

Eye on the World

Aug. 17, 2019

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of Aug. 17, 2019.

Compiled by Dave Haver

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Liz Ruskin titled "Russian Nuclear Power Plant Afloat in Arctic Causes Anxiety Across Bering Strait" was posted at alaskapublic.org on Aug. 8, 2019. Following is the article.

Russia has produced the world's first floating nuclear power plant. A barge mounted with nuclear reactors is expected to begin traversing the Arctic this month, bound for the Chukotka Peninsula. Across the Bering Strait, Alaskans are worried about radiation, though one Arctic security expert also sees room for optimism.

Russia hasn't been keeping this project a secret. Reporters have documented the fanfare, at the vessel's launch in St. Petersburg and its stop in Murmansk where it picked up nuclear fuel, along with a new paint job. It's now white, red and blue, the colors of the Russia flag.

Journalists have been allowed to tour the barge-mounted facilities, which include a sauna, a swimming pool and gym.

"Some facilities like the engine room, are fully automatic. It's been tested and it operates perfectly," chief construction officer Andrei Talus told Russia24, a state-owned TV network.

The 472-foot barge is called the Akademik Lomonosov. Environmental groups like Greenpeace call it "Chernobyl on Ice."

Each of its twin nuclear reactors is capable of powering a city roughly the size of Fairbanks. The government-owned nuclear power company Rosatom says the plan is to dock at the city of Pevek, in northeastern Siberia, and provide heat and power to the mining region.

At the launch event, chief engineer Viktor Yelagin told Russia24 reporters the design combines elements from the transport power units used in nuclear icebreakers, and the designs of stationary nuclear power plants. He said it has a state-of-the-art security system.

But many remember that Japan used to promise its Fukushima nuclear power plant was safe, too. Then a tsunami struck in 2011, causing meltdowns and radioactive emissions. Bering Sea villagers learned this spring that radiation was detected in sea water samples they collected.

"It's small. you know, not dangerous. But traceable to Fukushima," said Austin Ahmasuk, a marine advocate for Kawarek, the Native non-profit serving the Bering Straits area.

He said the nuclear barge feels like one more source of potential danger to track in a region that's warming at an alarming rate. He's especially worried about cumulative effects.

"Radiation effects. Environmental effects—we've been worried about for quite some time in this era of increased shipping, less sea ice," Ahmasuk said.

Bering Straits Native Corporation CEO Gail Schubert said the barge is a big worry for her.

"It's personally really concerning to me," she said at an Arctic conference in Washington, D.C. last month. "I appreciate that they want to bring power to some of their coastal villages in the Chukotka region. But I think that a lot of folks in my region are not excited about having a floating nuclear power plant brought into the region itself."

Russia's nuclear track record does not inspire a ton of confidence, said Rebecca Pincus, an Arctic security expert at the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island. There was the Chernobyl meltdown in 1986, of course, but a quick Google search reveals other worrying incidents, too.

"Mysterious cloud of radioactive particles detected above much of Europe in 2017," Pincus said, reading from her computer screen. "'Dramatic radiation surge. Denials at the time by Russian authorities.' Right?"

On the other hand, Pincus said there's reason to believe the Russians will do their best with the nuclear barge, because they have a lot of national pride on the line. Pincus said they strive to be the front-runner in Arctic development.

"The Russian authorities are developing the Arctic because it's of tremendous importance to them. And they recognize that it's happening in a fishbowl," she said. "You know, the world is watching what's going on in the Russian

Arctic. And so I think there is a tremendous amount of scrutiny and pressure to ensure that nothing goes wrong.”

And if it goes right?

Well, the Alaska delegation to Congress has for years explored the idea of small nuclear reactors for their own off-grid communities. Pincus said maybe one day Arctic Council countries will discuss ways to replicate Russia’s nuclear barge success story.

“This would be a perfect opportunity to say, ‘Hey ... we find what you are doing interesting. We would like to learn more,’ and try to make it sort of a positive avenue for information sharing,” she said.

The Akademik Lomonosov is expected to begin producing power for Chukotka in December.



An article by Catey Hill titled “Here Are the Countries With the Most U.S. Retirees Collecting Social Security” was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 10, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Though many retirees dream of warm beaches in far-flung locales, the reality is often much colder.

It’s humble Canada that takes the No. 1 spot on the list of the foreign countries where the most retired workers are collecting Social Security checks. That’s followed by Japan, Mexico, Germany and the U.K., according to government data.

To be sure, this is far from a perfect estimate of how many people are retired abroad in each country.

- Some Americans may be retired abroad and not collecting Social Security.
- Others may have their Social Security checks deposited in the U.S. but live abroad.
- Others may live abroad just part time.

By comparison, 43.7 million retired workers received Social Security benefits in the U.S. as of Dec. 2018.

Still, it’s interesting to note the trends here.

Labor economist Teresa Ghilarducci, an expert in retirement security and a professor of economics at *The New School for Social Research* says that people often retire where they have family ties, so the dominance of Canada and Mexico, for example, on the list make sense, as many Americans have family in both countries. (It also helps that both countries are close by, which makes returning to the states easier.)

Family ties may also help explain countries like Poland and Italy on the list, she adds.

“The numbers lean toward places where the U.S. has a strong military presence,” says Jennifer Stevens, executive editor at International Living, which helps explain why Japan and Germany are so high on the list.

Whatever the reasons, Ghilarducci notes that few Americans end up retiring abroad—government data shows a total of roughly 413,000 retired workers getting their Social Security benefits abroad out of the tens of millions who receive these benefits—likely for a few big reasons.

- Inertia.
- Family ties in the U.S.
- Medicare.

Indeed, Medicare mostly only covers health services you get in the U.S. Move to another country and you’ll likely have to pay for health insurance there.

Still, many dream of retiring abroad. If you’re in that boat, there are a number of factors to consider, says Cynthia Staton, who with her husband Edd, runs a website that helps people retire abroad. (The couple are themselves retired in Ecuador.)

“While the desire for a lower cost of living is a top priority for many people considering retirement abroad, it is important to think about everything you desire in your new home abroad,” she says.

Among the questions he suggests you ask yourself include the following.

- What is your ideal weather?
- How close do you want to be to your family?
- What level of health care do you require?
- Do you want to live in a city, a town, or off the grid? In the mountains, at the beach, or by a lake?
- Conversely, what are your deal breakers? Do you need a specific medication? Are there mobility issues?

It’s also important to visit the place you want to move often, or even temporarily live there to test it out.

“Don’t make the mistake of superficially choosing a place that reminds you of where you like to vacation. You go on vacation to get away from daily life, not for it to become your 24/7/365,” she concludes.

