

The Post-Journal

Covering The Way You Live

The Jamestown Evening Journal
Established 1826

The Jamestown Morning Post
Established 1901

The Post-Journal
Merged 1941

MICHAEL C. BIRD
PUBLISHER

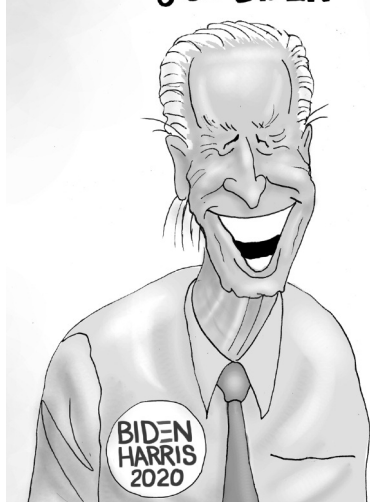
JOHN D'AGOSTINO
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JOE BIDEN AGENDA



Randy Elf

Better Sooner Than Later



25 years ago — can tell us that, overall, weeds present a greater challenge now than then.

With all of their respect for the natural world, they must have thought this lake was a treasure.

Are the challenges different in different part of the lake? Yes. They always have been. For example, all other things being equal, deeper waters will quite naturally have fewer weed challenges than shallower waters.

The first Europeans to encounter it, just over two centuries ago, must have thought the same.

Multiple good solutions to these challenges are available. The better solutions should include neither lawsuits nor threats of lawsuits.

The same is true of those who almost a century and a half ago founded what in many ways would become an iconic American cultural institution on the shores of the lake.

Yet whatever the causes of or solutions to the weed challenges, there's no serious debate that, overall, the challenges are greater than they were 50 or even 25 years ago.

The lake is a natural resource that has attracted tourists from near and far for generations.

Drive around Chautauqua Lake and ask longtime lakefront property owners. You'll hear this.

It's each generation's responsibility to conserve — not preserve, but conserve — this treasure of a natural resource.

Ask longtime recreational users of the lake. You'll hear this.

What's the difference between preserve and conserve? To preserve something is to leave it in its natural state. To conserve something is to use it responsibly so that others, now or in the future, can do the same.

Ask those who, for whatever reason, have sold their lakefront property. You'll hear this.

Think of agriculture or forestry. To preserve the land would be not to use it at all. To conserve it would be to use it well while caring for it so that others can use it.

Ask those whose enterprises depend to whatever extent on the lake. You'll hear this.

It works the same way with lakes, including Chautauqua Lake.

You'll hear about challenges weeds present.

Most who enjoy living on, swimming in, boating on, or fishing on — or just being around — the lake understand the importance of caring for it. What they should and shouldn't do is to a significant extent common sense.

Are weeds the only natural challenges Chautauqua Lake faces? No.

Although lake weeds present tougher issues, the weed challenges aren't tough to see.

Yet there's no serious debate that, overall, weeds present a greater challenge than they presented 50 or even 25 years ago.

Thanks to good efforts of many who have risen to meet these challenges, the challenges are fewer than they would have been. Such efforts can require both brains to conceive and fortitude to implement. For such efforts we should all be grateful.

Imagine living on, swimming in, boating on, or fishing on the lake then.

Despite such efforts, those who can recall the quality of Chautauqua Lake with respect to weeds 50 years ago — or even

What kind of Chautauqua Lake will future generations inherit?

Solving Chautauqua Lake's weed challenges, which will take significant time, will allow future generations to inherit the waters they deserve. That's not hard to see.

The longer it takes to solve the challenges, the harder they'll be to solve. That's not hard to see either.

Better sooner than later.

Randy Elf's paternal grandparents had a cottage at Cheney's Point on Chautauqua Lake for 40 years.

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READERS' FORUM

Our Kind Neighbors Have Shut Their Doors

To The Reader's Forum:

Oh Canada! Our home and native land! True patriot love in all of us command.

So begins the national anthem of our kind neighbors to the north. A land we Americans are no longer welcome in.

Canada is known all over the world for being open and friendly. Stand around looking confused in any Canadian city for a few seconds and someone will offer to help you. Walk into a bar, ask any question about hockey, and you will immediately have a boatload of friends.

Canadians are like that. But in 2016 we started seeing apprehension from many Canadians about travelling to the United States. In a reaction to the American

administration's treatment of immigrants, asylum seekers, and non-binary persons many Canadian schools broke off long-standing relationships with their American counterparts and prohibited travel to the U.S.

Now, with the bungling of the United States management of the COVID-19 virus Americans are no longer permitted to cross the 'longest non-militarized border in the world.' American who are in Canada are looked upon with disdain and told to go home. That is how bad America has fallen under Trump. We are no longer welcome to vacation in Canada. That 'open' border is now closed to Americans.

The last refrain from their national anthem is:

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee. They stand on guard against us.

Tom Meara Jamestown

TODAY IN HISTORY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Friday, Aug. 28, the 241st day of 2020. There are 125 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 28, 1963, more than 200,000 people listened as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

On this date: In 1917, ten suffragists demanding that President Woodrow Wilson support a constitutional amendment guaranteeing women the right to vote were arrested as they picketed outside the White House.

In 1944, during World War II, German forces in Toulon and Marseille (mahr-SAY'), France, surrendered to Allied troops.

In 1955, Emmett Till, a Black teen from Chicago, was abducted from his uncle's home in Money, Mississippi, by two white men after he had supposedly whistled at a white woman; he was found brutally slain three days later.

