

Blacks killing blacks

During the 503 days between the Trayvon Martin Shooting and the Zimmerman Verdict...10,865 blacks were killed by other blacks.

How many can you name?

It seems that it's okay for blacks to kill each other, but if one gets killed in the process of escaping arrest it becomes a National tragedy and a reason to riot, loot, and hurt innocent people, and destroy their belongings.

The United States ranks 3rd from the top in murders throughout the world, if you don't count the terrorist murders.

But if you take out Chicago, Detroit, Washington DC and New Orleans, the United States is 4th from the bottom for murders.

These 4 cities also have the toughest Gun Control Laws in the United States.

All 4 cities are also controlled by Democrats.

Should we draw any conclusions from this data?

Blacks injured by police

In the last couple of years there has been a lot of publicity of blacks being injured or killed while in police custody or during the attempt by police to take them into custody.

In nearly every case, if the person injured would have done what the police asked them to do, they would not have been hurt. The law requires all of us to follow a police officer's instructions. When you fight against the police or run from the police, you should expect that you might get hurt.

If you kick or hit a police officer, don't expect him to be a little more gentle with you.

Some of these people evidently aren't accustomed to doing what they are told to do, and there is a price to pay for that in other aspects of life also.

—The Editor

Fruitport's Got Talent

By Emily Guiles

Sponsored by the Fruitport DECA program, the sixth annual Fruitport's Got Talent was sure to be a show stopper. But a horrific accident made this show all the more memorable.

Sep., 29th new Fruitport High School student Cameron Smallegan was hit by a car while walking with her friends; and received severe injuries. Smallegan spent time in DeVos Children's hospital and has had two surgeries so far, she is still unable to talk. Smallegan is now housed at Mary Freebed to recover. In honor of Smallegan and her family 50% of the proceeds made at the show will go to her and her family.

To make the night even more special, Smallegan's friends, some of whom were with her when the accident occurred, performed "Hallelujah" as written by Leonard Cohen. The performance was heartfelt and captivated the audience. The group included, Steven Strait, Sierra Helms, Brandon Watkins, Elizabeth Nelson, and Ja'von Collins; all Fruitport High School students. Helms delivered a short speech to kick off their performance dedicated to Smallegan.

There were three faculty judges, along with two student judges: Superintendent Bob Szymoniak, Ms. Briggs, and Mrs. Vanderberg were the faculty judges; and Jeff Campbell and Joleen Cejmer were the student judges.

There were several performers who had participated in Fruitport's Got Talent the previous year. Performers like: Cain Burling, Keeley Rose, Antonio Stong, Mikel Vaandering, Tyler West and Gabrielle Puente have all performed on the Fruitport Middle School stage before. There were also several newcomers to the stage this year; Kano Rivera, Caia Dibble, the new members of Fruitport's poetry and writing club Imagery, and senior Miranda Wilson. This was Wilson's first time performing in front of a live audience, and she delivered a beautiful solo, singing "Probably Wouldn't Be This Way" by Leann Rimes. Although her nerves understandably got the better of her, the performance was a good one overall.

It was the second time that guitarist Cain Burling, or playfully referred to as El Guapo, had graced the Fruitport's Got Talent stage. This time around Burling showed his skills not only for playing the guitar, but also for writing his own music as he performed an original composition; and won the trophy for Best Solo Act.

Awards were also given out for Best Dance: which went to Tyler West, who did a dance rendition of "Billie Jean" by Michael Jackson, complete with moonwalk; Best Group: went to Fruitport Imagery Club for their reading of the original poem called, "Poetic Confessions"; and Show Stopper: which went to dancer Caia Dibble for her contemporary piece performed to "Love the Way You Lie" by Skylar Grey. Long-time friends Andrew Netzler and Tom Crotty hosted the event, adding some comic relief to the show as they try to fill the shoes that Sam Cerniglia left behind after hosting the previous years Fruitport's Got Talent.

Political Commentary, etc

By LTC (Ret) Max Riekse, USA

We need strong, innovative policies that protect our Great Lakes, have higher standards to keep our air clean and promote renewable energy; along with using American coal dug by American workers, that produces energy with 100% clean air; it can be done.

The Iraq war cost American taxpayers around two trillion dollars; and the Afghanistan war cost an estimated one trillion dollars and another 104 billion underwrote the Afghanistan nation – building, including building up its infrastructure – while American bridges, roads, trains, etc. were left to rot and ruin. End wars for the wealthy neo-con elite.

Remember, in 1990, Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait after getting what he thought was a green light from the first – daddy – Bush administration. Baby Bush invaded Iraq based on lies and deceit; and brother Bush will want to attack Iraq for the neo-con elites.

We need to start electing people to office who are honest and vote out crooked judges; phony patriots; greedy lawyers; banksters; neo-con Trotskyite communists; and the like.