Here is a list of countries where American retirees collect Social Security checks.

1. Canada—69,942
2. Japan—45,336

3. Mexico—29,553
4. Germany—24,922
5. U.K.—23,936
6. Philippines—19,238
7. Italy—17,435
8. Poland—17,082
9. Greece—14,409
10. Australia—10,740
11. France—10,344
12. Portugal—9,319
13. Israel—8,125
14. Spain—7,667
15. Colombia—7,365
16. Ireland—6,881
17. Thailand—5,248
18. Switzerland—5,074
19. Dominican Republic—4,986
20. Sweden—4,305
21. Norway—4,010
22. Netherlands—3,909
23. South Korea—3,762
24. Ecuador—3,141
25. Panama—2,211
26. Argentina—2,206
27. Costa Rica—2,203
28. India—2,033
29. Austria—2,008
30. Chile and Easter Island—1,839
31. Hong Kong—1,829
32. Taiwan—1,802
33. New Zealand—1,739



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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- An article by Hamza Mekouar titled “More Than Two Million Muslims on Hajj Pilgrimage” was posted at afp.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
 - An article titled “Muslims Clash With Israeli Police at Jerusalem Holy Site [Which the Muslims Call the Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Jews Call the Temple Mount]” was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
 - An article by Raf Sanchez titled “Netanyahu Bars Democrat Congresswomen Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib From Entering Israel” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Aug. 15, 2019.
 - An article titled “Trump Defends Israel Move to Bar 2 Congresswomen [Rashida Tlaib of Michigan and Ilhan Omar of Minnesota]” was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2019.
 - Looking back to July, an article by Alan Boyle titled “Archaeologists Confirm Contested Tale of the Crusades, 920 Years After Battle” was posted at geekwire.com on July 15, 2019.
 - An article by Alan Boyle titled “Archaeological Dig in Jerusalem Unearths Evidence of Biblical Babylonian Conquest” was posted at geekwire.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
 - An article titled “Israel Navy Seeks to Raise Profile With Multi-National Drill” was posted at afp.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
 - An article by Archana Chaudhary and Sarah Jacob titled “Pakistan Suspends Trade With India, Downgrades Diplomatic Ties” was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 8, 2019.
 - An article titled “Strict Curfew Eased in Kashmir, Tensions High” was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
 - An article titled “India Warns China to Stay Out of Kashmir Dispute As Crisis Intensifies” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Aug. 12, 2019.
 - An article titled “Pakistan Vows to Respond to Any Indian Aggression in Kashmir” was posted at afp.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
 - An article by Iain Marlow titled “China Refuses to Allow U.S. Warships to Make Port Calls in Hong Kong” was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
 - A Reuters article titled “Taiwan Sharply Boosts Defense Budget Amid China Tension” was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 15, 2019.
 - An article by Peter Millard and Fabiola Zerpa titled “China Comes to the Rescue of Venezuela’s Run-Down Oil Refineries” was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 7, 2019.

- An article by Natasha Doff titled "Russia to Leapfrog Saudi in Wealth League As Oil Power Shifts" was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Giff Johnson titled "WWII Pacific Battlegrounds [Palua, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands] Now Site of US-China Tug of War" was posted at afp.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled "Germany Must Up Defense Spending, Relying on U.S. 'Offensive'—U.S. Envoy" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Andy Wells titled "Top Tory Admits Government Continually Lied About No-Deal Brexit Preparations" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- A Reuters article by David Ljunggren and Steve Scherer titled "Canada's Trudeau Accepts He Breached Ethics Rules, Refuses to Apologize" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- An article titled "Trump Threatens Retaliation Against Countries That Issue Travel Warnings Against the US" was posted at usatoday.com on Aug. 9, 2019.



An article titled "The World's Wealthiest Family Gets' \$4 Million Richer Every Hour" was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 10, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

The numbers are mind-boggling: \$70,000 per minute, \$4 million per hour, \$100 million per day.

That's how quickly the fortune of the Waltons, the clan behind Walmart Inc., has been growing since last year's Bloomberg ranking of the world's richest families.

At that rate, their wealth would've expanded about \$23,000 since you began reading this. A new Walmart associate in the U.S. would've made about 6 cents in that time, on the way to an \$11 hourly minimum.

Even in this era of extreme wealth and brutal inequality, the contrast is jarring. The heirs of Sam Walton, Walmart's notoriously frugal founder, are amassing wealth on a near-unprecedented scale—and they're hardly alone.

- The Walton fortune has swelled by \$39 billion, to \$191 billion, since topping the June 2018 ranking of the world's richest families.

Other American dynasties are close behind in terms of the assets they've accrued.

- The Mars family, of candy fame, added \$37 billion, bringing its fortune to \$127 billion.
- The Kochs, the industrialists-cum-political-power-players, tacked on \$26 billion, to \$125 billion.



An article by Neve Gotshalk titled “The Restaurant Chains That Have Closed the Most Locations This Year” was posted at moneywise.com on Aug. 10, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Chains shut down restaurants for all sorts of reasons.

The market may be glutted. The location may not be so great. The chain itself may be going downhill because of changing consumer tastes.

Get a box of tissues, and brace yourself for the countdown. These 20 popular chains are closing the most restaurants in 2019.

20. Luby’s

■ 2019 closings—4

Luby’s operates all but one of its cafeteria-style restaurants in Texas, where the chain is as much a part of the landscape as tumbleweeds, armadillos and H-E-B supermarkets.

Luby’s has been in a slump. In the most recent quarter, sales were down 3.1% at its cafeterias open at least a year, and 1.2% fewer customers were coming through the doors.

In hopes of turning things around, the chain has been shutting down its most troubled locations. There were 84 Luby’s in late 2018, but now there are 80.

19. TGI Fridays

■ 2019 closings—5

Older sit-down restaurant chains like TGI Fridays are being squeezed by America’s generational and economic divides.

They’re failing to catch on with younger diners, who prefer fresher and more innovative foods. The casual-dining restaurants also are getting caught in the middle as Americans gravitate to either higher-end establishments or fast-food joints.

In response to these trends, TGI Fridays has been retooling its menu as part of an effort to return to its singles-bar roots.

But some of its locations aren’t making it. This year’s closings include the last TGI Fridays on New York City’s Staten Island, and the only one in Florida’s capital, Tallahassee. In 2018, Washington, D.C., lost its only TGI Fridays.

18. Taco Bell

■ 2019 closings—6

The chain whose Cravings Value Menu goes easy on family bank accounts has closed at least a half-dozen locations this year, including four in Maine, one in Pennsylvania and one in Arkansas.

