



“Get off my lawn”

***Thoughts on current events while driving
around in my car.***

February 17, 2022

So I covered the airport, grocery stores, schools and sports in the first edition of ***“Get off my lawn.”*** Let’s switch topics this week. As always, the opinions expressed below are mine only, and always subject to change. The picture above represents my mood when I’m writing this column.

The Super Bowl Halftime Show

I didn’t like it. A lot of folks my age didn’t like it. But no matter what social media and the “woke” crowd say, not liking *Dr. Dre*, *Eminem* and *Mary J. Blige* does not make me a racist. I’m just not a fan of Hip Hop and Rap. I also don’t like Acid Rock (*Metallica*, *Kiss*), Pop Music (*Madonna*, *Taylor Swift*, *Beyonce*), Classical (*Beethoven*, *Bach*, *Mozart*) or Polka (*The Polkaholiics*, *Brave Combo*). A lot of people do... good for them; whatever gets you through the night. I see the talent in all of these genres. Just not my style.

I like *Phish* and the *Grateful Dead* but I am not a stoner. I like a lot of Country Music, even the old guys like *Cash*, *Jones* and *Hank*, but I’m not from the South, don’t own a gun and didn’t grow up on a farm. I love the music of *Aretha*, *Prince*, and *Etta James*, but I’m not black. *Eric’s Clapton’s* latest insane rantings do not change the fact that he’s a hell of a guitarist. *Hendrix* was better.

Can’t we just like something, or not, and move on? Accordingly, I feel the *Beatles*, the *Rolling Stones* and *Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers* are the best rock and roll bands. *Sinatra* is the best song stylist, *Stevie Wonder* is a genius. I could listen to *Joni Mitchell*, and *Carole King* all day. I think *Snoop Dog* is dope. *Dylan*, *CSNY*, *Simon and Garfunkel* speak to me. And *Michael Jackson* and *Prince* had the best Super Bowl halftime shows of all time.

Just sayin’.

Democrat Leadership



Chuck, Bernie, AOC, Nancy, so you want to cancel \$1,882,889,321,008 in student loan debt? What about those students who busted their ass and paid off the loan? They getting reparations?

And a proposed guaranteed income fund (GIF) to give every American \$1000 a month? So the poor guy working at McDonald's, the rich guy with the boat, the single mother, Musk and the homeless dude all get \$1000. Has this

been thought out? And with no affect on the economy?

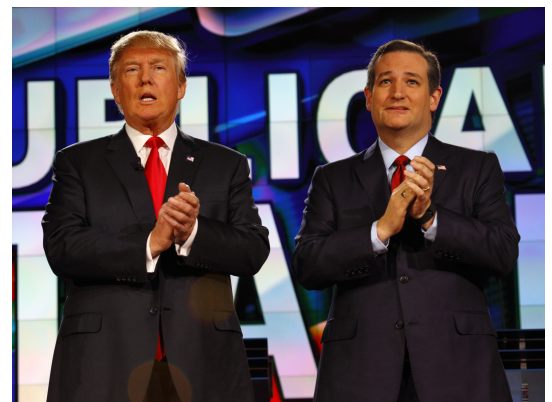
Sure, something needs to be done. And we bailed out the auto and banking industry, give the rich all sorts of tax breaks, but just wipe student loans off the books? Hand everyone \$1000 per month? There is not a better way?

How about we start using tax dollars to really help the middle class? Fix roads and bridges, give teachers a raise. Rebuild blue collar jobs. House the homeless. Open and fund trade schools. Lower the ridiculous cost of college, then subsidize it. Punish, fine and then regulate the scam lenders then give those proceeds back to the scammed students on a targeted basis? And how about we start teaching personal finance in high school?

Real solutions are too hard, easier to just throw money at problems.

