



**PORTER COUNTY
REPUBLICAN
PARTY**

EXECUTIVE TEAM

- Michael Simpson
Chair
- Victoria Gresham
Vice Chair
- Brian Waisanen
Secretary
- Krista Tracy
Treasurer
- Kenard Taylor
Executive Director
- Julie Hayward Biggs
General Counsel
Eagle Eye Editor

158 S. Napoleon Street

HEADQUARTERS

P.O. Box 546
Valparaiso, Indiana
46384

Inside This Edition

Republican Victory — Taking the Oath —City of Valparaiso	2
SURPRISE! A Little Help from the Opposition	3
Bulletin! Senators Young and Braun	4
A Reagan Republican 2020 Point of View	5
The Joy of Satire	6
Upcoming Events	7
Primary Election Calendar	8

Porter County Republicans— The Eagle Eye

Volume 2, Issue 11

January 2020



Chairman's Comments



Fellow Republicans –

Happy New Year!!! As we begin 2020, we have an opportunity to start anew and begin engaging in the grassroots effort of letting the voters know of our positions and commitments to the success of our Communities, County, State and Nation. Voters need to know that we are all committed to effective, efficient, safe, smaller and fiscally responsible government at all levels. Our office holders have demonstrated that over the last several years and it is truly important that the voters of this county know this information and understand that we are for them and our communities.

The success that we have as a party will be based on getting our message out to the voters and making sure folks come out and vote in the May Primary and November General Election. Our communities deserve the very best and we need to continue the success that we've had over the last several years. The "progressives" are out working every day with a desire to bring "Medicare for All", "Repealing the 2nd Amendment and taking away your guns", "Open Borders" and many more liberal policies to our Communities, county, State and Nation. Their goals are clear, they'd rather we be much more like Chicago, New York and San Francisco, than the conservative, responsible Hoosiers we are today.

Please join us in continuing the effort to keep our Communities, Counties, State and Nation a place to raise our families in safety and comfort. A place where opportunities exist for economic expansion, wage growth and job opportunities for everyone. Thank you for being a part of our party and here's to a great New Year. God Bless All of You.

Michael Simpson
Chairman, Porter County
Republicans

Click on the Eagle to join mailing list!





Republican Victory! Taking the Oath — City of Valparaiso

A New Mayor and City Clerk — January 1, 2020



Former Mayor Jon Costas



Mayor Matt Murphy



City Clerk Holly Taylor

The Republican Valparaiso City Council 2020-2024



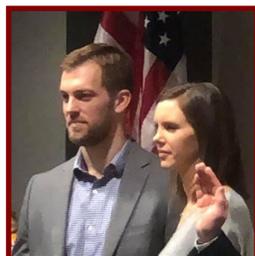
District 3 — Casey Schmidt



District 4 — Jack Pupillo



District 5 — Peter Anderson



At-Large — Evan Costas



At Large — George Douglas

Trump Isn't Impeached Until the House Tells the Senate

According to the Constitution, impeachment is a process, not a vote.

By Noah Feldman, *Bloomberg Press*, December 19, 2019

Now that the House of Representatives has voted to impeach President Donald Trump, what is the constitutional status of the two articles of impeachment? Must they be transmitted to the Senate to trigger a trial, or could they be held back by the House until the Senate decides what the trial will look like, as Speaker Nancy Pelosi has hinted?

Noah Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a professor of law at Harvard University and was a clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter. His books include "The Three Lives of James Madison: Genius, Partisan, President."

He also testified in **FAVOR** of impeachment during the House of Representatives hearing.

The Constitution doesn't say how fast the articles must go to the Senate. Some modest delay is not inconsistent with the Constitution, or how both chambers usually work.

But an indefinite delay would pose a serious problem. Impeachment as contemplated by the Constitution does not consist merely of the vote by the House, but of the process of sending the articles to the Senate for trial. Both parts are necessary to make an impeachment under the Constitution: The House must actually send the articles and send managers to the Senate to prosecute the impeachment. And the Senate must actually hold a trial.

If the House does not communicate its impeachment to the Senate, it hasn't actually impeached the president. If the articles are not transmitted, Trump could legitimately say that he wasn't truly impeached at all.

That's because "impeachment" under the Constitution means the House sending its approved articles of to the Senate, with House managers standing up in the Senate and saying the president is impeached. As for the headlines we saw after the House vote saying, "TRUMP IMPEACHED," those are a media shorthand, not a technically correct legal statement. So far, the House has voted to impeach (future tense) Trump. He isn't impeached (past tense) until the articles go to the Senate and the House members deliver the message.