The anti-American, anti-Constitution, anti-Christian, pro-communist, pro-tax and pro-gay, hostile neo-con Trotskyite communist oriented press needs to be held accountable; stop buying their trash. "I call it that because they are hostile. Hostile to the best interest of the American people. Hostile to our Christian Constitutional Republic – which we were founded as. Hostile to the sane Republican policies that America was founded upon. Hostile to the American middle class; and hostile to the idea of placing truth over profits. Think whoever crafted the slogan 'the media is the enemy' hit the nail on the head."

The one-time audit of the Federal Reserve response to the 'late' financial crisis authorized by the Dodd-Frank law found that between 2007 and 2010 the Federal Reserve committed over 16 trillion dollars – more than four times the annual budget of the United State – to foreign central banks and politically influential private companies. This greatly benefited the political and economic elites, not the American middle class. For over a century, the Federal Reserve has operated in secrecy, to the detriment of the people. It is time to finally bring transparency to monetary policy by auditing the Fed.

Sad to say, both democrats and republicans alike only want to raise our taxes; spy on us; drive us to endless wars for the wealthy neo-con Trotskyite Communist anti-American middle class and trash our God-given Christian orientated Constitutional Republic, along with our Bill of Rights. I'm voting Libertarian party in 2016, and if "you" keep voting the way you have done for years, so will our elected officials.

Oppose eliminating Michigan vaccination waivers on "personal choice" grounds. Parents should remain free to vaccinate their children or not. The government should not mandate that; or keep those who are not vaccinated from attending tax-supported public schools. Measures that require parents to sit through educational sessions before getting waivers is Communist style, anti-American indoctrination. Vote Libertarian in 2016.

U.S. Senator Ted Cruz's wife is a vice president at Goldman Sachs, the infamous Wall Street firm that bilked American taxpayers out of billions of dollars through government bailouts. So far, Senator Cruz (running for president) is refusing to acknowledge what his wife pulls

Immigration issues

Letter to the Editor

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan, for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground.

They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households, and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had waved goodbye to their birthplace to give their children a new life, and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture. Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity.

Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought alongside men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan. None of these first generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans, fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan.

in at Goldman, but rumor has it that it is in the high six figures.

Under the aegis of the World Health Organization, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) said on March 20, 2015 that the herbicide glyphosate is "carcinogenic to humans." Glyphosate is found in the weed killer Roundup.

A federal judge has ordered the release of 2,000 photos that show horrible abuse of Iraqi and Afghan prisoners in U.S. military custody.

The Pentagon released in March a once-secret report from 1987 that officially confirmed for the first time ever the existence of Israel's nukes, reports the *Nation* magazine. Israel has between 400 and 500 nuclear bombs. Don't mess with them.

Coming soon to the United States of America; in mid-March, 2015, the interior minister of France "with no court review or adversarial process" ordered five websites to not only be blocked in France, but also ordered that anyone who visits any of the sites get redirected to a scary-looking government website explaining that this was a terrorist site. French Prime Minister Francois Hollande has equated conspiracy theories to Nazism and more "conspiracy" sites will be deemed illegal – in order to protect his government.

Top officials in the United States military say they are "worried" about new policies forced on them by President Obama, which include lifting a ban on so-called "transgender" people – individuals who have had or are in the process of having sex changes. The new defense secretary, Ash Carter, said he is open to the idea, but the Pentagon's top brass has reportedly put its foot down, pointing out the insanity of soldiers with sex changes sharing foxholes, let alone bathrooms, with normal soldiers.

According to an analysis of government data by the Pew Charitable Trust, 70% of U.S. households are struggling at this time with at least one of three problems: Low incomes, insufficient savings, or debt. The majority of these families are one crisis or setback away from financial disaster.

The number of Americans who receive food stamps in the U.S. has topped 46 million for 39 straight months, according to data released by the Department of Agriculture.

In 2014, Red—Communist China eclipsed the United States as the world's top destination for foreign direct investment, the *Wall Street Journal* reported recently, citing data released by the United Nations Trade conference on Trade and Development.

The 2015 Grammy Awards had an overtly satanic theme this year. When the rock band AC/DC played their hit song, "Highway to Hell," illuminated devil horns were passed out to the audience who wore them while singing along and making devil horn hand signs. If that wasn't enough, pop icon Madonna got pretty satanic herself with a bunch of masked, horned bull-men during her performance. Imagine if each member of the audience received a Bible instead of devil horns. Atheists and special interest groups would have been mad as "hell." But not anti-Christian, anti-American neo-con Trotskyite Communists. I wonder how many members of Congress were at the Grammy Awards?

Enough said. Have a great Memorial Day weekend, parade and American fireworks. Lieutenant Colonel (ret) Max Riekse; U.S. Army; 32 years. Join the Fruitport VFW. •

They were defending the United States of America as one people.

When we liberated France, no one in those villages was looking for the French-American or the German-American or the Irish-American. The people of France saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country. Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl.

And here we are with a new kind of immigrant: One who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement cards and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about. I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900s deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life. I think they would be appalled that those waving foreign country flags are using them as an example. And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

Rosemary LaBonte