH TEXAS DEMOCRATS

June 30, 2020

Garland, Texas

Volume 7, Number 6

Wear the Damn, Life Saving, Protective, Required Mask!



**I WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT YOU AND
YOU WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT ME.
THAT'S CITIZENSHIP AT ITS BEST.**

GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO

		What's Inside?	
Front Page	Wear the Damn Mask!.....	Page 1	Article ...Press Release: Dallas Co. Com. Dr. Garcia D4.... Page 7
Editorial	Fear: We Have Nothing to Fear But Fear.....	Page 2	Article..Crucial Info. — Katherine Savers McGovern Page 8
Article	It Should Scare the Hell Out of You	Page 3	Article..... Steve Love Thread
Article	And Still We Rise: Ellen Sweets.....	Page 4	Article Final Thoughts: NOW, NOT WHEN!
Article	Voter Suppression — Rampant !!	Page 5	Bulletin Board .. News/Advertisement/Ad Rates.....
Article	Press Release: Dallas County Judge Jenkins	Page 6	Page 11

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

EDITORIAL

Fear

We Have Nothing to Fear, But Fear Itself (FDR Inaugural Address, 3/4/1933)

The Vice President et al have just delivered a broadcast on the current state of affairs. V.P. Pence stated cases are increasing only because of increased testing. While proclaiming the availability of testing and gear, there was no mention of yesterday's announcement of the closing of testing sights by the Tweety-Bird.

The V.P. covered only other protected gear and did not mention the use of masks. The blame was squarely placed on young people. When reporters pressed him, he stated that mask wearing was the responsibility of the local and state officials. The wearing of masks is protected under the "Freedom of Speech," amendment.

Fool me once, shame on you; fool me twice, shame on me.

An MSNBC Public Health Analyst, Dr. Irwin Redliner, summed up the current U.S. landscape succinctly. Redliner, said the George Orwell's book, *1984* should be renamed *2020*.

"It was a stunning example of misrepresenting reality in a way we haven't seen in a long time. We have been used to just a gross amount of incompetence, of misstatements, of dishonesty and process coming out of the White House, but we entered a new phase now where we have really politicized what's happening about it. The example of the Tulsa Rally and the hypocrisy was so that the president is actually encouraging people to follow the exact opposite of what the president is actually encouraging people to do." (MSNBC "Live" 6/26/2020)

Texas has (admitted to) 131,917 infections, 2,296 deaths, and 74,496 recoveries, *so far*. Texas Gov. has, as he stated, "Paused" the reopening of Texas. Bars are closed, except to curbside pickup. Restaurant seating is limited to outside serving and Gatherings are limited to 50. (Note: First Baptist Church in Dallas has announced a big event this weekend mock titled, "Come to the Event, take home COVID 19.") As in the V.P. broadcast, Abbott made no mention of requiring masks. Also broadcast was that Abbott is afraid of TX Lt. Gov., indicted Dan Patrick.

Be Not Afraid

Puck: Captain of our fairy band, Helena is here at hand/
And the youth, mistook by me/
Pleading for a lover's fee/
Shall we their fond pageant see?/ Lord, what fools these mortals be!
A Midsummer Nights Dream Act 3, scene 2, 110-115

There is no time, no place for fear. Though there is danger all around us, it is time to (as my departed mother would say), "Put our shoulders to the grindstone." American patriots have taken to the streets, challenging the evilness among us. Law Enforcement must be held accountable and we must support the valiant ones committed to "Provide and Protect."

Challenge the wrongdoer, evil ones among us with truth, justice and recordings.

Vote. Register all eligible citizens. Get out the Vote. Now, not when. Now.

Wear the damn mask, always. Your life, my life, all our lives depend on this.

Rachel Baker Ford, editor

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

It Should Scare the Hell Out of You!

— Charles E. Ford, Jr

Trump directly or indirectly controls, mostly through temporary appointments without Senate approval, the White House, the Cabinet, the Senate, the Republican Party, the Department of Justice, the Supreme Court with two Trump appointees, the Attorney General William Barr who believes the President is above the law and can do no wrong, the FBI, the military leadership, the Republicans in the House of Representatives, and many Federal judges with lifetime appointments without valid credentials. Inspectors General were fired for doing their jobs — investigating suspicious activity and not replaced. Others were told not to investigate. Trump has the loyalty of many Republican Governors. He is well on the way to being a **DICTATOR** with absolute control of the Government.

