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# Is the Bromance With Bibi Over?

### **Trump Puts America, Not Israel First**

Despite President Trump being perceived by some as a pawn of Prime Minister Benjamin "Bibi" Netanyahu, and America often portrayed as a vassal state of Israel, and also amid claims that Trump sold out to Zionist campaign donor Miriam Adelson for \$100M, it's now being reported by multiple sources that the honeymoon with Netanyahu is over and divorce proceedings may be underway as of this month.

May 8th, Israeli Army Radio reported that Trump decided to sever contact with Netanyahu. The reason cited was that Netanyahu and his associates have been acting arrogantly and attempting to intimidate President Trump.

According to IDF Radio, close associates of Trump told Israeli Minister of Strategic Affairs, Ron Dermer, the President feels disrespected and manipulated by Netanyahu, and that there's nothing he hates more than 'appearing as easily manipulated' in public.

Israel Hayom reported that Trump is "disappointed" with Netanyahu, also citing sources close to the President. The outlet notes frustration over Netanyahu's push for military action against Iran's nuclear program, which Trump sees as an attempt to pressure the US into military conflict. Trump is reportedly moving forward with Middle East initiatives, like Saudi normalization, without waiting for Israel's participation, as Netanyahu is "delaying necessary decisions." Relations have hit a "low point" with mutual disappointment, and Trump's decision to skip Israel on his Middle East trip (visiting Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates) underscores this rift. The news outlet also noted Trump's frustration with Netanyahu's new Gaza offensive, which Trump views as counterproductive to rebuilding efforts, reporting that Trump wants a ceasefire and hostage deal, aligning with the Israeli public's preference (70% support a deal per polling), but Netanyahu's focus on military pressure to defeat Hamas clashes with this goal.

The Times of Israel reported Netanyahu claimed only military pressure will free hostages, contradicted by evidence that ceasefires have led to the largest hostage releases. Trump's push for a Gaza deal, including the recent release of US-Israeli IDF soldier held hostage, Edan Alexander, which Netanyahu initially tried to claim credit for, totally bypassed Netanyahu, with Israeli intelligence only learning of the deal through spying on Hamas. The outlet also stated that Trump's unilateral actions, such as announcing a ceasefire with the Houthis without informing Israel, blindsided Netanyahu, and that Trump's focus on American interests, like nuclear talks with Iran and hostage negotiations with Hamas, exclude Israel. They also reported that Netanyahu's coalition, dependent on "far-right" parties pushing for Gaza's ethnic cleansing, limits his ability to align with Trump's ceasefire push.

Israeli critics argue Netanyahu prolongs the war to avoid a government collapse, in contrast with Trump's alignment with the Israeli people's desire for peace. Netanyahu vowed to "defend ourselves alone," signaling a break from past U.S-Israel joint operations.

The Jerusalem Post described Israel's unease over Trump's Houthi deal, quoting a senior Houthi leader calling it a "failure for Netanyahu." Israeli officials are concerned, they said, about losing their central role in US Middle East policy. The outlet hlighted Israel's lack of



advance notice about Trump's Houthi ceasefire announcement, with Israeli airstrikes on Yemen proceeding independently.

Haaretz military correspondent Amos Harel wrote that Trump's disengagement from Gaza mediation, coupled with offhand comments about turning Gaza into a "Riviera," has emboldened Netanyahu's allies to push for Palestinian displacement. Reports by Haaretz earlier this year foreshadowed tensions, with the outlet claiming that Netanyahu lied to Trump about Gaza ceasefire plans and prepared to sabotage a deal to appease his "ultra-nationalist coalition". Commentator Chaim Levinson noted Trump's envoy forced Netanyahu to accept a plan he rejected, highlighting distrust.

Research suggests the U.S. has provided at least \$17.9B in military aid to Israel since October 7, 2023., and that total US. spending, including related operations is actually \$22.76B.

As Trump now appears to move forward without him, Netanyahu's celebration of US - Israel solidarity in February, when he was the first foreign leader to visit Trump, now seems more than a bit premature.

# **Ukraine Signs Minerals Deal**

#### Does Not Have to Repay US Military Aid



The United States and Ukraine signed a minerals agreement on April 30th, establishing the United States-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund to support Ukraine's economic recovery and reconstruction post-war.

The investment fund is co-managed by both nations with equal partnership, ensuring neither has a dominant vote. Ukraine contributes 50% of revenues from new licenses for 55 critical minerals such as: titanium, lithium, rare earth elements, as well as oil, and gas, while existing projects like Naftogaz and Ukrnafta are excluded. The US contributes financially and through new military assistance, counted as capital contributions.

Ukraine retains full sovereignty over its natural resources and decides what and where to extract. The US gains preferential access to negotiate offtake rights for minerals on market-based terms, not direct ownership or repayment for past aid (initially proposed as \$500 billion).

The fund aims to attract global investment for Ukraine's infrastructure, energy, and mineral sectors, with profits reinvested in Ukraine for at least the first decade.

The deal lacks explicit US security guarantees, a priority for Ukraine, but affirms a "long-term strategic alignment" and US support for Ukraine's security and global integration, framed as incentivizing US interest to protect investments.

Negotiations were tense, with earlier US drafts demanding repayment for \$175B in aid. The final deal reflects Ukraine's diplomatic pushback and aligns with its EU integration goals. It was unanimously ratified by the Ukrainian Parliament.

But the deal may not be as advantageous for the U.S. as promoted. Unlike Trump's initial demand for \$500 billion in mineral revenues, the final deal grants no direct ownership or guaranteed revenue. The US only negotiates offtake rights and Ukraine retains full control over extraction. The 50% revenue share applies only to new projects which may not yield returns for decades, if at all. New mines potentially take 10–20 years to develop, costing \$500 million to \$1 billion per mine and separation plant. Many deposits are in Russian-occupied or contested areas. Ukraine's mineral reserves, estimated at 5% of global supply, lack modern assessments and the economic value of these resources remains speculative.

Additionally, the US lacks sufficient domestic infrastructure to refine these minerals, risking reliance on third-party processors, possibly even China. The deal's structure, resembling China's resource-for-aid model, sets a precedent that could complicate future US aid policies, allies may view grants as non-repayable. The agreement's classification as a "sole executive agreement" avoids congressional oversight.

The minerals deal secures strategic access to critical minerals, aligning with Trump's goal of reducing China's dominance and supporting a peace process. However, its long-term, uncertain payoff, high investment risks, limited U.S. control, and potential geopolitical and domestic costs suggest it may not deliver the immediate economic or strategic wins promised. For America, the deal's success hinges on Ukraine's stability, investor confidence, and the U.S. developing domestic refining capacity, none of which are guaranteed in the near term. Ukraine, by contrast, benefits from retaining sovereignty and securing reconstruction funds without debt obligations, making it a huge diplomatic win for Kyiv.

# **FBI Update**

#### From Deputy Director Dan Bongino

FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino took to Twitter/X to provide the following update, on May 10th:

"I'd like to update you on some things that I think are going well, and some things that we can, and will, do better.

The workforce has been working overtime on task force operations to remove dangerous illegal aliens from the country. The work continues. The message is clear. If you came here illegally to prey on our citizens, your days here are numbered. These removal and incarceration operations will dramatically change the crime landscape in the



country when combined with the administration's laser-focus on sealing the border shut. Expect these operations to ramp up, not slow down.

Crimes against children are a priority for the workforce. Operation "Restoring Justice," where we locked up child predators and 764 subjects, in every part of the country, is just the beginning. We are going to take your freedom if you take away a child's innocence. Think twice if you've targeted children, because you're next.

We're clearing information to Congress, and the public, as quickly as possible. In just the couple of months since we've sworn in we've responded to requests for information on the attack on Rep. Scalise and members of Congress, the Nashville attack, Crossfire Hurricane, the COVID cover-up and more. We are working with the DOJ on the Epstein case and, as the AG stated, there are voluminous amounts of downloaded child sexual abuse material that we are dealing with. There are also victim's statements that are entitled to specific protections. We need to do this correctly, but I do understand the public's desire to get the information out there.