Republican Leadership

Donald, Ted, Josh, Tucker, do you folks have any shame? Against vaccines but you're all vaccinated, the first in line. Claim Christian values, but have no empathy. Look the other way at Trump's "pussygate" but crucify Biden when he calls a reporter a moron. Wear that flag pin on your lapel, but claim that January 6 was "routine political discourse." Recruit Nazi's, Proud Boys, Q-anon and white supremacists to get under the Republican tent. Vote against health care for all, a legitimate minimum wage, fair voting, higher tax rates for the rich, and then claim to be for "everyday" citizens. Vote against infrastructure repair then take credit when a road or bridge is repaired with Federal money.



Party of Lincoln my ass.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred



This guy is really pissing me off. He defends owners who claim they are not making any money (I'm looking at you Bill DeWitt) and then claims to be neutral in the labor dispute. Baseball produced 10.7 billion dollars in revenue in 2019, and this self-titled "master negotiator" can't get the two sides to reach an agreement to share this wealth? Changing the rules of a game that's been around since the Civil War? This guy is looking out for the good of the game?

And now he's screwing with the change of seasons. As all real baseball fans know, summer starts opening day, autumn starts the first day of the playoffs, winter begins at the precise moment of the last out of the

World Series, and spring starts when pitchers and catchers report to spring training. Delayed spring training means a longer winter and a delayed spring. You're killin' me Manfred.

American Stupidity

Took us a long time to figure out vaccines work, and some are still antivaxxers. We're playing *Wordle* on our phones all day and then posting the result on Facebook. We watch shows like *The Celebrity Dating Game*, *Fear the Walking Dead*, *Alter Ego* and *The Masked Singer*. Most of us couldn't find Vermont or North Dakota on a map and a good percentage can't pick out the United States on a globe. Many think an athlete's, or a movie star's opinion, about science or medicine is more valid than a scientist's or a doctor's.



A significant number think Elvis is alive, the moon landing never happened, Trump is still president and climate change is a hoax. We vote-in celebrities for key leadership positions. Most Americans cannot name their state representative, congress person, or two US Senators. In the 2020 election 35% of the country didn't bother to vote. Ask a school kid or a young adult the significance of 12/7/1941, 6/6/1944, 11/22/1963 or 9/11/2001 and they won't know, and more significantly, don't care. They will know what's trending on *tiktok*. Or the name of Kim Kardashian's new boyfriend.

We wonder and worry about the state of this country. But we refuse to educate ourselves or our children in the things that matter. As Thomas Jefferson said: "A well informed citizenry is the best defense against tyranny."

Prepare to welcome tyranny.

Magic



So our oven has been broke since November, it won't heat; the one job of an oven. We had a well recommended appliance repair guy come out. He looks it over and says, "It's a bad thermostat, gotta order the part, long wait, supply chain problems." Three weeks later, thermostat comes in, repair guy says, "Not the problem, must be the igniter, gotta order the part, long wait, supply chain problems." Another three weeks, igniter comes in, "This oven has two igniters, gotta order the other one, long wait, supply chain problems." Two more times this happens with other parts. Finally, the repair guy threw up his hands, put back in the original parts, and says, "I give up, buy a new oven."

He didn't charge us for the parts, we were only out \$85 for the initial service call. So we started shopping for another oven. What ya gonna do?

So I told my good friend Tom, an engineer, about the saga of the oven. He offered to take a look at it when he was over at the house helping me install a light (story for another day). Maybe he could figure it out. So, after successfully installing the light he took a look at the oven and asked me "What's it not doing?" "Let me show you" I replied. With that, I turned on the oven and it worked perfectly. "You're welcome" replied Tom as his face showed his disdain on dealing with yet another stupid American.

In an oven postscript, the clock on the oven had been displaying the wrong time since July. I had tried numerous times to set it, but this was too complicated for this American. So I gave up. This morning the clock on the oven was showing the correct time.

Current Top 5 Evil Things in the World

#1 "Trumpers"

#2 NFL Owners

#3 Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred

#4 Human Resource Departments

#5 The Devil.

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