Trump is free as President to select and replace personnel in the Executive branch as he wishes. Trump appoints department heads loyal to him as temporary acting heads which do not require Senate approval. He seeks people who will make changes to personnel, policies, and regulations at his direction. To make matters worse, the House of Representatives has allowed Trump to usurp their responsibility and authority over funding which is a major control mechanism over the executive branch. Trump appointees have destroyed the effectiveness of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, destroyed National Parks and protected areas by allowing mining and drilling. A multitude of regulations have quietly been cancelled to allow corporations to pollute air and water and delete protections for workers. His disgraceful treatment of immigrants is an indication of what he will do with Americans that cross him as **DICTATOR**.

Trump hasn't given up on being **DICTATOR** or **PRESIDENT FOR LIFE!** Like his mentor, Putin, he is taking control of Government funded media. He has appointed a Trump loyalist, Michael Pack to run the United States Agency for Global Media which includes *Voice of America* so he can slant the news broadcast world wide to favor the President. Pack fired the leaders of Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe, Radio Liberty, and the Office of Cuban Broadcasting and Middle East Broadcasting because Trump didn't like the way they portrayed him. The leader of *Voice of America* resigned rather than bow to Trump's wishes. More attacks on what Trump calls the "Fake News" are coming. He has already tried to take the license from broadcasters CNN and NBC because they are not loyal to him.

Trump and the Republicans are working hard through the courts to destroy the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and deny millions of people healthcare. They will literally kill thousands if not millions of people. They don't care many of the people insured by the ACA are too busy scrambling to stay alive and earn a living to follow the details of politics. When Trump feeds them one of his many glorious whoppers about what he has done or is going to do they grasp at straws and hope for the best.

The only significant protection, we the people, have left is the vote. Voter suppression is a favorite tool of the Republican Party. It is up to us to overcome anything they can throw at us or nature can throw at us. Trump has not stopped and he has until January 2021 to reach his goal. It may be hard to believe but over 60 million people voted for Trump even though his lying, evil, self-centered personality, and lack of compassion for others were obvious prior to the election in 2016. We can't stop either, register and vote.

☆☆☆ Good Democratic turnout will defeat him. ☆☆☆

▶▶▶▶ Challenge the wrongdoer, evil ones among us with truth, justice and recordings.

▶▶▶▶ Vote. Register all eligible citizens. Get out the Vote. Now, not when. Now.

▶▶▶▶ Wear the damn mask, always. Your life, my life, all our lives depends on this.

###

AND STILL WE RISE

— Ellen Sweets

Hearing stories recently from so many young black men and women picked at emotional scabs from invisible wounds accrued over the years.

We — meaning black Americans — are remarkably adept at rising above sleights and insults, deliberate and unintended. Over 400 years of resilience has been built into our DNA.

We've become adept at seeing bigotry for what is, navigating it, and moving on.

Like the time my brother was taken to an expensive dinner by three *New York Times* hotshots who were interested in him as a staff photographer. Fred enjoyed the hospitality, ate with all the right utensils, said all the right things and parted amicably from the power trio.

Fred, who was already a photo editor with Associated Press, had driven up to The Big Apple from DC for the interview. He was waiting for the valet to bring his car around when a smartly dressed male Caucasian pulled up to the valet station in a BMW, tossed Fred the keys and asked that his sassy car be parked carefully, noting the probability of a generous tip.

Fred assured the man that he would tend to it right away and put the keys — there were several — in his pocket. Fred's car came around, and he and the keys were soon off on his return to the nation's capital. We laughed bittersweet laughter. Fred too had been nattily attired, right down to Italian loafers with tassels.

Didn't matter.

Among too many personal experiences in my time at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, one incident stands out in particular.

As an accommodation to White Flight in the late 1950s, rapacious developers built houses 90 miles a minute in South St. Louis County where blacks were historically excluded.

What they didn't tell all-to-willing buyers was the fact that the houses were built in a 100-year flood plain. Unfortunately no one checked to see where new residents were in that crucial century.