Once the articles are sent, the Senate has a constitutional duty to hold a trial on the impeachment charges presented. Failure for the Senate to hold a trial after impeachment would deviate from the Constitution's clear expectation.

For the House to vote "to impeach" without ever sending the articles of impeachment to the Senate for trial would also deviate from the constitutional protocol. It would mean that the president had not genuinely been impeached under the Constitution; and it would also deny the president the chance to defend himself in the Senate that the Constitution provides.

The relevant constitutional provisions are brief. Article I gives the House "the sole power of impeachment." And it gives the Senate "the sole power to try all impeachments." Article II says that the president "shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." Putting these three different provisions together yields the conclusion that the only way to remove the president while he is in office is if the House impeaches him and the Senate tries and convicts him.

The provisions say nothing about timing. Taken literally, they don't directly say that articles of impeachment passed by the House must be sent to the Senate. But the framers' definition of impeachment assumed that impeachment was a process, not just a House vote.

The framers drafted the constitutional provisions against the backdrop of impeachment as it had been practiced in England, where the House of Commons impeached and the House of Lords tried the impeachments. The whole point of impeachment by the Commons was for the charges of impeachment to be brought against the accused in the House of Lords.

Strictly speaking, "impeachment" occurred – and occurs -- when the articles of impeachment are presented to the Senate for trial. And at that point, the Senate is obliged by the Constitution to hold a trial. What would make that trial fair is a separate question, one that deserves its own discussion. But we can say with some confidence that only the Senate is empowered to judge the fairness of its own trial – that's what the "sole power to try all impeachments" means.

If the House votes to "impeach" but doesn't send the articles to the Senate or send impeachment managers there to carry its message, it hasn't directly violated the text of the Constitution. But the House would be acting against the implicit logic of the Constitution's description of impeachment. A president who has been genuinely impeached must constitutionally have the opportunity to defend himself before the Senate. That's built into the constitutional logic of impeachment, which demands a trial before removal.

To be sure, if the House just never sends its articles of impeachment to the Senate, there can be no trial there. That's what the "sole power to impeach" means. But if the House never sends the articles, then Trump could say with strong justification that he was never actually impeached. And that's probably not the message Congressional Democrats are hoping to send.



BULLETIN FROM INDIANA SENATORS TODD YOUNG AND MIKE BRAUN

Indiana senators respond to assassination of top Iranian military commander

As reported on January 3, 2020 in the *Northwest Indiana Times*, U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind., and U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind., released the following separate statements addressing the assassination of Qassem Soleimani (spelling in accord with reports in the *Wall Street Journal*, a top Iranian military leader, who was killed by a U.S. drone in Iraq:



Young — "Qassem Soleimani was a terrorist mastermind who was responsible for the murder of hundreds of Americans. Under his command, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps brought death and destruction across the Middle East — and beyond. Last night, justice was delivered."

"The president's maximum pressure campaign against Iran has always been about pushing Iran's leaders, primarily through economic means, to change their behavior and stop exporting terror around the globe. Iran failed to change, and mass murderer Soleimani met his fate. I hope this strike will finally wake up the Ayatollah and the outlaw regime in Tehran. End the terror and focus on improving the lives of the Iranian people by embracing peace."

"As the administration considers next steps from here, Congress must be involved in that debate."



Braun — "President Trump made the courageous decision to kill Qassem Suleimani, who was the leader of Iran's violence against the United States that was directly responsible for killing American soldiers through IEDs for over a decade and was planning future attacks against American citizens throughout the Middle East. Iran has been one of America's greatest enemies and I'm proud that President Trump is protecting our country and our allies."



A Reagan Republican 2020 Point of View

EXCERPTS FROM

The Century of the Postheroic Presidency

by Peggy Noonan

Wall Street Journal December 26, 2019

According to Wikipedia, “Margaret Ellen “Peggy” Noonan (born September 7, 1950) is an American author, weekly columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, and contributor to NBC News and ABC News. She was a primary speechwriter and Special Assistant to President Ronald Reagan from 1984 to 1986 and has maintained a center-right leaning in her writings since leaving the Reagan administration. Five of Noonan’s books have been *New York Times* bestsellers.”

In 2017 she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize.

Ms. Noonan’s comments below are from an extended editorial piece that appeared recently in the *Wall Street Journal* and question the future of America under our current leadership.