In 1964, two days of race-related rioting erupted in North Philadelphia over a false rumor that white police officers had beaten

to death a pregnant Black woman. In 1968, police and anti-war demonstrators clashed in the streets of Chicago as the Democratic National Convention nominated Hubert H. Humphrey for president.

In 1996, Democrats nominated President Bill Clinton for a second term at their national convention in Chicago. The troubled 15-year marriage of Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana officially ended with the issuing of a divorce decree.

In 2005, New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin (NAY'-gin) ordered everyone in the city to evacuate after Hurricane Katrina grew to a monster storm.

In 2009, the Los Angeles County coroner's office announced that Michael Jackson's death was a homicide caused primarily by the powerful anesthetic propofol (PROH'-puh-fahl) and another sedative, lorazepam (lor-AZ'-uh-pam).

In 2013, a military jury sentenced Maj. Nidal Hasan to death for the 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood that claimed 13 lives. On the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, President Barack Obama stood on the same steps as he challenged new generations to seize the cause of racial equality.

John Stossel

Trump Is A Big Spender

Last week, I tallied Joe Biden's spending plans. This week, President Trump's.

Which presidential candidate will bankrupt America first?

When Donald Trump ran for president, he promised "big league" spending cuts.

Once in office, he again said he'd cut the budget, adding, "There's a lot of fat in there."

There sure is.

Since I was born, spending has grown faster than inflation most every year.



Then, President Obama, as Trump liked to out, "put more debt on than all other presidents of the United States combined!"

It's true. But then Trump increased the debt just as much.

Now even more, with the COVID-19 spending.

One of his first biggest increases was the \$738 billion defense spending bill. Trump bragged that it was "an all-time record!" He said Democrats had "depleted" our fighting ability, so he "had" to "fix our military."

"The 'fix' looks a whole lot like bloated defense spending," says Pete Sepp of the National Taxpayers Union. "It's more than our rivals around the world could even hope to spend."

Sepp's organization has fought government spending for decades. Sadly, they've had little success.

Now federal spending will grow even faster because:

- 1) The COVID-19 "stimulus" will grow. 2) Both political parties love spending your money. 3) Old people like me keep living longer.

Sorry about that last one. But I, rudely, decline to die.

Soon, my generation's Medicare and Social Security checks will crowd out everything else in the budget. (No, fellow geezers, we don't just "get back what we put in." We'll get, on average, almost triple our FICA deductions.)

Sadly, no presidential candidate expresses much interest in addressing that: Trump promises to "protect" Social Security. Biden says he'll increase it!

Trump was also eager to spend on special interests. He gave \$16 billion to farmers and ranchers, \$1.6 billion more to NASA and, despite government's horrible track record at "picking winners," he tried loaning \$765 million to Kodak Pharmaceuticals.

After the pandemic hit, Trump joined Democrats in authorizing \$6.2 trillion in new spending.

Signing that, Trump joked: "I've never signed anything with a 'T' on it. I don't know if I can handle this one!" The politicians standing behind him laughed.

But it's not funny. Now Democrats want to add even more spending.

Trump at least made some cuts, prepandemic. Sepp acknowledges that he made "important progress in reducing overhead (and) personnel costs."

He also cut the budget of his own office, plus the Departments of Labor, Education and State. Good! The State Department is bloated with 60 subdepartments, and its spending had increased at triple the rate inflation.

Still, media pundits whined about every cut. On CNN, one "expert" called the cuts to the State Department "insanity."

When Trump proposed other cuts, or just slowing the growth of government, Congress wouldn't let him. Trump's 2021 budget would still have increased spending by \$39 billion. Rep. Chuck Schumer rejected that, calling it "a blueprint for destroying America!"

To sum up: What's Trump's total budget impact been?

Spending is up by more than \$1 trillion a year. The national debt is over \$26 trillion.

"Deficits and debt destroy economic growth," says Sepp.

"Nobody's talking about this stuff. You must be frustrated," I say.

"Very," he responds. "After 51 years as an organization, to see this kind of attitude and carelessness..."

When it comes to increasing spending, who is worse, Trump or Biden?

"Biden," replies Sepp, because he promises \$1.2 trillion a year in new spending.

"We're already trillions in the hole. He's spending money out of an empty pocket!"

And Biden is favored to win.

Of course, some argue that when it comes to Republicans and Democrats spending your and your grand-kids' money, it doesn't matter who wins.

"Washington just seems to grow at the expense of everyone else, no matter who is in power," concludes Sepp.

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Question Of The Day

Have you ever been to Lawson Park playground?

Yes 14%

No 86%

The Question of the Day can be found by visiting our website, www.post-journal.com

WHERE TO WRITE

Express your opinion to your representatives in the Legislature and the federal government. Their addresses are:

NEW YORK U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer — 130 S. Elmwood Ave., #660, Buffalo, NY 14202; 716-846-4111; 322 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510; 202-224-6542.

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand — 726 Exchange St., Suite 511, Buffalo, NY 14210, 716-854-9725; 478 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510; 202-224-4451.

U.S. Rep. Tom Reed — 2 E. Second St. Suite 208, Jamestown, NY 14701, 716-708-6369; 2263 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-3161.

State Sen. George Borrello — 2-3 E. Second St., Suite 302, Jamestown, NY 14701, 716-664-4603; 188 State St., Albany, NY 12247, 518-455-3563.

Assemblyman Andrew Goodell — 2-6 E. Second St., Suite 320, Jamestown, NY 14701, 716-664-7773; 188 State St., Room 545, Albany, NY 12248, 518-455-4511.