Turns out it was the bad part.

When the rains came they were merciless. Skinny rivulets became mighty streams; lazy streams roared to life; the Mississippi's banks overflowed. Cars were swept away. People drowned.

One of them was the son and only child of a couple who had bought one of those houses. The boy had wandered down to the stream he knew so well to see what it was doing. What it did was snatch him up in an unanticipated torrent and deposit him in a treetop a half-mile down. When the flood subsided firefighters found his body tucked among the branches. I was dispatched to write the story.

Nothing like a double shot of vodka with orange juice, toast and scrambled eggs to calm pre-interview jitters. The parents were understandably distraught. I sat in the kitchen with the mother as she peeled carrots, then potatoes. When the father came home he joined us.

He talked about how his son loved that spot by the stream. At last the father buried his face in his hands and sobbed. "If I'd known something like this would happen I'd have stayed with the niggers," he said. His wife continued peeling potatoes.

I closed my notebook, declined the invitation to stay for dinner, expressed condolences and thanked them for their time. Once in the car, I burst out laughing. I figured right about the time I got to the highway, the wife was turning to her husband and asking "What did you just say to that reporter?"

Chastising a father who is mourning the death of his only child, a son, would have been out of place; he'd already been through enough. My job was to get a story. I did. But when the laughter subsided the wound remained.

So don't ever, ever ask a black person whether he or she is angry, unless you really want the answer. The Ivy League, Seven Sisters; the PhD, the DDS, the MFA — none of it matters to still too many out in the real world.

I've heard passengers say that if they'd known the flight captain was black they'd have taken a different flight.

I once met a black female navigator on another flight who said she's always the last off because some passengers assume she's somehow less qualified.

This probably feels harsh: but unless we capture the moment now, the time for honest conversation about race might not come again peaceably. And it's only meaningful if we're honest with ourselves. No big convocations need be called. Make a lunch date with someone of color — not necessarily to talk race relations, but to have a conversation with another human being who is not like you.

Don't tell me you were raised by a black housekeeper who was just like a member of the family unless you never called her by her first name; unless the kids played together; unless you shared Thanksgiving; went to Six Flags together. Unless you can have a conversation about race without apology, brace yourself. It's a learning curve for all of us.

I share these tales not to guilt anyone, but to ask for awareness that our congeniality often masks a lifetime of sleights that are unique to us. The Irish and Africans are the only ones whose ancestors came to America involuntarily. Know American history. All of it. I often refer to "White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America" by Nancy Isenberg. Learn about Irish slaves brought to America by Brits.

We grow up knowing about great white scientists, authors, statesmen and composers, but how many know of Grant Still, Crispus Attucks, Ethel Payne, Percy Julian, Mamie Phipps Clark, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor?

We've come a long way from being denied education to being, as some like to say, over-educated — whatever that's supposed to mean. Meanwhile, easing up on the Fourth of July, we're at a tipping point.

Jesse Jackson used to say that we might have come over on different ships but that we're in same boat now.

So do we sink or swim from now until November?

Voter Suppression — Rampant!!

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Republicans have been whittling away at our voting rights since the days of Newt Gingrich (speaker of the House from 1995 - 1999). They can't come up with a single idea how to make healthcare better for everyone but they have a multitude of ways to suppress your right to vote.

Gerrymandering, defining political boundaries to produce a desired vote. The 2020 election will have a profound affect on gerrymandering for the next ten years. Both parties use gerrymandering when they are in power. The boundaries are drawn to give the majority party the best chance of defeating candidates from the opposite party and makes incumbent candidates from the majority party very difficult to beat.

Early voting days are more convenient for working people, older people, and others than voting on election day. Early voting reduces the number of voters on election day so lines are shorter and it doesn't take as long to vote. Long line discourage voters from going to the polls. Republicans allow a minimum number of early voting days because high voter turnout generally works against them.

Fewer voting locations have a severe impact on voter turnout. Crowding voters into fewer voting locations creates intolerable lines of voters and absurd waiting times. It discourages voters from even showing up to vote. Transportation cost, distance or inconvenience can be a deter people from voting. Lower voting turnout favors Republican candidates so they make voting as inconvenient as they can.