We're doing our best in the current budgetary environment to prioritize the mission, act as good fiscal stewards, find waste and inefficiencies, and to enact reforms while moving the FBI forward. It hasn't been easy, but we'll get it done. We have weekly meetings where we meet with our CFO, and our new CIO and CTO team, and we go through budget items line by line. It's your money, and it's your FBI. We won't forget that.

I have no desire to sugarcoat this one - it's been difficult in this new role to stay relatively quiet while certain elements of the media continue to entirely fabricate stories about what we're doing at the FBI. But that's part of the job as a public servant. I don't work for myself anymore, I work for the public. And while I can't address all of the nonsense in this one post, I will address the repeated attacks on Director Patel. The Director's office is attached to mine. I am in most of the briefings he is in. He spends anywhere between 10-12 hours in the office attending meetings with everyone from foreign heads of law enforcement to our counterterror teams, and more. Any assertion otherwise is a verifiable lie designed to stop our reforms and fracture your trust. I will die on this hill. You are being clearly lied to by people with an agenda, and it's not your agenda.

Thanks for allowing me to communicate with you on this channel. Other things are happening as well, and they will become evident in the coming weeks and months. Keep watching us and holding us accountable.

God bless America, and all those who defend Her."



# The Art of the Tariff

#### **China and Others Come to the Table**

The US-China trade standoff just ended with a 90-day agreement. After weeks of escalating tariffs that reached a staggering 125% on both sides, US and Chinese negotiators met in Switzerland, where China agreed to reduce tariffs by 115%, bringing them down to just 10%, China removed all counter-measures. which had effectively created a trade embargo against US goods. Additionally, China sent their deputy minister for public safety to address the fentanyl crisis, which US officials called this an "upside surprise", completely unexpected at a trade meeting.

During the Obama administration, the average US tariff on Chinese imports was approximately 3%. This was the baseline before the US-China trade war began during the first Trump administration. After the trade war started in 2018, the US imposed tariffs under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. By February 2020, following the US-China Phase One Agreement, the average US tariff on Chinese exports was 19.3%, covering about 66.6% of US imports from China (roughly \$335 billion based on 2017 import levels). The Biden administration largely maintained these tariffs and added targeted increases. By January 2025, the average US tariff on Chinese exports was 20.8%, slightly higher due to increases in September 2024 and January 2025 on goods such as electric vehicles (up 100%), solar panels (up 50%), and other critical materials such as EV batteries, steel, and aluminum (up 25%).

Prior to January 2018, the average Chinese tariff on US exports was around 8%. In response to US. tariffs, China imposed retaliatory tariffs. By February 2020, the average Chinese tariff on U.S. exports was 21%, covering about 58.3% of U.S. imports to China (roughly \$90 billion based on 2017 import levels).

Under the Biden administration, China maintained a similar tariff structure, with retaliatory measures focused on US agricultural products, vehicles, and machinery. By 2024, China's average tariff on US goods was reported to be around 21.1%, though some sources suggest it could have been as low as 7.5% for certain goods before retaliatory escalations. China also adjusted its Most-Favored-Nation (MFN) tariff rates in 2024 for WTO members, but specific rates on U.S. goods remained elevated due to trade war measures.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent revealed they're managing a trade queue with nations reportedly bringing "their best offers" after seeing China's concessions. The White House has prioritized countries such as Japan, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Switzerland, Mexico, and Israel, as well as the European Union, but with so many negotiations ongoing it's a lot to manage. Bessant and National Economic Council Director Kevin Hassett reported that "more than 50 countries" contacted the US by April 6th, with that number rising to over 75 by April 9th.

The UK negotiated a limited deal May 8th, cutting tariffs on British metal and car exports with US beef and ethanol up to quotas, with ongoing talks for broader exemptions.

Negotiations with China over the next 90 days will focus on rebalancing trade and addressing the \$1.2 trillion deficit in goods. Will China follow through? Will concrete purchase agreements materialize to reduce the trade deficit?





# **EO Aims to Lower Drug Prices** Trump Makes Bold Move Against Pharma

On May 12, Donald Trump signed an aggressive Executive Order aimed at lowering the cost of prescription drugs in the United States. The goal is to make drug prices in the U.S. similar to what people pay in other wealthy countries, where drugs are often much cheaper.

In the US, people pay a lot more for prescription drugs than in countries like Canada, Australia, or European nations. For example, a prescription that costs \$1,000 in the U.S. might cost only \$100 in another country, even though it's the same drug made by the same company.

The U.S. spends about \$1,126 per person annually for prescription drugs, compared to only \$200 in Great Britain. Drug companies make about 75% of their profits from the US, even though we are only 5% of the world's population.

This Order could force them to rethink how they price drugs globally. Trump says Americans are paying high prices to cover the cost of drug research, while other countries get a discount. The Executive Order is based on something called the "Most Favored Nation" policy. Meaning, the US wants to pay the same low prices for drugs that other developed countries pay. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will look at what other countries pay for drugs and set "price targets" for drug companies to meet. Drug companies have 30 days to voluntarily lower their prices in the US to match these lower international prices.

If drug companies don't lower prices on their own, the government, through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), will set rules to force them to match those lower prices. This could apply to drugs covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and even private insurance. The government could: set price caps for drugs, allow more drug imports from countries like Canada, where prices are lower or use laws to crack down on drug companies' tricks that keep prices high, like delaying cheaper generic drugs.

The Executive Order also wants to allow Americans buy drugs directly from drug companies at these lower prices, skipping middlemen like insurance companies or pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) who often drastically drive up costs.

The Executive Order also asks the U.S. government to push other countries to pay more for drugs, so the US isn't stuck covering most of the research costs. At a press conference, Trump told reporters this could cut drug prices by 30% to 80%, or even 90% in some cases. This would make medicines more affordable for people, especially seniors on Medicare or those with chronic illnesses. "Starting today, the United States will no longer subsidize the health care of foreign countries, which is what we were doing," Trump said. "And will no longer tolerate profiteering and price gouging from Big Pharma," he added

Trump said the new policy will finally level the playing field. "So for the first time in many years, we'll slash the cost of prescription drugs and we will bring fairness to America."

At the press conference, NIH Director Jay Bhattacharya explained, "One thing that's really, really simple in economics is that when you have a persistent price difference for the same product between two countries, there's something deeply wrong." and, "Right now, what's happening is the American people are subsidizing in large a large fraction that the research and development efforts for drug companies around the world, by the higher prices that we pay."

Experts predict this new Executive Order will face lawsuits, especially since it's unclear how the government can control private market prices. A similar plan in Trump's first term was blocked by courts because it didn't follow proper rules

Democrats, Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Ro Khanna, have publicly expressed support for introducing bi-partisan legislation to codify Trump's Order but offered no specific details. What that bill might look like and if it aligns with Trump's plan remains to be seen.

Trump's Executive Order is a bold move to make prescription drugs cheaper by matching prices in other countries, but it depends on drug companies agreeing to lower prices or the government forcing them to do it. There's a lot of work to make this happen, and drug companies are expected to fight back, so it's not guaranteed to work perfectly or quickly for that matter. Still, it's a plan that could help people afford their prescriptions if it succeeds, and millions of struggling Americans have their hopes high that it will.





# 100 Days

#### **An Overview of the Trump Administration**

The first 100 days of the current Trump administration has been a whirlwind of both winning and chaos.

Trump signed executive orders on day one to declare a border emergency, reinstate "Remain in Mexico," and expand deportation efforts. The Laken Riley Act, signed January 29, 2025, mandated detention of undocumented immigrants accused of theft or assaulting police.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection reported a 90% decline in encounters by February 2025, and March 2025 saw the lowest monthly encounters in recorded history. Over 20,000 undocumented migrants were arrested in February alone, with ICE arrests up 627% compared to Biden's era.