“We have entered the age of the postheroic presidency. Certain low ways are forgiven, certain rough ways now established. Americans once asked a lot of their presidents. They had to be people not only of high competence and solid, sober backgrounds, but high character. In modern presidencies you can trace a line from, say, Harry S. Truman, who had it in abundance, to Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan, who also did.

But the heroic conception of the presidency is over. Bill Clinton and his embarrassments damaged it. Two unwon wars and the great recession killed it. “If you like your doctor you can keep your doctor” buried it. When you deliberately lie like that, you are declaring you have no respect for the people. And the people noticed.

They would like to have someone admirable in the job, someone whose virtues move them, but they’ve decided it’s not necessary. They think: Just keep the economy growing, don’t start any new wars, and push back against the social-issues maximalists if you can.

In the last cycle we spoke of shy Trump voters—those who didn’t want to get in an argument over supporting him. I suspect this cycle we’ll call them closeted Trump voters—those who don’t want to be associated with the postheroic moment, who don’t want to be associated with the postheroic moment, who disapprove of it, but see no realistic alternative.

In time we’ll see you lose something when you go postheroic. Colorful characters will make things more divided, not less. They’ll entertain but not ennoble. And the world will think less of us—*America has become a clownish, unserious country with clownish, unserious leaders*—which will have an impact on our ability to influence events.”



The Joy of Satire from the Babylon Bee

December 23, 2019

The Babylon Bee

Hillary Clinton Slams Trump For Not Taking A More 'Hands-Off' Approach To Embassy Attack

January 1st, 2020



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Hillary Clinton has slammed President Trump on Twitter for not taking a more "hands-off" approach to the protests in Iraq that threatened American lives at the embassy there.

After Trump quickly sent Marines to defend Americans trapped at the embassy, Clinton immediately blasted him for taking such "rash, uncalled-for" action when he could have just "waited around a while to see what happens."

"If I were president, I definitely would have let things play out," she said. "Sending American troops to protect American lives seems a little hasty. What if you need to get a little shut-eye or recharge in your lizard person spawning chamber for a few hours?"

"I would have slept on it first."

She later admitted her criticisms might not matter, because, "What difference, at this point, does it make?"

Meanwhile, Americans under siege at the embassy took a few moments to thank God that Hillary Clinton is not the president of the United States.

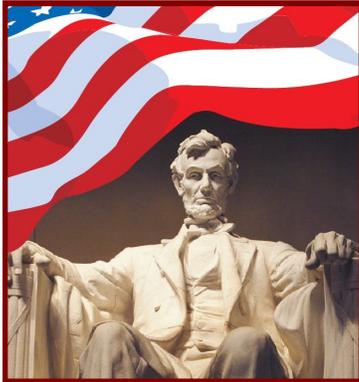


Upcoming Events

LINCOLN DAY DINNER

CONGRESS OF COUNTIES

SAVE THE DATE!



PORTER COUNTY LINCOLN DAY DINNER

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Porter County Expo Center

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch

Congress of Counties

January 31-February 1



Welcome to the 2020 Congress of Counties! This two-day training and networking conference for Republican Party leaders, candidates and grassroots activists is scheduled for January 31 – February 1 in downtown Indianapolis at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

General admission registration is now available for \$100 per person.

[Register here - pay as an individual](#)

[Register here - pay as a campaign/party committee or corporation](#)

The room block at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Indianapolis is open now! To reserve your room at a special rate of \$159, call the Crowne Plaza directly at (317) 631-2221 and mention "Congress of Counties."

The full conference line-up -- including break-out training sessions and special events -- will be announced soon!



PRIMARY ELECTION CALENDAR 2020

Primary Election May 5, 2020

2020 Primary Election - Tuesday, May 5

Voting Hours & Locations

Voting hours are from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at designated polling locations.

[FIND YOUR POLLING LOCATION.](#)

Voter Registration Deadlines

The last day to register to vote, or transfer your registration, for the Primary Election is Monday, April 6th.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT REGISTERING TO VOTE.](#)

Early Voting

Early voting begins at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 7th and ends at Noon on Monday, May 4th.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT EARLY VOTING TIMES AND LOCATIONS.](#)

Absentee Voting

Applications for Absentee Voting By MAIL must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, April 23. Applications for Absentee Voting by TRAVELING BOARD must be received by Noon on Monday May 4.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT ABSENTEE VOTING.](#)

Become A Poll Worker

Poll Workers are vital to the election process and the well being of our democracy.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT BEING A POLL WORKER AND APPLY ONLINE.](#)