Voter registration rolls are purged to eliminate the names of deceased voters, those that have moved, and those no longer eligible to vote for various legitimate reasons. Republicans abuse the system by purging people without legitimate cause and purging people at the last minute before the election so they do not have a chance to present evidence they were indeed legitimate voters.

Many states now require a photo ID on specific forms of identification. Again the system is abused. Not everyone has a government issued identification with their picture on it. Birth certificates and proof of citizenship can be a serious obstacle for older people and the fees involved to obtain documents are a poll tax. The choice of documentation that is required to vote is inconsistent from state to state. Student ID may be denied while permit to carry a firearm is acceptable.

Mail-in ballots are accepted for those over 65 years old, the disabled, the military overseas and should be for those worried about contracting the COVID-19 virus while standing in lines waiting to vote. Denying mail-in ballots is voter suppression. Voting in-person could result with thousands of people positive for COVID-19 being hospitalized and hundreds of dead Texans. Forcing exposure to the virus wrong.

Voting locations must be accessible for disabled people. The polling site must provide safe passage for walking and accommodate scooters or wheelchairs. At least one bathroom for the disabled must be available. Provisions, such as portable voting machines, must be made for seriously disabled people that cannot exit a vehicle with reasonable amount of effort.

We must overcome every obstacle they place before us and vote!

###

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE FROM DALLAS COUNTY JUDGE, CLAY JENKINS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - June 25, 2020

Dallas County Reports 403 Additional Positive 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Cases

DALLAS -- As of 11:00am June 25, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 403 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 18,538, including 334 deaths.

An increasing proportion of COVID-19 cases in Dallas County are being diagnosed in young adults between 18 to 39 years of age, such that of all cases reported after June 1st, more than half have been in this age group. Of cases requiring hospitalization, more than two-thirds have been under 65 years of age, and about half do not have any high-risk chronic health conditions. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

Over 31 confirmed COVID-19 cases in children and staff have been reported from 18 separate childcare facilities in Dallas County since June 1st, with additional reports of associated illnesses in family members of affected children. Increasing outbreaks of cases are continuing to be reported from multiple large social gatherings since the beginning of June. ...

The age-adjusted rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases in non-hospitalized patients have been highest among Hispanics (667.4 per 100,000), Asians (187.4 per 100,000) and Blacks (136.4 per 100,000). These rates have been higher than Whites (43.8 per 100,000). Over 60% of overall COVID-19 cases to date have been Hispanic. Of cases requiring hospitalization who reported employment, over 80% have been critical infrastructure workers, with a broad range of affected occupational sectors, including: healthcare, transportation, food and agriculture, public works, finance, communications, clergy, first responders and other essential functions.

Local health experts use hospitalizations, ICU admissions, and ER visits as three of the key indicators in determining the COVID-19 Risk Level (color-coded risk) and corresponding guidelines for activities during our COVID-19 response. We have seen another increase in patients over a 24-hour period to 556 total cases in a hospital or acute care setting. Additionally, the number of emergency room visits for COVID-19 like symptoms in Dallas County for a 24-hour period ending Wednesday, June 24, was 701, representing nearly 30 percent of all visits according to information reported to the North Central Texas Trauma Regional Advisory Council. The numbers reflect an ongoing increase and impact on acute care facilities...

"Today's numbers continue the trend of increasing hospitalizations and new COVID-19 positive cases. Additionally, we are beginning to see more spread amongst children in daycare and young people who attend bars or work in the service industries. Today the Governor stopped elective surgeries in hospitals in Dallas County and this will increase hospital capacity, as less people will need beds to recuperate from elective surgery. This move was necessary

due to the wave of new COVID-19 cases we are seeing that are beginning to fill up the hospitals. Additionally, I am encouraging our surrounding counties to institute a requirement on businesses to ensure the wearing of face masks and am calling on the Governor to make the face mask ordinance statewide. I'm also calling on the Governor to make the recommendations in the Open Texas documents into requirements, if not statewide, then at least for the counties and regions like DFW and the Harris County metro area.