Trump issued an executive order on January 20, 2025, eliminating federal diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs, claiming they violated civil rights laws. Another order banned transgender athletes from women's sports, leveraging Title IX to threaten federal funding for non-compliant schools. Executive Order 14168 rejected "gender ideology," defining only two sexes in federal policy.

Trump implemented a 10-to-1 de-regulatory initiative, requiring agencies to eliminate 10 rules for each new one proposed, building on his first term's 5.5-to-1 ratio.

The Council of Economic Advisers reported 228,000 jobs created in March 2025, with unemployment for veterans dropping from 4.2% to 3.8%.

Prescription drug prices fell over 2%, and gasoline prices dropped 7% per the Consumer Price Index.

Trump issued a blanket pardon for approximately 1,500 January 6 Capitol riot defendants on his first day, plus 39 additional pardons including Ross Ulbricht.

He reinstated service members discharged for refusing COVID-19 vaccines, restoring ranks and back pay. Orders also banned transgender troops from military service and ended vaccine mandates.

DOGE delivered on Trump's promise to audit federal spending, identifying tangible examples of waste, like the limestone mine and foreign-focused grants. Its \$160 billion savings claim, while contested, showed ambition, and its alignment with GAO's High Risk List gave it credibility. The rapid pace canceling of 500,000 government credit cards and 1,000 contracts demonstrated action, fulfilling a campaign pledge to "drain the swamp."

On the downside, over 200 lawsuits were filed against Trump's executive actions by April 2025, with courts blocking key policies. A federal judge halted deportations under the Alien Enemies Act for due process violations, and another ruled the firing of 25,000 federal workers illegal, forcing reinstatements.

Yet the current GOP-controlled Congress has failed to ratify DOGE cuts. Congress has sent fewer bills to President Trump to sign into law than any Congress in 70 years, and 26 Senate Republicans just voted down a bill to codify DOGE foreign aid spending cuts.

Trump's successes in his first 100 days of his second term centered on delivering campaign promises like border security, DEI rollbacks, and tariffs, earning praise from his base for speed and decisiveness. The first 100 days were polarizing, with 143 executive orders marking a frenetic pace but very limited legislative progress, setting the stage for ongoing battles.



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# **Legislature Bails Out Hobbs No Accountability For Over-Spending**

As reported in the Mohave Free Press February issue, Governor Katie Hobbs was facing harsh criticism from the Legislature for requiring an immediate financial bailout to prevent insolvency of State agencies.

As it turn out, Arizona's Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) faced a \$122 million budget shortfall, threatening services for nearly 60,000 Arizonans with conditions like autism, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. The crisis stemmed from overspending under Hobbs' administration, due to her unfunded continuation of the Parents as Paid Caregivers (PPCG) program, an expired federally funded initiative allowing parents to be compensated for caring for their disabled children at home during the "pandemic".

The Republican controlled Arizona Legislature ultimately passed a bipartisan bill to cover the deficit, with funds essentially being pulled from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), but critics argue it failed to hold Hobbs accountable for the mismanagement that led to the shortfall.

The DDD program, part of the Department of Economic Security, provides critical services such as medical care, therapies, and in-home support. This January, Hobbs administration reported the program's costs had surged from \$750 million to \$1.5 billion. Republican lawmakers, led by House Appropriations Committee Chairman David Livingston, accused Hobbs of fiscal mismanagement, claiming her administration made major financial commitments without legislative oversight. Livingston highlighted that the shortfall grew from \$109 million to \$122 million in weeks, risking service disruptions by May 1, 2025.

The standoff between Hobbs and the Legislature intensified over how to address the shortfall. Hobbs pushed for a "clean" supplemental funding bill without reforms. Republicans, however, demanded guardrails, such as capping PPCG hours at 40 per week per child and auditing the program, citing its unsustainable growth. They accused Hobbs of expanding DDD programs without legislative approval. Tensions peaked when Hobbs announced a bill-signing moratorium on April 17, vowing to veto all new legislation until a bipartisan funding solution was reached.

After months of public sparring, the Legislature passed HB 2945 last month, with a 48-11 House vote, and Hobbs signed it the same day. The bill provided the \$122 million needed to keep DDD operational through the fiscal year, protected services, and included compromises like the 40-hour PPCG cap and \$355,000 for an Auditor General's audit of the program by August 2026.

The Legislature's response drew criticism for failing to hold Hobbs accountable for the overspending. Critics argued that Hobbs bypassed legislative authority by unilaterally expanding DDD programs, yet the final bill imposed no direct consequences leaving unanswered questions about how the DDD budget doubled. The audit was deferred to 2026, delaying any findings until well after the crisis.

Prioritizing immediate funding over accountability was likely driven by the urgency of protecting services, as advocates warned of catastrophic outcomes, including potential institutionalization for disabled individuals.

As Arizona moves toward setting its 2026 budget, Hobbs failure to work within her financial limits will make for a contentious process going forward.



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# The DOGE Report

#### By Mark Fargo

#### "Efficiency Over Excess: DOGE's Bold Moves Stir Debate in Washington"

In the past month, the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), under the leadership of Elon Musk, has intensified its mission to streamline federal operations, aiming to reduce bureaucracy and cut unnecessary spending. While supporters hail these efforts as long-overdue reforms, critics argue they compromise essential services and overstep legal boundaries.

DOGE has reported significant strides in eliminating wasteful expenditures. Notably, the department announced the termination of over 120 contracts with consulting firm Deloitte, amounting to more than \$1 billion in savings . Additionally, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has reportedly saved \$2 billion by canceling unused software licenses and redundant contracts .

These actions contribute to DOGE's claim of achieving \$160 billion in savings since its inception through canceling contracts, reducing workforce numbers, and renegotiating grants, with an estimated \$1,024.84 saved per taxpayer. Such figures underscore the department's commitment to fiscal responsibility and reducing the national deficit.

In alignment with its efficiency goals, DOGE has overseen substantial reductions in the federal workforce. Reports indicate that federal civilian employment decreased by 9,000 in April alone, totaling a decline of 26,000 positions since the beginning of the year . These cuts are part of a broader strategy to eliminate redundant roles and promote a leaner government structure.

DOGE and the Trump administration have claimed significant progress in identifying waste, fraud, and abuse during thusfar. Examples include: \$6.5 billion in cuts to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), deemed wasteful by the Administration. \$287 million saved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through grant cancellations, such as a \$4 million diversity-focused construction materials grant. \$580 million in terminated Department of Defense (DoD) programs and contracts. \$1 billion saved by canceling diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) contracts across agencies.

DOGE has highlighted numerous specific cases of alleged waste, such as a limestone mine in Pennsylvania where 700 workers manually processed federal retirement applications underground, limited by a slow elevator, costing millions annually. \$59.3 million spent by FEMA to house migrants in New York City hotels, which DOGE claimed violated Trump's executive orders. The Department of Homeland Security later clawed back the funds.\$30 million in Department of Labor grants for foreign programs, like transparency in Uzbekistan's cotton industry, canceled as "America Last" spending.

Trump and Musk have claimed DOGE uncovered "billions" in fraud, including:\$630 million in fraudulent Small Business Administration (SBA) loans to applicants over 115 or under 11 years old, and \$382 million in fraudulent unemployment payments by the Department of Labor since 2020.

The House Oversight Committee, led by Rep. James Comer and DOGE Sub-committee Chairwoman Marjorie Taylor Greene, praised DOGE for aligning with the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) 2025 High Risk List, which identified 38 programs at risk of losing \$1 billion or more. Comer noted DOGE's audit leveraged GAO's work to target improper payments, estimated at \$2.7 trillion since 2003.