That will hardly make a dent in the Taco Bell empire, but tell that to the customer who lives near one of those spots and now has to travel farther to satisfy a chalupa craving.

Taco Bell has traditionally been the cash cow of Yum! Brands, which also owns KFC and Pizza Hut. It's investing more in international expansion and will even experiment with a Taco Bell pop-up hotel in Palm Springs, California, this summer.

17. McCormick & Schmick's

■ 2019 closings—6

The upscale McCormick & Schmick's seafood-and-steaks restaurants have been doing a slow fade since the chain was purchased in 2012 by Landry's, the owner of Bubba Gump Shrimp Company, Rainforest Cafe, Morton's The Steakhouse and other dining brands.

At the time of the sale, there were 85 M&S locations in the U.S. Today, the website lists only three dozen.

That's after at least six closings in 2019. The restaurants have gone out of business in cities including St. Louis; Denver; and Providence, Rhode Island, according to local media reports.

Yes, there really was a (Bill) McCormick and a (Doug) Schmick. They launched their chain in Portland, Oregon, in 1979.

16. Roy Rogers

■ 2019 closings—7

The biggest challenge for this chain might be acquainting younger generations with its namesake. In the 1940s and '50s, the King of the Cowboys appeared in more than 100 films and had his own TV show with his wife, Dale Evans, and his legendary horse, Trigger.

Rogers' signature song, "Happy Trails," is still sung at last call in some bars.

The Western-themed fast-food restaurants are known for breakfast platters, hamburgers, fried chicken and an extensive "fixin's bar." There were once more than 600 locations, but now fewer than 50 remain.

By our count, seven locations have been shuttered in recent months, including two of the eight Roy's in New Jersey.

15. Perkins

■ 2019 closings—10

A couple of former Alaska gold prospectors started Perkins in Cincinnati in the late 1950s. They had far more success with restaurants than they ever did with precious metals.

Customers raved about their buttermilk pancakes, and within a few short years they were franchising their concept, originally called Perkins Pancake House.

By the 2010s, the company was facing a tall stack of financial trouble. It filed for bankruptcy in 2011, and again this year. The chain has weathered several rounds of closings, which often have come with no warning.

Perkins currently has more than 340 locations in 32 states and Canada. In 2005, there were nearly 500.

14. Red Robin

■ 2019 closings—10

Kid-friendly Red Robin, which was founded 50 years ago in Seattle, isn't going to be flying quite so high.

The company says one reason for its recent decision to shut down 10 of its restaurants is the hard times at U.S. shopping malls. Seven of the 10 are located within malls.

In a news release, Red Robin says it hopes shutting down some money-losing restaurants will "drive improved profitability."

Sales and customer numbers have been declining at Red Robin, and the Burger Works fast-food chain that the company attempted a few years ago was just one more fast-food blunder. It didn't last long.

13. Fuddruckers

■ 2019 closings—11

You think this burger chain has an odd name now? The original name was even stranger: Freddie Fuddruckers. Who is not and never was a real person.

The business was founded by a guy named Philip J. Romano, who would eventually put his own name on a restaurant chain, Romano's Macaroni Grill.

But, back to Romano's earlier creation, Fuddruckers, which boasts that its juicy hamburgers are "the world's greatest." The brand is now owned by the Luby's cafeteria people, and they've been closing their company-owned Fuddruckers locations.

The chain's website shows there are now more than 150 Fuddruckers around the world. Most are franchised, but 49 are owned by Luby's—and that number is down from 60 in late 2018.

12. O'Charley's

■ 2019 closings—14

O'Charley's fans are finding they have fewer places to enjoy "free pie Wednesdays" and all-you-can-eat-catfish Thursdays.

This Southern-flavored sit-down restaurant chain that got its start in Nashville, Tennessee, in 1971 has been quietly trimming its roster of more than 200 locations in 17 states.

Eight O'Charley's shut down over the last weekend in June, says Nation's Restaurant News. Local news reports have indicated that at least six others closed earlier in the year, including an Orlando, Florida, restaurant near the Universal theme parks.

Business has been down at O'Charley's, but executives told Wall Street analysts on a conference call in early May that they're seeing signs of improvement.

11. Ruby Tuesday

■ 2019 closings—18

Restaurant companies can be notoriously tight-lipped about closings, so sometimes it's just a matter of doing the math. The location count for Ruby Tuesday is steadily shrinking.

According to local media reports, the lovable casual dining chain with the Endless Garden salad bar has shut down at least 18 of its restaurants this year. That's after turning out the lights at 51 locations in 2018.

Recent closings in Maryland, New York, Tennessee, Alabama, Missouri and Pennsylvania are typical. A simple sign appears on the door apologizing for the inconvenience.

Founded in 1972, Ruby Tuesday was a pioneer of fresh ingredients and hand-crafted cocktails. The very first one was a tiny hangout near the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

10. Marie Callender's

■ 2019 closings—19

The Marie Callender's name may make you think of chicken pot pies and banana cream pies in the frozen food aisle. There was a real Marie Callender, and she started out making dessert pies in her modest Orange County, California, home in the 1940s.

By the 1950s, she was baking up to 200 a day for restaurants in the area, and it wasn't long before the family decided to open its own restaurants to showcase Marie's pies.

The chain is now co-owned with the Perkins restaurants—and business has crumbling. The company has filed for bankruptcy and is looking for a buyer for the Marie Callender's locations.

Not long ago there were more than 50 in the western U.S., but the number has dwindled to two just dozen. At least fans still have the frozen pies when they need a Marie's fix.

9. Kona Grill

■ 2019 closings—19

When it opened in 1998, Kona Grill was unique in many ways. Its 40 sauces, made from scratch, introduced global flavors that elevated ordinary stir-fry and sushi.

The chain recently filed for bankruptcy, closed 19 locations and began looking for a buyer.

Kona Grills are beautiful restaurants, but they cost around \$4 million to build. A former CEO with the company tells Restaurant Business the leadership was over ambitious with expansion plans.

When sales started to drop off in 2015, Kona panicked and cut back on culinary innovation, management, support staff and employee training. All of this had a negative impact on the guest experience.

8. Applebee's

■ 2019 closings—20 or more

Owner Dine Brands admits that this neighborhood bar and grill is a little behind the times. So, the company has been doing a lot of pruning.

In 2018, the number of Applebee's dropped by 90 (from 1,936 to 1,846, according to reports). The plan for 2019 is to cut at least another 20 locations.

The idea is not to kill off Applebee's entirely but to fine-tune it. There will be greater focus on off-premises catering, takeout and delivery services. The leadership also is tinkering with healthier menu items and more ethnic food choices.

Atlanta-born Applebee's first opened in 1980.

