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THE COUNTY CRIER



Wednesday
 September 27
 7:00 PM
 DINNER MEETING
 LEON'S FAMILY
 DINING
 MICHIGAN AVE.
 SOUTH OF
 TELEGRAPH

Changing Times

This has been a strange year. There are a million things going on but they all seem to be explained in 140 characters. There seem to be no peace in any part of the world. Hurricanes, floods, terrorists, threat of war, sanctions, illegal immigration, earthquakes and plenty of other kinds of trouble.

I am a firm believer in the first amendment. I have attended protests since I was a teenager. All of those protests have been orderly and non violent. Cheers, chanting loudly and carrying signs was as intense as it got. Some of these rallies and protests were attended by hundreds and a some by thousands.

I was always interested to hear the comments as we were leaving and the cleanup crew was arriving. They would say there was nothing to clean up except to dump the garbage cans. "this place is cleaner now than when they got here".

What protest has developed into is the intolerance of the opinions of others. The objective seems to be the silencing of others opinions and acceptance of tantrums and destruction of property some belonging to those people who have no knowledge of the issues. Some protesters are being paid and have no interest in the reason for the protest. Their sole purpose is to destroy property and injure the opposition.

Our universities are encouraging this. They are just starting to acknowledge their bias after incidences of violence when conservative speakers are cancelled due to their lack of effort to control the students that they have been encouraging.

The pressure from parents and financial contributors has to continue and increase to preserve the constitutional rights and freedom that public institutions should afford to those on the right and the left.

September 27

November 15

January 24

March 28

May 23

July 25

September 26
 20018

On the Web

A video of former US Rep. Chafetz concerning the criminal releases of illegal immigrants is on our homepage.
<http://www.wctaxpayers.org>
 The video was made in 2016 but the situation has not changed.

It would be worthwhile for you to watch it.
 In light of all the discussions going on about "sanctuary cities" and "sanctuary states" it might even be imperative if you are trying to make an informed decision .

Make It Unaffordable

One of the principles of good government is transparency. If the governed have no idea what their elected officials are doing in their name it will most likely not be representative government.

According to the Mackinac Center for Public Policy the State of Michigan has increased the cost under The Freedom of Information Act . Earlier this year the request for information cost \$96.00 for the salaries of school and state employees. Officials now insist that the cost will be \$3,800 to deliver the same records.

They insist the higher costs are necessary for quality assurance after errors showed up earlier this year. Excuse me but are we paying the employees of the State to enter incorrect information. What happened to checking your work?

Since taxpayers are already paying for the data entry they should not be charged for anything but the cost of

reproducing it. That cost should be minimal.

One of the ways to divert taxpayer scrutiny of government is to make the information cost prohibitive. After you receive the information you requested, if there is a problem the requestor will still be responsible for the court cost and legal fees necessary to correct any errors or any irregularities that may be involved.

Any costs for inaccuracies should be absorbed by the government and not by those requesting information.

Government employees should be able to do the job they are paid for or lose their job like others in the private sector. If they are that incompetent they should not be employed there.

Everyone makes mistakes but they should correct them and be held responsible. Taxpayers are tired of picking up the tab for the unaccountable.

Those who cry out that the government should 'do something' never even ask for data on what has actually happened when the government did something, compared to what actually happened when the government did nothing.

Thomas Sowell

Troubled Times

As I write this newsletter congress is considering sending a bill for a vote to repeal Obamacare to the floor once more. However, this bill does not even come close to repealing Obamacare. The only thing we can be sure of is that politicians will say anything and do anything to get elected.

Once again they appear to want to vote without knowing what is in the bill. Obviously that is the case or we would not have people arguing over its content.

I am not sure what path to take. Congress should make it clear before they vote. There are peoples life and health involved. What ever happens congress still gets a failing grade.

We should take names and hold those responsible for getting us in this position. Those who voted to repeal Obamacare when they new it could not pass and refused to follow through with a yes vote when it could, should be voted out of office . You can bet their integrity is faulty in other areas as well.

Detroit's #1 Soft Target, QLine Ridership Down 40%

Is anyone even surprised that the ridership on the Woodward QLine is down 40%? When the ride was free from opening day in May to Labor Day ridership built to around 5,000 daily but from Sept 5 –17 the numbers dropped to around 3,000 daily as they were expected to pay for their ride. Keep in mind if you ride in one direction you are counted again when you come back.

I am still uncertain about their reported numbers. They indicated that when the Ambassadors (security) are at the stations or on the QLine more people pay. What they don't know how any of the weekly, monthly or yearly tickets are working.

The tickets sell for \$1.50 for 3 hours, \$3.00 for a day pass \$30.00 for a month pass, and an annual pass good through December 31.

costs \$112.00. A full year of riding will cost you \$285.00 They use automated passenger counters and it uses body heat to help calculate the number of passengers. (What?)

I have no doubt that this will be another mistake that will be subsidized by the taxpayers. Personally, I think this was just another one of the many things that would not have been my priority given the condition of Detroit and the countless things that should have taken priority over this project.

This will subsidize the Little Caesar's Arena. That is another project we have already subsidized.

Remember that these are not only Detroit funds that built this system. Federal and State funds were the predominate funding. Let's hope that this will not be just another soft target for terrorists.

An Article 5 Convention.

An Article 5 convention has never been tested before. Many are confused about the effects such a convention would produce. The Constitution does not stipulate how delegates to this convention would be chosen.

The biggest argument is if the convention issues can be controlled. Can special interests take control and do damage to our present constitution. Some say that it would put all our rights on the chopping block. Others say that the likelihood of that happening is not a possibility since all changes would have to be ratified by all the states containing the same language.

Most people say that our Constitution is one of the finest documents ever written and was written by the finest statesmen who risked everything to allow future generations to live in a free country.

They indicate that the problem is with us and our willingness to hold our elected officials accountable. This is a very complicated issue with good points on both sides. This is not an issue to take lightly. We are within 7 states of getting this passed. Some of these votes were made years ago and remain on the books. We should get all the questions straightened out before we do anything.

**There are
many men of
principle in
both parties
in America,
but there is
no party of
principle.**

Alexis de Tocqueville

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Stamp

Dated Material

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

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Name _____

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**Dues \$20.00 Basic Family * \$35.00 Supporting Member * \$50.00 Benefactor Member
April Renewal**