While these measures have been applauded by fiscal conservatives, they have also sparked legal challenges. A coalition of labor unions and local governments filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration, alleging that the workforce reductions violate constitutional provisions by bypassing Congress's authority.

DOGE has embraced technological advancements to enhance governmental efficiency. The department has deployed artificial intelligence (AI) tools to analyze agency operations, identify inefficiencies, and propose regulatory reforms . In one instance, a college student was appointed to lead AI-driven projects within the Department of Housing and Urban Development, focusing on streamlining regulations .

These initiatives aim to modernize federal agencies and reduce bureaucratic red tape. However, concerns have been raised regarding the potential for over-reach and the adequacy of oversight in implementing such technologies.

DOGE's efforts have not been without controversy. A federal appeals court recently upheld restrictions on the department's access to sensitive Social Security data, citing privacy concerns and potential violations of federal law. The court's decision mandates that DOGE can only access anonymized data, contingent upon staff training and background checks. The Trump administration has appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court, arguing that unrestricted access is necessary to root out fraud and enhance efficiency. The outcome of this legal battle could have significant implications for data privacy and governmental oversight.

5

Elon Musk's tenure at DOGE has been marked by both praise and criticism. Supporters commend his bold approach to reducing government waste and promoting innovation. Conversely, detractors argue that the rapid implementation of reforms has led to unintended consequences, including service disruptions and employee demoralization.

As Musk prepares to step down from his role at DOGE, questions remain about the Department's future direction and the sustainability of its initiatives. The ongoing debates surrounding DOGE's actions reflect broader tensions between the pursuit of efficiency and the preservation of essential public services.

The Department of Government Efficiency's recent activities underscore a transformative period in federal governance. While the pursuit of streamlined operations and fiscal responsibility resonates with many, the accompanying challenges highlight the complexities inherent in overhauling entrenched systems. As DOGE continues to navigate legal hurdles and public scrutiny, its legacy will likely influence discussions on governmental reform for years to come.

## **MAHA**

### Make Arizona Healthy Again!

On February 13, 2025, immediately following his swearing-in, President Trump signed an executive order establishing the President's Make America Healthy Again Commission, with Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as Chairman. The commission, composed of cabinet secretaries and top federal officials, aims to investigate the root causes of chronic diseases, particularly in children, and develop an action plan to reverse rising rates of conditions like autism, asthma, allergies, autoimmune disorders, and obesity.

Kennedy visited Arizona on April 8th, as part of his "Make America Healthy Again" tour. The visit focused on promoting two Arizona bills, the one that bans ultra-processed foods with harmful additives from public school meals was subsequently signed into law but the one that would have prohibited state food stamp recipients from purchasing soda was vetoed by Governor Hobbs.

Kennedy announced plans to phase out artificial dyes from the U.S. food supply, citing their link to chronic health issues, as part of MAHA's focus on environmental health and food safety, and has pushed for tighter regulations on air and water contaminants in collaboration with other federal agencies to reduce illnesses like asthma and cancer.

Kennedy is exploring reforms to Medicare's physician reimbursement system, potentially shifting away from the American Medical Association's Relative Value Scale Update Committee to prioritize primary care. Emphasizing holistic patient care he has advocated for integrating evidence-based complementary therapies such as acupuncture and dietary supplements, into healthcare, .

Kennedy has also announced a significant policy shift requiring that all new vaccines, including updated COVID-19 boosters, undergo placebo-controlled clinical trials before approval.

Kennedy is working within the severe constraints placed on him by Louisianna Senator Bill Cassidy (R), in order to secure Cassidy's vote to confirm him as HHS Director. Cassidy chairs the Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions (HELP) Committee. Kennedy must meet frequently with and consult with Cassidy on things such as key hiring decisions, and fall in line with the CDC advisory committee on imunization practices (ACIP). Kennedy had to promise not to claim that vaccines cause autism, despite evidence to the contrary. Best of luck, Bobby.





6 May, 2025



# **Critical Thinking**

by Jennifer Esposito Editor's Opinion

# Codify the Damn DOGE Cuts!

The government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other. - President Ronald Reagan

Despite Elon Musk and his dedicated DOGE team of cyber-warriors identifying both a scandalous amount of taxpaxer money being spent on things that are shocking and disturbing, Congress appears apathetic if not outright antagonistic towards actually doing anything about it.

KY Congressman Thomas Massie was right to oppose the Continuing Resolution instead of trying to pass an actual America First budget, because it reauthorized spending on numerous things that the Trump Administration sought to eliminate after they were brought to light by DOGE. Massie was excoriated by fellow Republicans, and even threatened with being primaried, for showing more wisdom than they apparently possessed because activist judges are now using the CR to halt program cuts and eliminations and employee terminations with the justification that Congress just reauthorized the funding.

The November election was a mandate. Yet it appears to be falling on deaf ears in the swamp. With a Republican President and Republicans controlling both houses of Congress, many Americans hoped to see a landslide of bills cascading on to Trump's desk to be signed. How many did they send in the first 100+ days? Five. Contrast that with his 152 Executive Orders which can be reversed by a future administration.

In his first 100 days Franklin D. Roosevelt signed 76 bills in to law. Even in Trump's first term 24 bills quickly made their way to the Resolute Desk. Is it gross incompetence, lack of planning, or something more sinister?

Now Republican members of Congress have taken to social media to promote the "One Big Beautiful Bill" that will be crafted through the reconciliation process in order to bypass a potential Senate filibuster. It contains tax cuts, border security measures, energy policy, and among other things it raises the damn debt ceiling! Yup, you read that right, more debt for our posterity to bear. But what the reconciliation Bill doesn't seem to do is codify the DOGE cuts.

While I haven't had enough time to read anything more than a detailed summary, that's probably more than many in Congress will bother doing before they vote on it. The House Ways and Means Committee has marked up the Bill, with Energy and Commerce finalizing their portions. House Speaker Mike Johnson aims for a floor vote by the end of the month but the fate of the "Big Beautiful Bill' hinges on GOP unity. Given that 26 Republican senators just voted against codifying DOGE foreign spending cuts, I'm not sure that unity is even possible in our current political climate.

It's almost as if uniparty grifters are happy hogs feeding at the public trough while they are simultaneously doling out the very grain they are eating through NGOs who prepare their meal away from the prying eyes of public scrutiny. After all, they don't become millionaires on a public servants' salary by dumb luck, do they?.

One thing is clear, the majority of American people appreciate the work that DOGE has been doing, and we won't forget the waste, fraud, abuseand corruption they are exposing, even if our elected representatives fail us. It's certainly been eye opening for many. And I feel it's only the tip of a deep iceberg. Stay tuned.

If the red team loses in the mid-term election, as often happens, it will be the fault of our do-nothing GOP controlled Legislature and not Trump or his policies. And if the Democrats take even a one seat majority then nothing even remotely America First will get accomplished in the final two years of Trump's presidency. This is our one shot, a golden opportunity, and the clock is ticking...

# "FREE" SPEECH

#### Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month

Nobody likes to live with nightmares, severe anxiety, depression, confusion, flashbacks, night sweats, and/or thoughts of suicide that can be likely caused by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

It is a dark time in their lives for those who suffer from PTSD, which can be described as a mental health condition. It can be triggered after they experienced extreme trauma, had a lifethreatening event, or witnessed a horrific situation such as a shooting or an automobile accident in which someone died.

A person with PTSD will suffer symptoms of not normally thinking, is probably hyper-vigilant, has a short fuse, may not be sleeping well because of nightmares, and could even be self-medicating. They may also be making such efforts to avoid a similar situation and feel as if they aren't doing their job properly or dealing with life in general.

Unknown to most, PTSD usually develops in the first six months after trauma. However, in some people, symptoms may take years to develop, and this is called delayed-onset PTSD. This makes up less than one in five cases and there is no difference in the symptoms of PTSD and delayed-onset PTSD.