7. Friendly's

■ 2019 closings—23

This chain traces its roots to an ice cream shop called Friendly that opened in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1935. A hamburger was added to the menu five years later, and a family-friendly restaurant was born.

At one time there were more than 500 Friendly's locations, but by the start of 2019 just 200 remained. In April, CEO George Mitchell announced the closing of 23 stores in the Northeast.

A lot of folks will miss those Fribble milkshakes and heartwarming SuperMelts.

Mitchell told shareholders that the decision would "best position the brand for a bright future." Sales at Friendly's sank 11% last year, Restaurant Business reports.

6. Boston Market

■ 2019 closings—45

Boston Market this year has closed about 10% of its more than 450 rotisserie chicken restaurants—including the last two in Boston, the city that gave the chain its name.

The company started out in 1985 as "Boston Chicken" in suburban Newton. It's now headquartered in Colorado.

In a letter to employees, CEO Frances Allen pinned the closings on “increased competition, shifting consumer preferences, and rising costs on everything from goods and labor to real estate and utilities.”

Boston Market has been through tough times before. In 1998, it filed for bankruptcy, and two years later the company got taken over by—surprisingly enough—McDonald’s. The fast-food giant flew the coop in 2007 when it sold the chicken chain.

5. Steak ‘n Shake

■ 2019 closings—106

Launched in Illinois in 1934, this brand was built on handcrafting cuts of steak to make better burgers. Steak ‘n Shake says each year it serves 110 million “steakburgers” and 60 million milkshakes.

The Indianapolis-based chain has been shutting down restaurants in waves throughout 2019. Executives say 103 of the closings are just “temporary” and that most of those Steak ‘n Shakes will reopen under new franchisees, the Indianapolis Business Journal reports.

But that’s an unusual move. Once a restaurant is closed, it’s difficult to make a comeback in the same location.

The company has been plagued by a drop in customer visits and rising costs. Things have gotten so bad that CEO Sardar Biglari floated the idea of cutting the milkshakes’ signature cherries to save \$1 million a year.

4. Starbucks

■ 2019 closings—150

Your favorite Starbucks could disappear this year—but at least you’ll have close to 30,000 others worldwide to choose from.

The coffee colossus is planning to close 150 of its shops in 2019. Most are in large cities that have numerous Starbucks locations, so you may just have to go just a little out of your way for a Frappuccino fix.

The stores being targeted have been performing poorly, which CEO Kevin Johnson says is unacceptable.

Also in 2019, Johnson wants Starbucks to do a better job of anticipating the ever-changing needs and preferences of its customers. The company is focusing on healthier options and promoting its app to boost sales.

3. Burger King

■ 2019 closings—Up to 250

The home of the Whopper has been closing at least 100 restaurants per year, but more than double that number could leave the king’s realm in 2019.

Lagging locations are on the chopping block to make way for the “Burger King of Tomorrow”: new BKs incorporating cutting-edge technology such as self-order kiosks inside and digital menu boards at the drive-through.

Each new restaurant is expected to do about \$500,000 more business than the old ones being shut down.

Burger King—called “Insta-Burger King” when it was founded in Florida in 1953—says it serves 11 million fans around the world every day.

2. Pizza Hut

2019 closings: About 450

Older generations may have gone to Pizza Hut on first dates, or may have fond memories of hitting the Hut with the team to celebrate a big win with personal pan pizzas, breadsticks and pitchers of Pepsi.

Soon, the experience of having a meal at Pizza Hut will be nothing but a memory—because the chain is getting out of the sit-down restaurant business. It’s becoming a strictly carryout and delivery pizza chain, like Domino’s and Papa John’s.

As part of the transition, the number of Pizza Hut locations will fall from around 7,450 to about 7,000, executives told analysts on a conference call.

People who grew up eating at Pizza Hut took to Twitter in mourning. Model Chrissy Teigen reacted by cursing, followed by: “I love them because I like to see my toppings on top of the cheese. Long live the hut.”

1. Subway

■ 2019 closings—More than 1,100?

Despite its “Eat Fresh” campaign, Subway apparently isn’t quite fresh enough for increasingly health-conscious consumers.

In 2016, the sandwich chain closed more U.S. locations (359) than it opened. It continued to struggle in 2017, and shut down 866 shops. That ballooned to more than 1,100 in 2018, and there appears to be no end in sight.

With the numbers rising every year, will Subway’s 2019 closings top 1,100?

The company’s website shows that Subway still has more than 24,000 restaurants in the U.S. and close to 18,000 international locations. Its efforts to woo back customers include rolling out kiosk ordering and more comfortable seating.



An article by Walter Williams titled “How Important Is Today’s Racial Discrimination?” was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Aug. 14, 2019. Following is the article.

There is discrimination of all sorts, and that includes racial discrimination. Thus, it's somewhat foolhardy to debate the existence of racial discrimination yesteryear or today.

From a policy point of view, a far more useful question to ask is: How much of the plight of many blacks can be explained by current racial discrimination?

Let's examine some of today's most devastating problems of many black people with an eye toward addressing discrimination of the past and present.

At the root of most of the problems black people face is the breakdown of the family structure. Slightly over 70% of black children are raised in female-headed households. According to statistics about fatherless homes, 90% of homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes; 71% of pregnant teenagers lack a father figure; 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes; 71% of high school dropouts come from fatherless homes; and 70% of juveniles in state-operated institutions have no father. Furthermore, fatherless boys and girls are twice as likely to drop out of high school and twice as likely to end up in jail.

One might say, "Williams, one cannot ignore the legacy of slavery and the gross racism and denial of civil rights in yesteryear!"

Let's look at whether black fatherless homes are a result of a "legacy of slavery" and racial discrimination. In the late 1800s, depending on the city, 70% to 80% of black households were two-parent.

Dr. Thomas Sowell has argued, "The black family, which had survived centuries of slavery and discrimination, began rapidly disintegrating in the liberal welfare state that subsidized unwed pregnancy and changed welfare from an emergency rescue to a way of life."

As late as 1950, only 18% of black households were single parent.

From 1890 to 1940, a slightly higher percentage of black adults had married than white adults.

In 1938, black illegitimacy was about 11% instead of today's 75%.

In 1925, 85% of black households in New York City were two-parent.

Today, the black family is a mere shadow of its past.

Let's ask a couple of questions about crime and education and racial discrimination.

It turns out that each year more than 7,000 blacks are victims of homicide. That's slightly over 50% of U.S. homicide victims. Ninety-four percent of the time, the perpetrator is another black person. Along with being most of the nation's homicide victims, blacks are most of the victims of violent personal crimes such as assault and robbery. At many predominantly black schools, chaos is the order of the day. There is a high rate of assaults on students and teachers. Youngsters who are hostile to the educational process are permit-

ted to make education impossible for those who are prepared to learn. As a result, overall black educational achievement is a disaster.

