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Porter County Republicans— The Eagle Eye

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Chairman's Comments



Fellow Republicans —

Happy New Year!!! We are ten days in and 2021 is continuing the “dumpster fire” tradition of 2020. As I write this article all my thoughts are on the horrific activities that occurred in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday, January 6th, as our Congress was to begin the process of counting the States’ certified electoral college ballots. I cannot begin to describe the shock, disgust and utter disappointment in the events that occurred that day.

I want to express my, as well as our County Party’s, sincerest condolences to the families who lost loved ones on the 6th, especially US Capitol Police Officers Brian Sicknick and Howard Liebengood’s families.

Nothing that happened in the 2020 election can ever justify the behavior that was perpetrated at our Nation’s Capital. There is never, ever an excuse to riot, destroy, loot, attack our police forces or actually kill them. This type of behavior will never be acceptable nor tolerated in the United States. What occurred that day was abhorrent, inexcusable and criminal.

Let us all remember that each of us is always responsible for our own actions. The right to assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances under the First Amendment does not include the right to pillage and destroy property or take and endanger human life regardless of your motivation or intention. In the end, like everything in life, the persons who actually committed the egregious acts are the responsible parties. Every one of the perpetrators should be arrested and criminally prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. It’s called personal responsibility for a reason!

Our Indiana leaders stood tall for those concepts in this crisis and we should be proud of them. They were made aware of irregularities that undermined our democratic process and they took action to assure that the election would result in a fair and legitimate result. Challenging election procedures based on legal and constitutional concerns is a duty of political leadership as well as a right of the electorate. Looking the other way to avoid discord is not an option.

As we deal with this infamy and the political maneuvers that will undoubtedly follow in the weeks ahead, we must recommit to our fundamental Republican principles and values. We are the party of personal responsibility and integrity. We set the example for how individuals should behave in a democratic republic. We do that in our daily lives and in our political efforts to elect people of character to public office. It is time to remember our purpose and ensure that future elections proceed in accord with our Constitution and the Rule of Law. We are the stewards and guardians of our American heritage and future.

We are the Party of Lincoln! We stand for effective, efficient and limited government. We profess and promote fiscal responsibility. We are a party of innovation, positivity and personal freedom. We are a party that lifts others to a higher standard. We are the Republican Party!

Finally, I want to thank all of you once again for all you do for our party. I look forward to the successes created by the excellent leadership we have elected. I pray for an end to this pandemic and the future of the United States of America!!!

 **“Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm.” – Publius Syrus**

Michael Simpson, Chair
Porter County Republican Party

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September 2019



Swearing In Our Elected Republican Leaders



Eric Holcomb
Governor



Suzanne Crouch
Lieutenant Governor



Todd Rokita
Attorney General



Ed Charbonneau , Senate Dist. 5



Ed Soliday
House District 4



Michael Aylesworth
House District 11



Julie Olthoff
House District 19



Judge Mary DeBoer, Circuit Court



Mike Fish, Sup. Court No. 1



Christopher Buckley, Sup. Court. No. 4



Jim Biggs, County Commissioner



Andy Bozak, County Council At Large



Mike Brickner, County Council At Large



Honoring Judge Roger Bradford

From the
Northwest Indiana Times



WATCH NOW: Porter County bids COVID-safe farewell to longtime Judge Roger Bradford

Bob Kasarda
Dec 17, 2020 Updated Jan 1, 2021

VALPARAISO — Porter Superior Court Judge Roger Bradford stood on the outside second-floor balcony of the downtown courthouse Thursday morning and joked in the lightly falling snow that he should break out into song considering his favorite musical is "Evita."

"Don't cry for me Porter County," he said, parodying the musical's hit song, "Don't Cry for me Argentina."

The appearance was actually a COVID-safe way of various courthouse officials, attorneys, police and others to say goodbye to Bradford as he prepares to wrap up 41 ½ years of service on the bench at the year's end. He was greeted by several Porter County and Valparaiso police vehicles with their emergency lights on and a drive-by parade on the streets surrounding the courthouse.

Just a short time earlier in his courtroom, Bradford was presented with Indiana's Sagamore of the Wabash award by longtime friend and Indiana Rep. Michael Aylesworth, R-Hebron.

Aylesworth, who said he has known Bradford's wife, Mary, longer than he has known the judge, reflected back on how he was a Porter County commissioner when Bradford first took the bench in 1979.

When he and Bradford found themselves unopposed during the 1980 election, they wagered a bet that the person receiving the largest number of votes would be treated by the other to a dinner in Chicago. Aylesworth did not reveal who won the bet, but said they both enjoyed a good dinner in the city.

Bradford said when he started as judge in 1979 he approached Aylesworth and the other commissioners about where his courtroom would be only to find out they had the same question for him.

"So I figured it must be my duty to do that," he said to chuckles from the few people allowed in for the award ceremony.