In May, when the Governor took over the COVID-19 response from the local leaders, he restricted our ability to either keep the ordinances in place that we had or work with business and healthcare to create new ones. At this point with the speed of the spread, it would be most beneficial if the Governor would act on a regional or statewide basis to quickly follow the advice of the top doctors on infectious disease, epidemiology, and public health in Harris, Dallas, Bexar and Travis Counties. Barring that, restoring the traditional powers of local leaders to deal with emergencies would allow us more tools to try to reverse this disturbing trend.

I strongly recommend that you do not go to places where 100 percent masking cannot be accomplished. Places like bars, that are not necessities but are desires and where masking cannot occur 100 percent of the time, should be avoided. Avoid unnecessary crowds, maintain six foot distancing, wear a mask when outside your home and around others, and use good hand hygiene. The best way to reverse the trend and #FlattenTheCurve is to #WearAMask and #StayHomeSaveLives," said Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins. All Dallas County COVID-19 Updates and Information: <https://www.dallascounty.org/covid-19/> The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends taking everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

1. Stay home when you are sick, except to seek medical care
2. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and help young children to do the same. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-base hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
5. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using regular household cleaning spray/wipes.
6. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands.

Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge
Clay.Jenkins@dallascounty.org 214-653-7949

Additional information | CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html | CDC Travel: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html | DSHS: <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/> | DCHHS: www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/2019-novel-coronavirus.php
Press Release : www.dallascounty.org/Assets/uploads/docs/covid-19/press-releases/june/062520-PressRelease-DallasCountyReports403AdditionalPositiveCOVID-19Cases.pdf

###

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

PRESS RELEASE



This is a friendly reminder that early voting for the Democratic Party Primary Runoff Election begins today **Monday, June 29, 2020**. To ensure that all Dallas County voters' health and safety are taken into consideration and to provide the best voting experience, the Dallas County Elections Department has implemented the following health and safety protocols for in-person voting.

- ❖ ***Maintain at least six feet separation.*** Practice social distancing from other individuals. Be aware of your distance and observe other individuals to ensure you are maintaining a six feet separation.
- ❖ ***Sanitize your hands before and after voting.*** All voters will be greeted at the Polling Location entrance and directed to our Sanitation Station. The Sanitation Stations will include:
 - ❖ Hands-Free Gel Dispenser, Sanitizer
 - ❖ Disinfectant Wipe Containers
 - ❖ Multifold Paper Towel Dispenser
 - ❖ Gallon Trash Can
- ❖ ***Wear a protective mask or face covering.*** Voters must wear their personal cloth face covering prior to entering the polling place. Voters should also be prepared to lower or remove their face covering if the election judge is not able to determine the identity of the voter.
- ❖ ***Voters should consider bringing their own marking instruments when voting.*** As a safety precaution we recommend voters bring their own marking instruments such as a pen, pencil, or stylus when casting their ballots on the electronic voting screen. If a voter does not have their own marking instrument, the voter will be assigned a stylus for use during the voting process.
- ❖ ***All voting equipment will be placed six feet apart.*** To ensure we are practicing and maintaining the 6 foot social distancing requirement, all voting equipment and stations will be placed six feet apart and disinfected before reuse. In addition, our check-in stations will be equipped with a protective shield to protect our voters and poll workers.

Early Voting Dates:

Monday, June 29, 2020 – Thursday, July 2, 2020 (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Sunday July 5, 2020 – Friday, July 10, 2020 (7:00 AM – 7:00 PM)

For more information on early voting and early voting by mail please visit dallascountygovotes.org or contact the Dallas County Elections Office at 214-819-6359.

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

CRUCIAL INFORMATION – KATHERINE SAVERS MCGOVERN

Editor: Katherine is a regular contributor to the GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE. This is a collection of pertinent posts.

PRIMARY ELECTION RUNOFF!!!

Don't let Governor Abbott's Covid-19 failures Steal Your Plan To Vote

▶ WEAR YOUR OWN MASK

▶ Social Distance Bring Your Own Sanitizer!

▶ If you have been exposed to someone diagnosed with Covid-19, [Request Curbside Voting](#)

Texas Covid Health Protocols:

“Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 Voters who exhibit any of the above-mentioned symptoms associated with COVID-19 when they arrive at a polling location may want to consider utilizing curbside voting, to the extent they meet the eligibility requirements, which is available at all polling locations. These voters should contact their county election office with questions about the curbside voting process in their county and the eligibility requirements.”