Here are my questions to those who blame racial discrimination for the problems of black people.

- Is it necessary for us to await some kind of moral rejuvenation among white people before measures can be taken to end or at least reduce the kind of behavior that spells socioeconomic disaster in so many black communities?
- Is it a requirement that we await moral rejuvenation among white people before we stop permitting some black youngsters from making education impossible for other black youngsters?

Blacks were not the only people discriminated against in America. While Jews and Asians were not enslaved, they encountered gross discrimination. Nonetheless, neither Jews nor Asians felt that they had to await the end of discrimination before they took measures to gain upward mobility.

Intellectuals and political hustlers who blame the plight of so many blacks on poverty, racial discrimination and the "legacy of slavery" are complicit in the socioeconomic and moral decay.

Black people must ignore the liberal agenda that suggests that we must await government money before measures can be taken to improve the tragic living conditions in so many of our urban communities.

Black and white intellectuals and politicians suggesting that black people await government solutions wouldn't begin to live in the same high-crime, dangerous communities and send their children to the dangerous schools that so many black children attend.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled "Open Borders Inc: Who's Funding the Wicked War on ICE?" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2019. Following is the article.

All the gun control zealots out in full force last week have apparently gone to the beach. An alarming shooting took place at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement offices in San Antonio on Tuesday. Local media reported that "multiple shots were fired on two floors targeting ICE officials." But the Second Amendment saboteurs were AWOL.

Hello? Hello? Anybody home?

Federal government workers are under literal fire for enforcing our immigration laws and protecting America. But the left-wing Moms Demand Action ignored the story. So did the anti-gun Brady Campaign agitators. And the usual stampede of

camera-hogging Democratic presidential candidates lost their unquenchable thirst for the spotlight to blame “hate speech” for inducing violence.

The vacuum is bipartisan. With few exceptions, Beltway Republicans have also lost their tongues when they should be relentlessly smashing the open borders wall of silence about this escalating anti-ICE terror campaign.

The San Antonio attack comes just one month after an antifa extremist ambushed an ICE detention facility in Tacoma, Washington, armed with a rifle and incendiary devices. The vengeful antifa gunman had assaulted a police officer last year at the same location, received a wrist slap, and then published a manifesto that declared: “I strongly encourage comrades and incoming comrades to arm themselves.”

The Tacoma terrorist had also invoked the incendiary ICE-bashing rhetoric of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

Her diatribes on ICE centers as “concentration camps” were, in turn, borrowed from and amplified by rent-a-mobsters who demonized Homeland Security employees at a string of summer demonstrations against ICE facilities the past two years—from the lawless hellhole of Portland to the D.C. swamp to the Big Apple criminal sanctuary to my adopted home state of Colorado, where the American flag was ripped from its post and replaced with the Mexican flag by still-unidentified vandals on the loose.

The same hysterical demagogues who are blaming me for the El Paso shooting because my first book on immigration in 2002 was titled “Invasion” are silent about the climate of hate wrought by:

- *The New York Times* op-ed page’s brazen call to target ICE and Border Patrol agents and their families.
- WikiLeaks’ “ICE Patrol” personal information and location database targeting more than 9,000 ICE employees, from auditors to young research assistants and interns, electricians, IT analysts, field intelligence officers, translators, anti-terrorism experts and detention and deportation agents.
- Twitter’s publication of bloody hate speech by antifa and Abolish ICE thugs, including Occupy Wall Street’s graphic cartoon advising followers on how to stab an ICE agent in the chest “and pull out his still beating heart.”

Who’s funding the wicked war on ICE?

For starters, open borders billionaire George Soros’ Open Society Foundations, his son Alex’s Jewish social justice nonprofit Bend the Arc, Soros-backed CREDO Action, and the Soros-funded Center for Popular Democracy, United We Dream and Make the Road New York have all subsidized and stoked hatred of ICE and the Border Patrol.

This is not anti-Semitism, white nationalism or white supremacy. It’s fact.

And it's not a conspiracy "theory" that Soros' money has fueled dangerous immigration anarchy. It's conspiracy truth.

Even more shocking is how much of the toxic propaganda undermining the men and women on our Homeland Security frontlines is being underwritten by unsuspecting taxpayers, churchgoers and consumers.

In the coming weeks, I will be exposing the global financiers and government programs promoting the campaign to "melt ICE," turn the Border Patrol into the "diaper patrol," open the floodgates to every last unvetted Muslim refugee and unassimilated, low-wage Central American laborer, and erase the America my legal immigrant parents taught me to cherish.

My seventh book, "Open Borders, Inc.: Who's Funding America's Destruction," will be released on Sept. 10, 2019. I've compiled nearly 500 pages and 12 appendices and maps tracing tens of billions of dollars spent or received by 400+ nonprofits, religious charities, legal organizations, political lobbying groups, businesses and government contractors, backed up by 1,600-plus footnotes to educate my fellow citizens.

Border security and restored sovereignty start with defunding the funders of America's destruction, and then prosecuting them as criminal open borders racketeers.

Follow the money; find the truth.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "The Real Problem With Democrats" was posted at patriotpost.us on August 10, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

We all know who the worst villains in Washington, D.C. are. We hear their voices in our nightmares. We know their names better than we know the names of our neighbors.

Whenever we consider what's wrong with our country—whether it's open borders; the sacred status of illegal aliens and welfare recipients; our perverted education system; Antifa; sanctuary cities and states; federal judges who mistake their robes for those of God; federal bureaucrats who believe that undermining a presidential election, so long as it's a president they voted against, is an act of patriotism—we think of people named Chuck Schumer, Nancy Pelosi, Eric Swalwell, Adam Schiff, Ilhan Omar, Jerry Nadler, Elijah Cummings, Hillary Clinton, John Brennan, Barack Obama, Michael Hayden, Mazie Hirono, Richard Blumenthal, Rashida Tlaib, James Clapper, Andrew McCabe, Al Green, Donna Brazile, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Bernie Sanders, Kamala Harris, Dianne Feinstein, etc., etc., ad nauseum.

But they are only the public faces of the problem, just as Robert Mueller was the great stone face of the three-year witch hunt, a convenient Trojan Horse who mere-

ly provided cover for the actual villains, a coven of traitors that included Andrew Weissman, Rod Rosenstein, James Comey, Bruce Ohr, Peter Strzok, Lisa Page, Andrew McCabe, John Brennan, Christopher Steele and the gang at Fusion GPS.