Complex PTSD is not the same as PTSD, and the treatment options are different. Complex PTSD describes personality changes people experience after ongoing trauma, such as abuse.

They may include finding it hard to relate to other people, the feeling hopeless and they may have difficulty trusting others.

According to researchers, there may be some overlap between complex PTSD and borderline personality disorder (BPD). People with complex PTSD may benefit from treatments that work for people with BPD. People with BPD need to consult with their medical professional to determine if they suffer from PTSD or BPD.

Just some of the symptoms people suffering from BPD exhibit include extreme reactions to feeling abandoned; unstable relationships with others; confused feelings about who they are; and being impulsive in ways that could be damaging. For example, spending, sex, substance abuse, reckless driving, binge eating; regular self-harming, suicidal threats or behavior; long-lasting feelings of emptiness or being abandoned; difficulty controlling your anger; highly changeable moods; and paranoid thoughts when you're stressed.

The problem is most people think of PTSD only relates to military combat veterans and are the only ones who suffer from it; that can no further from the truth.

Granted, veterans are highly likely to experience PTSD, especially those who have served combat tours of duty. It is conservatively estimated that 30 percent of Vietnam War veterans, 10 percent of Gulf War veterans, and 14 percent of Iraq War veterans suffer from PTSD.



"If we dont believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don't believe in it at all." - Noam Chomsky, American linguist and US Media and Foreign Policy critic

Another group of professionals who suffer from PTSD are members of the law enforcement community. There are approximately 900,000 sworn officers in the U.S. and some studies have concluded as many as 19 percent of them may have PTSD. Other studies have suggested that the percentage is much higher, at 34 percent, and they may suffer symptoms associated with PTSD, but do not meet the standards for the full diagnosis.

Just in the U.S., 6.8 percent of all adults will experience PTSD in their lifetimes with women twice as likely as men to experience it, frequently because of sexual trauma or abuse.

Susannah Pitman, is an acupuncturist who operates Balance Acupuncture Center in Boonton, New Jersey, a writer, the founder of the Facebook group called Peace with PTSD, and the author of "Peace with Trees." She has lived with PTSD since 1997 after witnessing a horrific accident that took her father's life. According to her, she believes there are five most common misconceptions about PTSD. They are PTSD is simply stress after a trauma; people with PTSD are unstable and dangerous; a life with PTSD is all doom and gloom; PTSD is a veteran's problem; and last but not least, PTSD isn't real and people should just "get over it."

June is PTSD Awareness Month. This month, government agencies and organizations work with employees, consumers, and patients at risk for the condition. They disseminate information about symptoms and treatments for it to the public in the hopes that when more people know about the disease, more people who suffer from PTSD will seek treatment.

Many government agencies, including the Veterans Administration, offer oneon-one counseling, and group therapy classes and they have crisis hotlines people can call if they are suffering from PTSD or BPD.

There is a multi-jurisdictional crises stress management team, made up of various public safety agencies, River Medical, and KRMC, and is designed for first responders. If need be, a member of the team will travel to a specific incident, such as the Las Vegas concert shooting, and provide group counseling to the first responders, doctors, nurses, and volunteer groups such as search

and rescue teams involved in the incident.

Contrary to popular belief, people can live a peaceful life with PTSD, but people must not ignore the symptoms and they need to consult with their medical professional to determine if they suffer from PTSD or BPD.

Butch Meriwether Golden Valley

# Is Congress Deliberately Tanking Trump's Second Term?

In 2009, the 111th Congress, under newly inaugurated President Obama, passed 20 acts by this point, including the \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the \$410 billion Omnibus Appropriations Act. These were significant, far-reaching laws that defined Obama's early presidency. In contrast, the 119th Congress, under President Trump's second term, has passed only five items. Three are resolutions rejecting administrative regulations, one is a Continuing Resolution extending Obama's and Biden's spending priorities, and the fifth, the Laken Riley Act, is the most notable achievement. The last federal budget passed was in 2008, leaving the government reliant on stopgap measures for nearly two decades.

The Senate has confirmed Trump's cabinet-level positions promptly, but this is where public attention fades. Thirty critical sub-cabinet positions remain vacant, and Senate Majority Leader John Thune plans to delay action until August. Thanks to rules changes by the late Senator Harry Reid, Democrats can stall each nomination for only about two hours, meaning Thune could resolve this in roughly 70 hours if he chose to act. If Thune lacks the resolve, Vice President J.D. Vance, as President of the Senate, could step in to push these confirmations through.

President Trump understands the urgency. On his first day, he signed 26 executive orders, and by May 2, 2025, that number reached 145. His supporters celebrate this flurry of action, but Democrats are already preparing counter-orders to reverse Trump's policies, ready to be signed en masse by the next Democratic president, perhaps

by an army of Autopens.

Congress must act as the partner voters elected it to be, but instead, it's mired in familiar Republican dysfunction and BS. The House passed a budget resolution boasting "over \$1 trillion in cuts," conveniently omitting that this figure spans ten years—equating to just \$100 billion annually, only to scrap it in favor of yet another CR. The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), led by Elon Musk, has identified \$165 billion in immediate waste, not to mention billions to Ukraine. The Senate's proposal is even more pathetic, offering \$4 billion in cuts—again, over ten years, or a mere \$400 million per year. These figures are laughably inadequate.

Congress's budgeting rhetoric is deliberately misleading. When discussing cuts, they use ten-year projections to inflate small numbers. When addressing the budget's size, they switch to single-year figures. The current federal budget is approximately \$6.8 trillion annually, or roughly \$68 trillion over a decade. Cutting \$4 billion to \$1 trillion from that is a drop in the bucket. The reasoning is simple: they think you are stupid.

Promises of a "big, beautiful bill" sound exciting, but leaks reveal a lack of ambition or substance. On taxes, Congress is debating whether to extend the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which has been in place for eight years. Framing the status quo as a "tax cut" is disingenuous; it's simply maintaining current policy; it is not in any way shape or form a tax cut. Trump's campaign promises to make tips tax-free for Las Vegas workers, while a savvy move to win Nevada, benefits only about 2.5% of U.S. workers-hardly a transformative tax cut. Worse, there's talk of a "millionaires" tax" to fund these modest measures, a move that contradicts the economic growth Trump champions. Where are the spending cuts?

It's hard to shake the impression that Congress is undermining Trump's second term. Biden's economic policies, designed to create disaster in 2025, are taking effect, and Trump's tariff plans, while potentially beneficial long-term, will cause short-term pain. The only way to avert economic disaster is bold action: massive, across-the-board tax

cuts, not token gestures for a tiny fraction of workers, paired with aggressive deregulation. Why hasn't the REINS Act, which would curb bureaucratic overreach, been passed this year? Congress's inaction is not just a failure of leadership; it appears to be outright sabotage. With the economy at a tipping point, Republicans must stop posturing and deliver the sweeping reforms they promised. If they continue to dawdle, they risk not only Trump's agenda but the trust of the voters who gave them power. Congress: get serious, get off your ass, get to work, and stop playing games with America's future.

Ethan Benson Kingman

#### **Best Wishes**

Thought I would share this with you. Our United States Postal Service window clerk 'LINDA K.' is retiring APRIL 30, 2025. She is U.S.ARMY she served 30 ± years with our postal service. She is an amazing lady, she worked incredibly hard her entire life.

Wishing her happy retirement, and many many thanks for solid work ethic, highly professional attitude to helping United States Postal Service customers, and so much more during her career. Our best wishes and congratulations to her. Respectfully,

Ms. Elsie Ganzon Kingman







# **Picture This!**



Picture yourself being a corporate media presstitute driving to the White House for a briefing and being greeted by about 100 large posters with the mug shots and serious crimes (including murder, rape, kidnapping, child sexual assault, and distributing fentanyl) allegedly committed by illegal immigrants who were arrested. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem posted on X "If you are here illegally and you break the law, we will hunt you down, arrest you, and lock you up."