Election Information www.dallascountyvotes.org

EARLY VOTING STARTS TODAY!

JUNE 29 — JULY 2: 8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

JULY 5 — JULY 10: 7:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, JULY 14: 7:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m

6/24/2020

Governor Abbott's failure

Governor Abbott's failure to require all in person voters to wear face masks or facial coverings means that it's safer to go to a grocery store to buy milk than to go vote in person!

Apparently the Governor's lawyer(s) take the position that the Constitution or the Civil Rights Act giving people the right to vote (oddly in Texas it's only "absolute" for deciding not to wear masks), while ignoring the Constitutional authority given to each State to conduct an election. The TX Legislature has gone out of its way to inhibit voters ability to access and cast their votes.

The State of Texas has an ongoing Declaration of Public Health Disaster because of Coronavirus' infectious spread, contagiousness, absence of treatment and/or vaccine.

Among the restrictions on voters entering a poll location are: no firearms; no political signs, garments, hats; no cellphones; no smoking. If a voter wants to cast a vote in person, the individual has to comply. Who's fooling who when Governor Abbott refuses to require the Coronavirus safety that all persons voting in person wear a face mask or facial covering? 6/23/2020

<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/2020/06/24/gov-greg-abbott-says-texas-massive-covid-19-outbreak/>

Abbott Dumb not to Amend Election Advisory 2022-19

Abbott is smart to "pause" the re-opening but dumb to not amend Election Advisory 20202-19 to REQUIRE all voters entering a poll location to wear face mask or facial covering.

Why is it safer to buy milk in a grocery store than to go and vote? Is Abbott all about voter suppression or not?

The excuse that Texas can't require a voter to wear a face mask or facial covering because of the Constitution or the Voting Rights Act is false! Consider under Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution that States are given the responsibility to conduct elections in accordance with the federal laws and Constitution.

Using that authority, Texas precludes voters from: bringing guns, cell phones, cameras, tobacco/smoking, food, wearing campaign hats/shirts/buttons, to vote before 7:00 a.m. (or the State designated time to open a poll) or after 7:00 p.m. (or the State designated time to close a poll), and requires voters to be properly registered, to bring State approved voter IDs - any or all of which would deprive a voter of the right to cast his/her vote, should the voter not be in compliance.

If a person's "right" to vote were absolute, then the State could place no limitations or restrictions. We know that Texas has placed lots of limitations on a person, even when registered, being able to cast a vote!

Clearly when Texas has a Declaration of Public Health Disaster in place, and the medical/science data confirm that Covid-19 infections are rising, the Governor's abject failure to protect every voter's health by requiring the wearing of face mask or facial covering means that voters and election workers are at great risk for infection. 6/25/2020 <http://edition.pagesuite.com/infinity>

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

Steve Love Thread

Editor: Steve is a regular contributor to the Garland Democratic Voice. This is a collection of pertinent posts made by Steve.

On Law Enforcement

If we do not like the police being judge, jury, and executioner of INNOCENT people - what EVERYONE IS until determined otherwise by a jury of their peers — we need to take away the MEANS by which they can act in that fashion. We need to take away their guns.

We must remember, the police do not make the rule; the state legislature does, so they are the ones responsible. We need to ask WHY an arresting office needs a gun. Is it for self-defense? How does a gun in your holster stop a bullet shot FIRST?

All the gun says to a person dead set on acting violently is SHOOT FIRST! Is it to capture a fleeing suspect? It is not a lasso and the cop is not on horseback. So why do we justify the killing of an unarmed person, fleeing a scene, in order to apprehend them for possibly being guilty of a misdemeanor offense?

But how about cops being killed. Most police are killed when addressing a domestic dispute. How does having a gun on the hip help resolve a conflict between a wife and her husband?

Cutting to the chase: why do we not hire, equip, and train our police to be domestic mediators. With existing surveillance and smartphone cameras almost everywhere, it is hard to imagine many crimes being committed without multiple pictures being taken of the culprit.