■ Mindless voters

The actual swine in this particular sty are the mindless voters who gave these degenerate idiots power and then ignored the endless number of ways in which they misused it.

■ Judge Bertelsman

Nobody should have been surprised when a federal judge tossed out a lawsuit filed by the parents of the Covington High School student Nick Sandmann who sought \$250 million in damages from *the Washington Post* for defaming their son.

The reason I wasn't surprised is because Judge William Bertelsman, 83, was appointed by Jimmy Carter.

According to Bertelsman, the newspaper had the right to publish the subjective opinion of Native American Nathan Phillips whose statements portrayed the patriotic Catholic teenager as a smug, mean-spirited racist.

The judge granted that the Post used language that was "loose," "figurative" and "hyperbolic," but that it was protected by the First Amendment.

I'm hardly a legal scholar, but does that mean that I can call Bertelsman an addle headed schmuck who has remained on the bench long after his recommended shelf life has expired, and that instead of a seat on the bench, he should be sharing a room with Robert Mueller at a nursing home for feeble-minded elitists, he can't sue me so long as I attribute the statement to someone else? Fair enough. I heard it from my dog.

■ \$2.5 billion for his wall

Lest I get totally carried away with judge-bashing, I should acknowledge that the Supreme Court recently ruled that President Trump had the constitutional authority to use \$2.5 billion of Pentagon funds to help build his wall.

■ Google whistle blower

Google software engineer Greg Coppola courageously stepped forward to blow the whistle on the firm. Actually, he only confirmed what smart people already knew, but that left-wing voters refuse to acknowledge for obvious reasons; namely, that Silicon Valley search engines do not have the objective neutrality of machines.

They are programmed to do exactly what the tech billionaires and their liberal technicians want them to do, which is to skew the algorithms so that the results are as crooked as loaded dice or a rigged roulette wheel.

■ Democrats reject voter IDs

The Democrats pretend to worry about Russia befouling our elections, but it is they, in concert, with the likes of Jeff Bezos, Mark Zuckerberg and the liars in the media who insist that photo IDs would disenfranchise millions of minority voters that are real reason that American democracy is being transformed from a reality to a rumor.

■ Betsy Ross sneaker

I confess that when there was the huge brouhaha over Nike's canceling what was to be called the Betsy Ross sneaker because its back carried a rendition of the 13-star flag she had famously sewn, I paid all my attention to the villains of the piece, Nike and Colin Kaepernick, and nothing to the heroine.

The truth is I knew nothing about Betsy Ross until Jan Hooper filled me in.

Apparently, Betsy was a Quaker. When she married a man her family disapproved of, they disowned her. So she learned to be an upholsterer and she and her husband started a business.

But when the Revolution broke out, her husband joined up and died in battle.

She stayed in business by making regimental flags and then married a second time. But bad luck continued to hound her; this husband also died while fighting the British.

She kept sewing away, even when the Redcoats commandeered her home.

This was a woman who lost two husbands but kept working and raised her children to be patriotic Americans.

She never owned slaves, so the fact that Kaepernick was personally offended by an image of her flag and that Nike caved to his demands strongly suggests that neither the company nor the ex-football player really cares about slavery. That's merely a smoke screen for their actual motives.

They just don't like this country, which makes me wonder about the folks who, with a thousand other brands to choose from, continue buying Nikes.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "The New Improved Kryptonite" was posted at patriotpost.us on August 12, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

As we all know, in spite of being able to leap over tall buildings and fly faster than a speeding bullet, the one thing that could disable Superman was a green mineral from his home planet of Krypton.

It was his Achilles' heel. In the wrong hands, usually those belonging to Lex Luthor, just being near the stuff could bring the super hero to his knees.

■ The race card

These days, the Democrats have come up with their own version of the toxic material, and fortunately for them, it is not in short supply. In fact, the more they use it, the more they have to use. I refer to the race card. All a Democrat has to do is call a Republican a racist, and the spineless creature will immediately assume the fetal position and begin whimpering like a lost kitten.

What makes it all the more pathetic is that the Liberals are always rushing to the defense of actual racists, white-baiting weasels like Kamala Harris, Elijah Cummings, Ilhan Omar, Cory Booker, Al Sharpton and Maxine Waters.

The major target of the attacks is, of course, Donald Trump. If the President doesn't hear himself called a racist a dozen times before noon by Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer or one of the morons at CNN and MSNBC, he probably wonders if he's gone deaf.

■ Anti-Semitic shrews

If the Liberals want to claim the moral high ground, wouldn't you think they'd censure the anti-Semitic shrews in the party, Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib, and investigate Elijah Cummings' wife, Maya Rockeymoore? It seems she runs a family charity that just happened to vacuum up over \$6 million in the last couple of years from such generous entities as Google, Prudential and J.P. Morgan, all companies that have business before the House committee her husband chairs.

Sounds a lot like the Clinton Foundation, doesn't it?

But of course to even question what Mrs. Cummings does with the money or what motivated these outfits to make such generous donations when they could have sent those checks to the Salvation Army, and not set off any alarm bells, would be condemned as racist in certain quarters.

■ Their hunger for power

I think sometimes we Conservatives waste a lot of time trying to educate Liberals. We seem to assume they say the preposterous things they do because they don't know any better when, in fact, everything they say and do is motivated by their hunger for power.

■ They know better

For instance, they know that gun-free zones are dangerous for that very reason. They're quite aware that such places as schools, movie theaters and fair grounds like the one in Gilroy, California, where a 19-year-old creep recently killed three people and injured several others, act as magnets for criminals, terrorists and loons, because they know they can murder with impunity.

But that's exactly what Liberals feed off. They will pretend they are shocked and that they mourn the loss of lives. But the truth is that if every so often they didn't have a massacre, their campaign to disarm us all would run out of steam.

They know as well as anyone that most murders in this country are committed by black and Latino gangbangers, not by white dues-paying members of the NRA. But you never hear about mayors ordering the cops to go into urban neighborhoods and disarming the punks. It's always those white taxpayers, the ones Barack Obama dismissed as those clinging to their guns and their religion, who are supposed to be denied the protection of the Second Amendment.

If they're so terrified of guns in the wrong hands, why don't they ever talk about outlawing cars? After all, people driving cars kill a lot more people than people firing guns. Why don't big city mayors ever propose buying back cars from people, especially when everyone knows that people are far more likely to drive drunk than they are to shoot drunk?

■ Replacing white voters

For that matter, do you think for a minute that Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi believe that an endless flood of illegal aliens is good for America? It wasn't that long ago that both of them wanted to keep them out. But that was before they realized their party was hemorrhaging white voters and needed to replace them.