Bradford said he beat the state in introducing the concept of potential jurors being relieved of their obligation for service the first time they are called in, even if they are not chosen for a trial.

"It's been a wonderful ride," he said.

But he jokingly warned attorneys that they were not rid of him quite yet. Bradford said he intends to return on occasion to serve as a senior judge.



A New Indiana Attorney General Sworn In

TODD ROKITA — INDIANA ATTORNEY GENERAL 2020

Attorney General Todd Rokita was sworn in on January 11, 2021 in Indianapolis. In what portends to be an open and transparent manner of dealing with public office, Attorney General Rokita made clear his position with regard to freedom of speech in America and recent attempts to limit that freedom. The following are excerpts from his statement issued January 9, 2021 entitled “An Experiment in Free Speech”:



Who controls your speech and to what extent? Do you? The Government? Silicon Valley?

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states that, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

The Constitution applies to the laws made by the government. Those laws can allow or disallow private citizens or entities to infringe on another citizen’s free speech rights. The question is, to what extent.

It is well established, and I think we all agree, that free speech does not include the right to yell “fire” in a crowded movie theater. One person’s speech cannot infringe on another person’s right to personal safety. Similarly, we are not free to directly encourage or incite violence, or threaten or intimidate other people. However, we are explicitly free to express political beliefs. In fact, the free expression of political beliefs should be encouraged, even if we do not agree with the beliefs. It is this free dialogue, the free exchange of ideas, good and bad, that fosters our self-governance.

On Friday evening, Twitter permanently banned the President’s account stating that his tweets incited the violence and riots we saw in our Capitol last Wednesday. As most know, I have been a supporter of the President and his policies. Yet also like most, I am not an absolute supporter of any human being.

To be clear, I also condemn the Capitol violence in the same way and terms that I have condemned the violence last summer. As Lincoln said in his Lyceum Address, “violence only begets violence.” I do, however, strongly believe in protecting speech and the free exercise of thought without limitations by the Government—or tech monopolies.

Almost immediately following Twitter’s ban on the President, I began receiving messages from Trump supporters whose accounts were also banned, inexplicably. Later in the evening Friday, we learned that tech giants Apple and Google were threatening to ban the newest free speech, conservative leaning, platform, Parler. Conservatives have flocked to Parler to freely exercise their own speech. Now, big tech threatens to stifle and silence them.

I tweeted my support for the President and waited to see if a ban would occur on my own account. Although a ban on my account has not yet occurred as many others have experienced, we confront an important question at this time in our nation about the extent to which we allow tech companies to control speech. Private companies can control speech on their property, just as private citizens can. However, when those private companies are effectively monopolies, controlling the entire dialogue of a nation, and using that control to suppress certain speech, we are compelled as a people and as elected officials, through the democratic process, to uphold Constitutional protections on free speech.

As I take the oath of office to serve as the 44th Attorney General for the State of Indiana, I do so with an eye toward liberty. Not just liberty as an abstract concept, but liberty in action. I will be using my experience as a guide for how we can ensure the free exercise of speech not only in Indiana, but throughout the Nation. I will be further investigating and taking action, wherever possible, to limit the ability of tech companies to infringe on the free market of thought for our citizens. I, and we, have a solemn duty to do so under our Constitution.

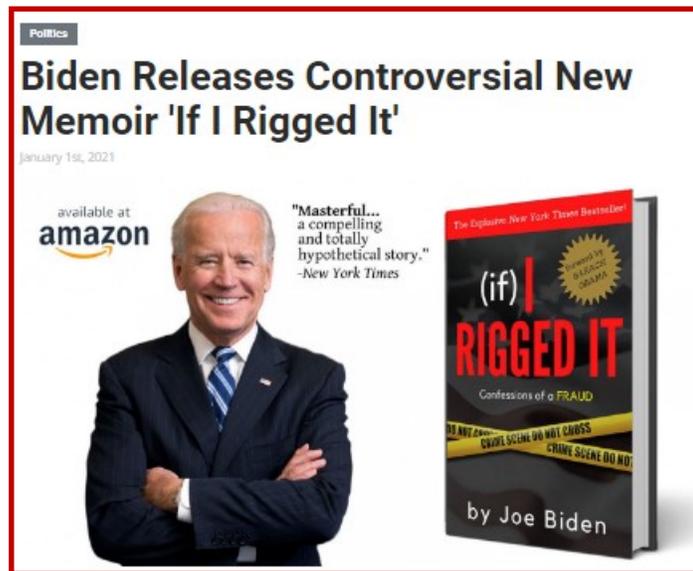
In Liberty, Todd Rokita



The Joy of Satire

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WILMINGTON, DE—To commemorate the "completely fair and honest" 2020 election, Joe Biden has announced a brand new memoir called *If I Rigged It*. The book is already being met with critical acclaim for its compelling description of a totally hypothetical situation where Biden and the Democrats fraudulently steal the election.