Let them truly be those who PROTECT AND SERVE as third-party interventors in domestic conflicts and NOT the “law of the west.” Maybe, if police had fewer weapons ordinary citizens would feel they have less need to be armed. But don’t blame the cops. The legislature makes the rules governing policing. They are the ones to hold accountable for what has been happening to the black community. There is a place for armed law enforcement but EVERYDAY, EVERYWHERE? We have SWAT teams trained to intervene in cases where lethal force is required.

Let them do that job and let the cop on the beat be peacemakers. *June 6, 2020*

On Racism

The Atlanta Mayor said we needed to go home. That is the last thing we need to do unless we want to squander another chance to strike a blow to our institutional racism and the war of those with wealth on those with little or none.

We are in a war. In a war, there is a winner and a loser. This is a war, not of our making, but one declared fifty years ago by Louis Powell when he wrote his memorandum to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce warning them that they needed to take arms against the forces of communitarianism if they did not want to see their dominance of the levers of political power compromised by the ideas inscribing in the Preamble to the Constitution. As our first war and Civil war were between communitarian ideals and preserving an autocratic elite, so is the war on the streets today.

This is not just a war on racism, it is a war about the Constitution...whether the Constitution will be the instrument of moving us toward a more egalitarian society or the means to protect the entrenched 0.01 percent wealthy elite at the expense of everyone else.

In this war, it matters not the color of our skin; all that matters is where we are regarding the first words of our Constitution and whether they are our mission statement or puffery.

Comment: SL: Thanks for reminding us of what the Framers thought we should be about as a nation
6/16/2020

Accountability vs. Training?

Could it be that we are giving officers authority to carry the means to kill before they have proven themselves able to de-escalate instances of conflict rather than resort to deadly force, especially when minorities are involved. When I learned to fly, I was not allowed to take anyone with me until I had 100 hours solo. Maybe the police could learn something from this practice. *6/16/2020*

No Longer the Wild West

This is no longer the wild west. Our police are not engaged in reducing the threat of outlaw gangs riding into town. So why does every policeman need a gun? It sends the wrong message to those who carry them and to those interfacing with them. When engaged in a situation of conflict, one has no reason to invest in mediating intervention, if the freight of the gun on my hip says do what I say or I will shoot you. And those who are engaged in violating the law are more likely to arm themselves and shoot FIRST. In the case of coming into a crime in progress, and the only way to make an arrest of a person running from the scene, is a gun is of no use unless we can justify a capital punishment for a misdemeanor crime. By having a gun on the hip, we are signaling that the police can be your judge, jury and executioner! *6/6/2020*

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

PARTING THOUGHTS

NOW, NOT WHEN!

In this edition, we have concentrated on the COVID19 Pandemic, and the upcoming Election. June, 2020 has been an incredible month. D-Day Remembrances, Gen. Flynn's escape from justice, the dTrumpsters treasonous collusion with Russian by offering bounties on our American Soldiers in Afghanistan including his evil denial. The onslaught of the COVID19 virus, obscene denial of the dangers by the dTrumpsters and the collusion by the governor of Texas and his minions.

The murders of our African American citizens which brought Americans to the streets at the hands of racists and the evil ones in law enforcement is outrageous.

BLACK LIVES MATTER. Finally, there are some changes coming. Many areas have initiated changes to reduce police brutality and to bring more transparency. But change is coming too slowly. We cannot wait, the time is past due.

Personally, I have come to a new understanding of racism and the stain of white supremacy. When the four little girls were murdered in basement of the Montgomery Church, my young self was upset and got no answers from the adults around me. (and the rants of my male parental unit). When we visited Arkansas recently, I stood in front of Little Rock High School and remembered when students had to be escorted in to classes by the National Guard. Our shameful history of murders, lynching, guns and hateful violence is a yoke strangling us.

I am a native Michigander, born and raised in a community near Detroit. Racism was all around me. There are two predominantly African American communities located just south and east of Wayne. I well remember the cautions to avoid going to these cities. I well remember being told, "that I shouldn't allow that (black-man) doctor to examine or even want him to touch me."