They can talk all they like about a humanity crisis, but does anyone believe that if the hordes descending on our border voted overwhelmingly for Republicans, the Democrats would be rolling out the welcome mat for them?

I can promise you that Chuck and Nancy, along with Adam Schiff, Beto O'Rourke, Jerry Nadler, Corey Booker, Joe Biden, Kirsten Gillibrand, Elizabeth Warren and even old Bernie Sanders, would be down at the border not only building a big beautiful wall, but laying land mines.

If only hypocrisy could be converted to electricity, the Democrats could replace our need for fossil fuel all by themselves.

■ Trump spoke the truth

Because President Trump finally had enough of being pounded by the corrupt Elijah Cummings, he pointed out that Cummings, who has the kind of face that mothers are always warning their children not to make, lest they be stuck with it forever, should spend more time trying to improve the rat-infested district he allegedly represents.

For speaking the truth, hypocritical Democrats and spineless Republicans accused Trump of being a racist.

■ Sanders previously said it

And yet three years ago, Sen. Bernie Sanders, after touring the district, said that it reminded him of a place he'd expect to come across in a third world country.

■ Mayor Catherine Pugh previously said it

Last year, a camera crew accompanied then-Baltimore mayor Catherine Pugh as she walked the same mean streets and we all got to hear her comments,

which ranged from “You can smell dead animals” and “What the hell is that?” to “Oh, my, look at those rats” and “We should just tear this s*** down.”

■ Trying to defend Baltimore

Now that Trump has insulted the municipality, the Leftists are pretending it’s Reagan’s shining city on the hill. But the fact is there have already been over 180 homicides in Baltimore in the past seven months, making it the second most likely city in America in which to be murdered. But the good news is that St. Louis’s lead isn’t so huge that Baltimore can’t still overtake it by year’s end. It’s no secret that both murder capitals have been controlled by Democrats for decades. In fact, of the 10 most dangerous cities in America, all 10 are run by liberals. Of the top 20, 18 share that same common denominator.

■ Citizens keep choosing their poison

One can feel pity for people in Russia, China, Iran and North Korea. They are the victims of the police states into which they were born. The same can’t be said for those who live in places like Baltimore, St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Houston, Oakland, Minneapolis and Kansas City.

All those folks got to pick their poison. And, what’s more, they then kept lapping it up year after year, election after election.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Deficit

- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled “\$3,727,014,000,000: Federal Spending Sets Record Through July; Treasury Runs \$866,812,000,000 Deficit” was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 12, 2019.
- An article by Sarah McGregor titled “U.S. Budget Deficit Already Exceeds Last Year’s Total Figure” was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 12, 2019.

Finances

- An article by Meghan Jones titled “This Grocery Store [Kroger, Whose Headquarters Is in Cincinnati] Is Beating Costco As America’s Third Biggest Retailer [Behind Walmart and Amazon]” was posted at readersdigest.com on Aug. 7, 2019.
- An article by Brittany De Lea titled “Florida Raking in Billions As Americans Abandon High-Tax States” was posted at foxbusiness.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Arthur Delaney titled “Trump Administration Could Soon Allow Drug Tests for Unemployment Benefits” was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

- An article by Tonya Garcia titled "Sears to Start Liquidation Sales at These 26 Stores Next Week" was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Alessandra Malito titled "Raising the Minimum Wage to \$15 [Could Boost Retirement Savings] Could Add Over \$100,000 to Social Security Benefits for Many Workers" was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Katherine Clarke titled "Once Asking \$1 Billion, America's Priciest Listing Is Scheduled for Auction" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 13, 2019.

Trade war

- An article by Heather Scott titled "Trump Flirts With Currency War in Escalating Conflict With China" was posted at afp.com on Aug. 8, 2019.
- An article by Mayur Sontakke titled "Can the US-China Trade War Spiral Into a Crude Oil War?" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 8, 2019.
- An article titled "Trump Says US 'Not Ready' to Make Trade Deal With China" was posted at afp.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article titled "Is China Waiting Trump Out in Hopes of a New President After 2020?" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Ryan McMorro titled "Chinese Firms Learn to Adapt As US Trade War Rages" was posted at afp.com on Aug. 12, 2019.
- An article by Don Lee titled "Trump Backs Down Again, Delays Many New Tariffs on China Until December" was posted at latimes.com on Aug. 13, 2019.
- An article by Susan Donnan titled "Trump's Olive Branch Whacks China With More Tariffs" was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Bryan Pietsch titled "Trump Spares Bibles But Not Rosaries From Chinese Tariff Lists" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 14, 2019.

Green New Deal

- An article by Randall Luthi titled "Americans Need a Real Deal, Not a Green New Deal" was posted at insidesources.com on Aug. 11, 2019.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Melanie Arter titled "Trump: Mississippi ICE Raids Serve As a 'Good Deterrent' to Illegal Immigration" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Amindeh Blaise Atabong titled "One of Africa's Wealthiest Countries [Equatorial Guinea] Is Building a Trump-Like Wall to Stop Migrants" was posted at quartz.com on Aug. 12, 2019.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Kate Taylor titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders Call for Walmart to Stop Selling Guns" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

- An article by George P. Bush titled "White Nationalist Terrorism Must Be Stopped" was posted at new-journal.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Sen. Mazie Hirono: Gun Confiscation Presents 'Legal Challenges' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Don Thompson titled "State Gun Control Laws Face Uncertainty Amid Court Changes" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Ed Mazza titled "Conservative Pundit S.E. Cupp Quits the NRA in Powerful Plea for Gun Control" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
- An article by Saul Cornell titled "Don't Ban Assault Weapons—Tax Them" was posted at theatlantic.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- An article by N'dea Yancey-Bragg titled "Homeowner Shot 14-Year-Old During Burglary Attempt; the 5 Other [Chicago] Teens With Him Were Charged With Murder" was posted at usatoday.com on Aug. 15, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Melanie Arter titled "Candace Owens [a Black Conservative]: White Supremacy Isn't What's Harming Black America—'It's Liberal Supremacy' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Sen. Tim Scott [a Black Conservative]: 'This President Is Not a Racist' " was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 13, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Judicial Watch Finds Documents Showing Fusion GPS Working Directly With Obama's DOJ to Frame Trump" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- An article by Andrew C. McCarthy titled "Hillary Ruins the Plan [of Continuing Obama's Agenda and of Attacking Trump]" was posted at nationalreview.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- An article titled "Nearly One-Third of Democratic Primary Voters Fear Their Party Could Blow It in 2020 If They're Not Moderate Enough; Nearly the Same Amount of Democrats Fear They'll Lose If They're Not Progressive Enough" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Steven Nelson titled "Gun Rights Supporters Say Trump Could Lose Their Vote" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 8, 2019.
- An article by Quint Forgey titled "Stacey Abrams [Defeated Georgia Governor, Who Still Says She Won] Says She Would Be Open to VP Consideration 'By Any Nominee' " was posted at politico.com on Aug. 14, 2019.
- An article by Michelle Hackman titled "Senior Voters, Some Wavering on Trump, Figure to Shape 2020 Election" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 10, 2019.