"Listen here, Jack-- I didn't steal the election," said Biden to a group of adoring fans in the press. "But if I *had* stolen the election, this is how I would have done it. It's real simple, see? My new book will give you all the dirty details!"

"This book is a masterpiece," said *The New York Times*. "Biden, who totally wrote this all by himself, draws the reader in with a compelling narrative of a totally hypothetical story. His prose is artful and engaging. The description of an effort to steal the 2020 election is way more believable and interesting than Trump's baseless claims. In short, Biden is a genius."

The book has soared to the top of the *New York Times* bestseller list in its first week since release. Experts predict it may become the best-selling book of 2021.

Critics have called the book "a highly suspicious work that reads more like an actual confession than a memoir." Trusted media outlets, fact-checkers, and social media have all dismissed these criticisms as "baseless."

If I Rigged It is currently being sold in hardcover for \$29.99 and will be available at Amazon.com or wherever books are sold.



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WASHINGTON, D.C.— Some much-needed money is coming to people when they need it most, as everyone in Congress is now getting a \$100,000 bonus for coming up with such a great coronavirus relief bill.

“This comes at a crucial time, as people like me are really struggling right now,” said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. “Struggling to afford that new Bentley.”

Congress really felt they deserved this bonus, as they did such a great job putting together a relief bill, only taking a few months to agree on one. “We really worked hard on this,” said Senator Chuck Schumer. “I mean, a day or two, we were here until seven... seven at night! And it’s nice to get recognized for our hard work.”

Not only will members of Congress be getting money, but the relief bill also gives \$600 to regular Americans. “As far as I understand poor people,” said Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, “that’s a lot of money for them. That’s enough to fill up a pick-up truck bed with Doritos to stuff their fat faces. They’re going to be very happy. And I think we in Congress deserve money -- real money -- for bringing them that happiness.”



The Joy of Satire

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Politics

Trump Says To Drink Lots Of Water, Media Reports He Told Everyone To Drown Themselves

April 24th, 2020



WASHINGTON, D.C.— At his press conference last night, President Trump told everyone to stay hydrated and drink lots of water.

"Water's tremendous, very powerful stuff," he said. "You won't believe the things they can do with water. Water balloons. Water slides. Water beds. It's amazing. You can freeze it and make ice, I'm told. Ice is great for lots of things. Ice cream. Ice cubes. Igloos."

"Anyway, drink water."

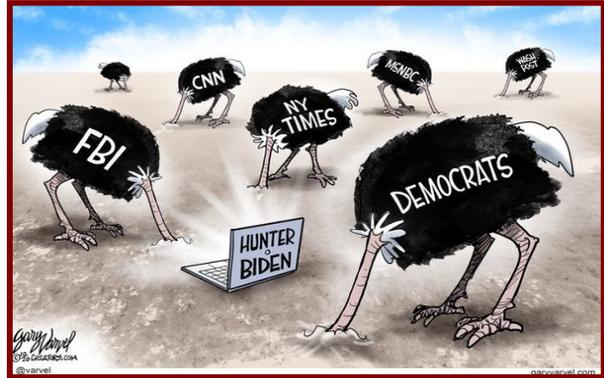
Horrified journalists scrambled to warn Americans not to drown themselves in their pools and bathtubs.

"Trump says water is good -- but this is very misleading," said Rachel Maddow. "Did you know that water kills many people every year? These dangerous, unhinged remarks from the president could cause many to drown themselves. Plus, do you know what's hidden in water? Sharks. This president wants you to die from a shark attack!"

Representatives for various bottled water companies quickly released a statement distancing themselves from the president's remarks and warning everyone not to submerge themselves in the ocean for minutes at a time.



HUMOR IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES





Join the Team!

Thank you for your interest in contributing to the Porter County Republican Party!



GOP Stars & Stripes Donation

\$25.00

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The Porter County Republican Party as a grassroots political organization exists to elect Republican candidates to government offices at all levels, and strives to promote the principles, objectives and policies of the Republican Party. We proudly serve our Stars & Stripes. Help support the Porter County Republican Party with a \$25 donation today.

Thank you in advance for your support!



GOP Liberty Donation

\$50.00

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Become a Liberty donor and help our GOP members become a strong voice at the table at all levels of government. Join our members, who work hard to protect our rights, freedoms and liberties. Help support the Porter County Republican Party with a \$50 donation today!

Thank you in advance for your support!



GOP Eagle Donation

\$75.00

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Become an Eagle donor and help the GOP develop and equip strong individuals, who can soar like eagles high above the rest of the crowd. Help support the Porter County Republican Party with a \$75 donation today!

Thank you in advance for your support!



GOP All-Star Donation

\$100.00

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Become an All-Star donor and join us on the Republican team as we continue to strive toward winning more future elections. Help support the Porter County Republican Party with a \$100 donation today!

Thank you in advance for your support!