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# Charity Spotlight With Munchkin the America First Pig



Looking for an unforgettable summer experience that's both fun and enriching for your child? Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley's new Kingman Branch is ready to deliver just that with an exciting 2025 Summer of Possibilities program! Running May 27 to July 11 for KUSD students, with extended summer camp weeks offered through the end of July for students not enrolled at a KUSD school, this dynamic camp offers a vibrant mix of activities, learning opportunities, and community building that will keep kids engaged, inspired, and smiling all summer long. Summer Camp programming is offered from 7am to 6pm for youth members, and 10am to 6pm for teen members

Located at 2160 Airway Avenue in Kingman, AZ, the Kingman Branch summer program is open to youth who are 5 years old and have completed kindergarten through 18 years old and still in high school. Youth aged 5-12 attend for just \$60 per week, plus a \$30 annual membership fee. Teens participate for free with a paid annual membership, making this an accessible and inclusive opportunity for all families in the area. Whether your child is a budding artist, a future scientist, or simply eager to have fun and make new friends, the Kingman summer program has something for everyone.

The camp's robust schedule features a variety of daily activities designed to nurture creativity, promote physical activity, and support academic growth. Kids can explore their talents in creative arts while also sharpening their minds through academic enrichment and STEM-based projects including robotics and hands-on science experiments. Sports, games, and team challenges keep the energy high, encouraging healthy habits and teaching valuable life skills like leadership and collaboration. Club members will receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch each day, along with a healthy snack, all at no additional cost. This ensures that every child stays fueled and ready to fully engage in the day's activities. It's more than just a summer camp—it's a safe, supportive space where kids can thrive emotionally, socially, and academically.

Safety and structure are top priorities at the Kingman Branch. Led by trained, caring Youth Development Professionals, the camp environment is carefully designed to be welcoming, inclusive, and secure. Staff members are committed to creating meaningful relationships with each child, fostering a sense of belonging and confidence that can last far beyond the summer months.

Spots fill quickly, so families are encouraged to register early to secure a place in this enriching and exciting summer experience! For more information or to sign up, visit: www.bgcaz.org/kingman

# **Stay Another Day!**

### Things to see and do around the greater Kingman area

#### It's Swim Season!



Centennial and Grandview Pools will open to the public on Memorial Day weekend and remain open for 12 weeks, closing mid-August.

41 acre Centennial Park features a deep water 50 meter pool offering a 140' water slide, concessions, picnic tables, and a shade area. It is ideal for strong swimmers. The Park also offers horseshoe pits, basketball courts, soccer fields, tennis courts, pickleball courts, racquetball courts, volleyball courts, softball fields, a jogging trail, outdoor exercise equipment, picnic areas with BBQ grills, playgrounds, a dog park, and restrooms.

Grandview Pool is a smaller neighborhood pool with a baby pool, wheel chair ramp, grass area, and picnic tables, and restrooms.

In order to meet the needs of numerous aquatic groups, the Kingman Parks and Recreation Department takes this into consideration and offers various programs to meet the needs of all ages and types of swimming abilities. If you are interested in learning how to swim, participate in lap swim, free swim, water aerobics or just sitting in the pool, it is offered at one of these pool locations.

Centennial Pool is located at 3333 Harrison St. Phone (928) 757-7910

Grandview Pool is located at 324 Gold St, at the corner of Grandview. Phone (928) 753-8155

Pool days and hours are Monday - Saturday: 1pm - 5pm



## **Kingman Comic Con**

Get your favorite "cosplay" ready and grab your friends because you're about to earn a bunch of fun & geeky camp achievement badges at this years "Summer Camp" themed King-Con.

Comics, toys, art, artists, authors, photo-ops, scavenger hunt, live game show and more. Sign up for the cosplay contest online. There's cash and trophies plus certificates and ribbons! Mohave County Fairgrounds:

Saturday May, 24th,11:00am - 7:00pm Sunday May 25th, 11:00am - 4:00pm https://ryoucereal.com/pages/king-conkingman-comic-con



\$9.99 one day general admission ticket (Kids under 8, free with adult.) \$14.99 two day general admission ticket ticket (Kids under 8, free with adult.) \$29.99 two day VIP admission ticket - plus T-shirt/lanyard package



# **ART & THEATER SUMMER CAMPS**





**Kids Weeklong Painting Summer Camp** Monday-Thursday June 9th-12th 10AM-12PM

All levels welcome, open to ages 8-12 \$125/4 sessions, all materials included.



Guardian & Me Weeklong Sculpture Workshop Monday-Friday June 16th-June 20th 10AM-12PM Ages 7-14, accompanied by a guardian.

\$150 per student & their guardian/5 sessions All materials included



Cat and Rooster Weeklong Performance Workshop

Monday- Friday June 16th - June 20th 1PM-3PM Ages 7-16 (all levels welcome) \$125/5 Sessions/1 show (all materials included)



**Art Exploration Kids Art Camp** 

Tuesday-Thursday June 24th-26th 1PM-3PM Ages 8-12 (all levels welcome) \$90 per student for all 3 sessions



A Pippi Longstocking Performance Summer Camp Monday-Thursday June 30th-July 3rd 2PM-3:30PM

Monday-Thursday July 7th-July 10th 2PM-3:30PM Ages 7-17 (all levels welcome) Early Bird: \$160 per student/8 sessions/1 show



Shrek the Musical Jr Performance Intensive Camp

Monday- Thursday June 23rd - June 26th 5PM-8PM Tuesday-Thursday July 1st-3rd 5PM-8PM Monday-Friday July 7th-11th 5:00pm-8:00pm Ages 10-18, all levels welcome Early Bird: \$250 per student/12 sessions/2 shows

# **County Board Report**

April 21, 2025, scandal plagued Runbeck Election Services was back on the agenda for a new contract for the 26-27 election cycle. The Board of Supervisors voted to continue with Runbeck with five additional "Ballot Guard", at a minimal additional cost. Mohave is the first county in AZ to implement these anti-counterfeit measures which could include: invisible fibers, proprietary watermark, IR taggant, UV dead paper, and microprint.

District 5 Supervisor, Ron Gould, pulled an item concerning the state AVID voter registration database contract. At the March 17th meeting, the Board had requested an item about outsourcing the Voter Registration Database be continued, requesting the Recorder, Lydia Durst, research creating an in-house database and return with a report. Because it did not require an inter-government agreement, Durst just had Procurement pay the bill without Board approval. She also claimed the cost and staff time would make ity difficult to bring the database in-house. The Board has asked Clerk Skubal to create a policy mandating items continued by the Board to be brought back before the Board for approval..

The Mohave County Airport Authority (MCAA) was asked to make a formal presentation and show their financial reports for the last two years on May 19th.

The Board voted to prohibit outdoor fires and fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Mohave County Fire Zones 3 & 4 within the Hualapai Mountain Range.

The county attorney's office offered several policies for the Board to distribute the opioid settlement funds amongst the five districts. The Board voted to direct funding agreement between Mohave County and the applicant, with a request by the District's supervisor, with final approval by the Board.

May 5th, the Board directed staff to create a new policy that would allow for small donations to the libraries without Board approval.

The Board voted to approve two rezones, one to allow for a storage facility in Dolan Springs, the other to allow for a minor land division in Golden Valley.

District 2 Supervisor Rich Lettman requested \$10,000 be added to the 25-26 budget to pay for a structural evaluation and testing for hazardous materials at the abandoned church located at Davis Camp. Vocal Bullhead City resident, "Scotty" McClure spoke about asbestos concerns and believes it will cost greater than \$10,000 to remediate. Supervisor Lettman mentioned that there are two private groups interested in the property but would like to know the status of hazardous materials before moving forward with intent. The Board voted to fund the testing.