- An article by Julie Pace and Bill Barrow titled "Biden Is Still the Democrat to Beat, But Rivals See Weakness [in His Gaffes and Fumbles]" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article titled "Joe Biden Vows to Increase the Number of Immigrants in the U.S." was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Calder McHugh titled "Marianne Williamson: America Has an 'Amoral, Virulent Strain of Capitalism' " was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Emily Goodin titled "Marianne Williamson Says Democratic Rivals Are Smearing Her As 'Crazy and Dangerous' in 'Well-Strategized Effort' to Keep Her Out of Third Presidential Debate After Breakout Performance" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article by Emily Goodin titled "Andrew Yang Calls Donald Trump Fat and a Slob, Challenges Him to a Push-Up Contest and Says 'America Would Love to See You Pass Out' " was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Aug. 11, 2019.
- An article by Tina Daunt and Maloy Moore titled "Seth MacFarlane Has Quietly Become One of Hollywood's Major Political Donors [With Donations to Democrats Ranking Second to DreamWorks Founders Steven Spielberg and Jeffrey Katzenberg, But Ahead of Disney]" was posted at latimes.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
- An article by Gabriel T. Rubin titled "Democrats Launch Texas Offensive With Redistricting in Mind" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
- An article by Natasha Korecki and Christopher Cadelago titled "Biden and Harris Make a Big Play for Iowa, But Warren Is Months Ahead" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

Kamala Harris

- An article titled "Harris Says Trump Enjoys Inciting Hateful Speech, Actions" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.
- An article by Amy Russo titled "Kamala Harris: Trump Was 'Tweeting Out the Ammunition' for El Paso Shooter" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 10, 2019.
- An article titled "Kamala Harris Confronted by Upset Iowa Voter Who Tells Her to 'Leave Our Health Care Alone' " was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 13, 2019.
- An article by Guy Benson titled "Will the Media Hold Warren and Harris Accountable for Spreading a Pernicious Racial Hoax [Against Officer Darren Wilson Who Was Cleared of Wrong-Doing]" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2019.

Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article by Katie Glueck titled "After El Paso Shooting, Will Voters Revisit Beto O'Rourke?" was posted at nytimes.com on Aug. 11, 2019.
- An article by Tim Hains titled "CNN's Tapper to Beto O'Rourke: Is It Racist to Vote for Donald Trump in 2020? [a Question That Mr. O'Rourke Did Not Answer]" was posted at realclearpolitics.com on Aug. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Chris Mills Rodrigo titled "Houston Chronicle Calls on O'Rourke to End White House Bid, Run for Senate [in Texas]" was posted at thehill.com on Aug. 14, 2019.

■ An article titled "Beto O'Rourke's New Approach to 2020: 'Taking the Fight to Donald Trump' " was posted at nytimes.com on Aug. 15, 2019.

News about the media

■ An article by Emily Jashinsky titled " 'The Hunt' Shows Liberals Murdering Conservatives; Do We Really Need That Right Now?" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Cydney Henderson titled "CNN Stands by Anchor Chris Cuomo After Exchange With a Heckler Who Called Him 'Fredo' " was posted at usatoday.com on Aug. 13, 2019.

■ An article by Emily Jashinsky titled " The Far-Reaching Implications of the New York Times' Headline Swap" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Lee Moran titled "Don Lemon Sends Trump Stinging Message About His Mass Shootings Response" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Ron Dicker titled "Tucker Carlson Guest [Mark Steyn] Says Cory Booker Pretends He's 'Homie From the Hood' [Although He Went to Stanford, Oxford and Yale Law School]" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Nikhil Sonnad titled "The White House Is Reportedly Moving to Regulate 'Anti-Conservative' Social Media" was posted at quartz.com on Aug. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Sarah Perez titled "Roku Expands It's Free, Live TV Selection With 5 More Channels, Including Fubot#039; Sports Network" was posted at techcrunch.com on Aug. 13, 2019.

Jeffrey Epstein

■ An article by Julie K. Brown and Sarah Blaskey titled "Huge Cache of Records Details How Jeffrey Epstein and Madam Lured Girls Into Depraved World" was posted at miamiherald.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ Looking back to 2016, an article by Malia Zimmerman titled "Flight Logs Show Bill Clinton Flew on Sex Offender's [Jeffrey Epstein's] Jet Much More Than Previously Known" was posted at foxnews.com on July 6, 2016.

■ An article by Harriet Alexander titled "Jeffrey Epstein Kept Painting of Bill Clinton in Drag at His House" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Aug. 15, 2019.

■ Looking back to July, an article by Steve Benen titled "Despite Having Praised Epstein [Back in 2002], Trump Now Says He 'Wasn't a Fan' " was posted at msnbc.com on July 9, 2019.

■ An article by David Jackson titled "Democrats Blast Trump for Tweeting Conspiracy Theory Linking Epstein's Death to Bill Clinton" was posted at usatoday.com on Aug. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Carol D. Leoning and Aaron C. Davis titled "Autopsy Finds Broken Bones in Epstein's Neck, Deepening Questions Around the Death [Because the Hyoid Bone Is More Common in Victims of Homicide by Strangulation]" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 14, 2019.

General interest

■ An article by Peter Loftus titled "Drug Shortages Forcing Hospitals to Ration Treatment" was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ An article titled "Trump Administration Says It Won't Approve Roundup Cancer-Warning Labels" was posted at cbsnews.com on Aug. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Maya Oppenheim titled "Illinois Passes Law Making LGBT and History Lessons in Schools Compulsory in Move to Stop Bullying" was posted at independent.co.uk on Aug. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Jennifer Harper titled "Hollywood Regulars: Obamas Ready to Debut Their First Film in Late August" was posted at washingtontimes.com on Aug. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Michael David Smith titled "Poll of Native Americans' View of Redskins Name Finds 'Proud' Most Common Answer" was posted at nbc-sports.com on Aug. 10, 2019.

■ An article titled "Jarrett Stidham's Arm Talent Obvious, But Poise a Sign of Real Promise for Patriots [Possible Future Replacement for Tom Brady]" was posted at nbcSports.com on Aug. 9, 2019.



Isaiah 55:6-11—"Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."