When I returned to Detroit, crossing the Detroit River on the Ambassador Bridge, after spending the '67 summer as camp counselor near Brewster, New York, I drove through the area where the riots occurred at 2:00 a.m. I saw the results, the destruction, wondering why this was necessary. As I remember, I told my parents I had driven via Toledo, Ohio, thus avoiding Detroit.

BLACK LIVES MATTERS, of course. I have always believed all life matters. Recently, I talked to a friend (a retired teacher!) about this. I needed to understand. Through her wise counsel, I gained important understanding of **BLACK LIVES MATTER** and how important this movement is for me and for all Americans.

Each of us must embrace this as much as we embrace our Constitution. Only when we accomplish this will we be truly free.

May God bless America and help us to honor and live in the blessings of freedom and liberty for all.

Rachel Baker Ford, editor

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE BULLETIN BOARD

BIDEN PRESIDENT

- Raise the Minimum Wage to \$15/Hr
- 12 Weeks Federal Paid Family Leave
- Universal Pre-Kindergarten/Childcare for ages 3 and 4
- Tuition-Free College for those with household incomes up to \$125,000
- Allow Student Loans to be relieved in bankruptcy
- LGBTQ+ Equality Act in First 100 Days in Office
- 100% Clean Energy, Net-Zero Emissions by 2050
- Rejoin Paris Climate Accords
- Decriminalize Cannabis Use & Expunge Convictions
- Eliminate Cash Bail System
- Eliminate Mandatory Minimum Sentences
- Outlaw All Online Firearm & Ammunition Sales
- Restore the Voting Rights Act

BIDEN PRESIDENT

joebiden.com



THE COUNTRY IS
CRYING OUT FOR
LEADERSHIP.
LEADERSHIP THAT
CAN UNITE US.
LEADERSHIP THAT
CAN BRING US
TOGETHER.

BIDEN
PRESIDENT

Protect Yourself & Others from Coronavirus



When At Home



Wash your hands
for 20 seconds
with soap



Soap breaks
down the virus



Disinfect frequently
touched surfaces
and items

When In Public



Cover your mouth and
nose with a mask
or cloth covering



Keep 6 feet
of distance
from others



Don't shake hands
and avoid any
direct contact



Cough or sneeze
into the bend of your
elbow not your hand



Don't touch your face - no
nose or eyes - to avoid giving
a pathway to germs into your

STAY HOME. STOP THE SPREAD. SAVE LIVES
Stay up to date www.ny.gov/coronavirus



Victoria Neave
@Victoria4Texas

Our health is a gift.

Are you taking care of yourself by
wearing a mask, Amigos/ fellow
Texans?

#COVID19 #StayHealthy



Vote Safely!

- Wear A Mask
- Use Hand Sanitizer
- Vote Early
- Bring A Pencil With An Eraser

Advertising Rates

- Club Notices** (Meeting times and Date/Events)
Business card, camera ready copy .. \$10 per mo.
(3 months .. \$25 / 6 months \$40 / 12 months \$75)
- Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :
Business card size, camera ready copy .. \$25 per mo.
(3 months, same copy \$60)
- Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :
1/6th page size, camera ready copy\$40 per mo.
(3 months, same copy \$150)
- Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :
1/4th page size, camera ready copy ... \$50 per mo.
(3 months, same copy \$130)
- Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :
1/2th page size, camera ready copy\$60 per mo.
(3 months, same copy \$150)
- Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :
Whole page size, camera ready copy . \$100 per mo.
(3 months, same copy \$275)
Additional rates available upon request.
(Set up costs i.e. scanning, touch up, construction etc.)

Contact: Rachel Baker Ford, editor
MultiSMus@aol.com (972) 530-6484 / 214-773-4004
All copy is subject to editorial review. Prices subject to
change without notice.



GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NORTH TEXAS

Published by the Garland Democratic Voice, LLC.
Rachel Baker Ford, CEO, Publisher, and Editor.
Published at 3317 Knights Haven LN, Garland, TX 75044.
A monthly publication to be published during the third week of every
month and available online at
www.garlanddemocraticvoice.com.

Inquires can be made to Charles E. Ford, Jr.
chuckford76@yahoo.com (214)773-7591 or Rachel Baker Ford
(972)530-6484, (214)773-4004. MultiSMus@aol.com