District 4 Supervisor Don Martin brought forward an item for discussion regarding the UN Agenda 2030 International Plumbing Code requiring a permit for water heaters. This caused a stir on social media, with most thinking he wanted to implement a new fee and not knowing a \$75 permit is currently required for such a simple install. Supervisor Gould commented that he would like to see the International Codes eliminated or revised to allow for more freedom for property owners and help lower the costs for home building. The County did not even have a building code until the early 2000's because contractors used the State Code.

Supervisor Gould has tried twice to have an item heard regarding repealing portions of the Mohave County code requiring pet shops and dog groomers having to pay for County Health inspection permits. Unfortunately, due to legal notice requirements, the public hearing has been continued to the June 2nd meeting.

# **Kids Eat Free**

## **Summer Feeding Program Begins**

The Kids Cafe, a program of the Illinois based non profit organization Feeding America, has started up again in Kingman at the First Southern Baptist Church.

Free nutritious meals will be provided for children 18 years old or younger. This summer, they will be providing both breakfast and lunch, and kids can dine in or take their meals to go.

Meals are served Monday - Friday Breakfast is 7:30am - 9;30 am Lunch is 11am - 1pm

The church is located at 3120 N. Hualapai Mountain Rd, Kingman For more information contact Scott at (507) 517-1864 or Lana at (208) 949-4030

## **Rumor Mill**

**RUMOR**: Someone on Facebook said the Asian Buffet wasn't going to open after all, because the owner died. Is this true? I was really looking forward to some all you can eat kung pao chicken.

**TRUTH**: According to the City of Kingman, the WZ Asian Buffet will be opening "during the third quarter of 2025".

Other new eateries opening this year are: El Pollo Loco - expected to open Memorial Weekend Tropical Smoothie Cafe - expected to open Labor Day Weekend

BoSa's Donuts - expected to open by the end of the year

Representatives from the City of Kingman will attend the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) event in Las Vegas this month, to try and attract other businesses locals have asked for.

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# **Golden Valley Matters**



Get ready for a wild, woolly, and totally awesome time this summer. The Mohave Youth Livestock Expo just kicked off the first of four two-day Golden Valley shows in their "Nothing Going On Summer Series".

The livestock show is similar to 4-H and features youth handlers 3-20 years of age showing goats, sheep, cows, and pigs, as well as rabbits and poultry for prizes. This experience will help prepare them for the County Fair in the fall.

Admission is free to the public, just bring a lawn chair, and don't worry about the heat because all shows are held in the morning and evenings at the C Spear Arena, 3372 N. Bacobi Rd.

The non-profit organization is also trying to raise about \$20k to build a covered arena on the 20 acre show site, and donations are greatly appreciated.

Mark your calendars for the three remaining 2025 summer show dates:

June 27 and 28

July 18 and 19

August 8 and 9

For more information contact Garret Walker at: (928) 279-7155 "Like and Follow" Mohave Youth Livestock Expo on Facebook for show updates.



Fundraiser event! 10:00am-1:00pm



Help us help the Donkeys!

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5104 West Oatman Highway Golden Valley sosdonkeyhaven@gmail.com

# Kingman Korner

#### General Plan or General Scam? By Elliot Chalew

Although I continue to be fully engaged in local Kingman City politics, I wish, like the rest of you, we could all get back to everyday regular life and move forward instead of backward as we did in this last local election cycle. Unfortunately, as the old adage says, "If wishes were fishes, we'd all swim in riches." No rank-and-file Kingman citizen is going to be swimming in riches, but a few special interest folks in the city certainly will with the ratification of the new Kingman General Plan. Yes, you read that right, and something is stinking like rotten fishes.

I have done my very best to alert the people of Kingman about the General Scam through Social Media and the newspapers. Thousands of you read my publications and embraced the same fears I have. Sadly, our worst nightmares have come to fruition with this counterfeit plan.

The first thing that stunk was that the city had publicly posted the General Plan had passed and was ratified before Election Day. How could that be possible unless the intent was to skew or rig the election? Once that was pointed out on social media, the city, without a word, redacted that notification. Perhaps the intent was to make the people believe it was over and, therefore, they no longer needed to vote on it (Prop 417). There was a lot of confusion, and many people reported inconsistencies about receiving a copy of the 116-page Plan to read and make an informed vote. Some reported it being on their ballots, and others reported it was not

You'd better be sitting for this. They claim there were 6619 YES votes, and the Plan passed by 50.16%. There were 6576 NO votes, 49.84%. This highly contested "con job" rip-off was ratified by 43 votes. You have to be holding your nose because this stinks so bad of tampering or some kind of manipulation that only a fool would rule out those possibilities.

This General Plan, and its phony ratification, was literally a blank check from your pocket to Kingman City. The City can claim the people voted it into law and hide behind that while they O.D. on Economic Development, creating insane urban density, raise your taxes and utility bills and continue to ignore our critical infrastructure and, what's more egregious, ignore you, the people, yet again.

Months ago, I contacted the County Election Department and demanded a recount. I requested verification on the signatures of every voter who voted on this proposition. I wanted to ensure all who were eligible to vote were included and received the proper ballot. I also requested from the Mayor a written explanation of how and why it was posted as ratified days before the election. I fully believe Arizona Revised Statutes have been violated because sufficient Preliminary Information about the plan was not provided before ballots were sent out. Since I never received the information I requested from the Election Department, I used the FOIA to request from the City all records proving they had done all required by law and the mandatory preliminary steps before putting the General Plan (Prop 417) on the ballot. They acknowledged my request and but have never responded. This is another utter violation of the law. They remain silent on this genuine grievance, which speaks volumes about their credibility and the integrity of Kingman leadership, aka the City Council and City Manager.

I make a sincere, emotional, and intellectual plea to the Kingman public. It is now or never. We can no longer allow the City leadership to kick the can because, at this point, they might as well be kicking us in our teeth. Today, we are fighting establishment landowners and home builders from destroying our property values and creating horrific urban density. Tomorrow, we might have to fight even the slightest possibility that the stench in the air is from the unimproved sewer infrastructure network and not inequities in voting for Prop 417.

If you considered taking a pass on showing up at the upcoming P&Z, City Council, and Board of Supervisors meetings to protest all the absurd zoning changes, you might want to reconsider. We are being buried alive by the Status Quo elected to represent us. I do not know about you, but I am not ready to read the Obituary for the City of Kingman.

We might not be the shining city on the hill, but we damn sure are not indentured servants to the Kingman Company Store. We are not here to serve the Kingman Establishment, but rather the Kingman Establishment to serve us. Please feel free to email, and please do not be fearful. chalew@ gmail.com

# **Breaking Free From the Trance** by Don Spencer, CCHt

Here we are in May 2025. The world is changing. Mankind is changing. Everything is changing.

We have entered a time in history where knowledge is just a few keystrokes away.

However, that knowledge should be questioned, as well. With the advent of Al we have taken another step into the unknown adverse potentials of what can also be a source of great possibilities for the advancement of humankind.

But what does this mean?

Although it is not yet known, what we can surmise is that another layer of giving away our freedoms under the guise of safety has arrived. So, what can you do about it?

Knowledge is power. So, the more you know about the capabilities of Al and how the system is positioning itself against you, is the first step in breaking free of the never ending onslaught of human enslavement.

That brings us to another conundrum, which might mean you'll need to put on your tin foil hat, as the rabbit hole goes deeper. Now you have to ask who is profiting from all this, and why would they want to control humanity?

You can say that it's the secret societies or the elite bankers or the religious orders that are all positioning themselves for domination. You can say that it's an eternal battle between good and evil and that evil has been given reign over prison planet Earth

and that during that or this time, we are basically screwed.

Or you can say with the knowledge one has by paying attention to the signs and wonders of the times we are in, that it might be a glorious time to be alive. Perspectives have the potential to change everything.

What we do know is that in our current system where water is polluted with toxins and the skies are blanketed with toxic chemicals and our food sources are sprayed with chemical toxins and our animals are injected with vaccines, hormones and biotech substances, all unfit for human consumption, what the hell is the End Game? And there you have it for now....

The New World Order is on the fast track to dominate our lives, and what we have in our favor is the foreknowledge that this is happening and that we as a collective species must come together to stand against the onslaught that is in full swing to control

our minds.

Breaking free from the cultural trance means to put away preconceived ideas and come together as one people to fight the common enemy and they are not your brothers and sisters. They want to divide and conquer, and unless we take a stand, they win.

Wake up, my friends, question everything, and become friends with your local conspiracy nut jobs, because they have been right about everything!

When I began my career in hypnosis, I had no idea at the time about neuroplasticity, which is the brains capacity to change and adapt, and that is a good thing, but can be used against one, as well. I knew we have had the potential, which is unlimited in nature. I have spent my years in pursuit of this truth.

You have an opportunity to make positive changes in your life right now, and I invite you to visit my site at www.sleepnow.com to discover how learning self hypnosis can give you the tools to combat the cultural trances. Until next time, I wish you well!

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# Mark's Musings Artificial Intelligence by Mark Fargo

Navigating the Future: The Benefits and Risks of Al super intelligence

In an era defined by rapid technological advancement, artificial intelligence (AI) stands at the forefront of innovation, with super intelligence emerging as a focal point of discussion.

While the potential benefits of AI super intelligence could revolutionize various sectors, experts warn of the significant risks that accompany its development. AI super intelligence refers to a form of artificial intelligence that surpasses human cognitive abilities across virtually all fields, including scientific research, problemsolving, and creative endeavors. Proponents of AI super intelligence argue that such technology could usher in a new age of unparalleled efficiency and innovation.

Potential benefits include:

-Enhanced Problem-Solving: Al super intelligence could tackle complex global challenges, from politics to healthcare. By processing vast amounts of data at lightning speed, it could develop solutions that humans might overlook.

-Economic Growth: The integration of super intelligent AI into industries could lead to significant productivity gains, driving economic growth and creating new job opportunities in technology and maintenance sectors.

-Medical Advancements: In healthcare, super intelligent AI could lead to breakthroughs in diagnostics, personalized medicine, and drug discovery, ultimately saving countless lives and improving quality of care.

However, the pursuit of AI super intelligence is not without its drawbacks. Experts caution that without careful regulation and oversight, the risks could outweigh the benefits. Some of the risks to this super intelligence include:

-Loss of Control: One of the primary concerns surrounding super intelligent AI is the potential loss of human control. As AI systems become more autonomous, ensuring that they align with human values and ethics becomes increasingly complex.

-Security Threats: Super intelligent AI could be weaponized or used maliciously, posing significant risks to national security. The potential for AI-driven cyberattacks raises alarms among governments and defense experts.

-Economic Disruption: While AI has the potential to create jobs, it may also lead to widespread job displacement as machines surpass human capabilities in various roles. This could exacerbate and societal unrest.

As researchers and tech companies continue to push the boundaries of AI, the conversation around super intelligence intensifies. Regulatory frameworks and ethical guidelines are essential to navigate the complexities of this powerful technology. Collaborative efforts among governments, industry leaders, and ethicists are crucial to harnessing the benefits of AI while mitigating its risks.

In conclusion, while the promise of AI super intelligence is tantalizing, society must tread carefully. Balancing innovation with ethical considerations will be vital as we move toward a future where super intelligent AI becomes a reality. As we stand on the precipice of this new technological frontier, the choices we make today will shape the world of tomorrow.

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# The Patriot's Corner



Is the USA Ready to Make the Sacrifices Needed?

#### By Clair Van Steenwyk



I know many people who've commented on tariffs seem awfully concerned about them and I know our farmers, ranchers, companies of all sizes, stock brokers, and of course large investors are concerned about this as well, some so concerned they speak out against it at every turn.

I've also been watching programs about investing, talk shows etc. and of course many on the talk show circuit, both commentators and guests, who have no financial background also make most negative remarks about how this is being done and how the market will drop, Billions will be Lost along with Jobs and much more. I believe this is Basic Fear Mongering to Create Doubt in President Trump. I also believe many Americans are bothered by this as well and with only a few exceptions on these programs which, I know many of us don't take the time to watch or listen to, where the idea is understood and they actually speak out against the nay sayers.

I along with some I know understand the main reason for the Tariffs is Twofold, one to level the Playing field between the USA both Our Friends and Foes who've used the system as it stands for Decades to Benefit them at the Cost of Trillions of Dollars and Thousands of Companies moving to foreign countries at the Cost to USA of Millions of Jobs along with the former Employees Hopes & Dreams and Devastated Entire Communities and Families just so the Major Corporations could make Billions more and of course those running these companies got larger Bonues & Stock Options.

My concern is that we must bring back all manufacturing that is critical to our national defense such as ship building, and other industries such as prescription drugs, and the critical minerals we now need for manufacturing if we hope to be able build the equipment we need for our military in the future which we are presently depending a major foe of ours who's been bleeding us dry as they built up their own military over the last few decades. And we've funded the majority of it mostly by buying alot of junk that ends up in the trash or a yard sale.

I heard one lady today comment that Americans aren't willing to have their children only have only a couple of dolls, etc., This is for me the height of the medias ignorance about the American public. After all we just had an election less than a year ago and already they expect us to just give up and let ourselves be tricked by their less than American spirit.

As I asked in the title of this post, are We the People Ready to make the sameksacrifices our parents and grandparents made to keep us free in WW II? I for one believe we are. However I also believe we all must now face what just may cost us for a bit, and if that means less toys, shoes, clothing, trips etc. then I know we can and will face this together as One Nation Under God, as God has always been faithful to the USA, and it's now our turn to remain faithful to God and the great gift he gave all of us.

The concept of God-granted rights is explicitly stated in the Declaration of Independence.

It asserts that individuals are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights". These rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, are seen as inherent and not bestowed by any government. The Declaration also highlights that governments are instituted to secure these rights and derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

God Bless You All Clair Van Steenwyk VansCrossroads.com

# **Shall Not Be Infringed**

#### News Media Accuracy By Alan Korwin



OK, everyone who thinks the news media is mostly accurate raise your hands. See? Very few hands go up.

Everyone who believes that the news media quickly and prominently corrects all the mistakes they make raise your hands. Same result. Why is that?

If you follow the news about your own industry or field of interest, on stories where you know what is actually going on, you are frequently horrified to see how wrong the news media gets it. When you are the person being quoted, you get to see what really goes on.

There are plenty of books and analyses of why this is so, I'm not going to pursue that here. Here you'll find accounts of truly egregious errors and distortions promoted by the news media as factual, and steadfastly uncorrected by an elite group who want you to believe they are wholesome purveyors of truth. Folks, that just ain't so. If it's in the news, these days, there's a good chance it's flat wrong.

Inaccuracy and distortion are the name of the game when it comes to gun issues. As a veteran of this field for more than twenty years, the amount of accurate reporting I've seen in any mainstream outlets is nearly zero. Requests for corrections, even on patently false statements, are basically ignored outright. I remember one time when the Associated Press reported (on the front page of my local paper, The Arizona Republic, and in papers nationwide) that no federal gun law had been passed in five years. Yet in that time federal gun law had grown by 25%! I know, because I publish the unabridged guide to federal gun laws, Gun Laws of America. AP refused to make a correction. Go figure. It's a national disgrace.

For those who ask me about some gun issue they saw covered in the "news," let me make a few observations that may help. You cannot judge any shooting event you read or hear about in the news, because you have NO facts -- no police report, no crime scene photos, no real witness testimony, no trial transcript, no jury instruction, nothing -- you are forming your opinions on what some reporter said. Reporters as a body hate guns, gun owners, gun rights, pro-rights gun laws -- and it shows in everything they do.

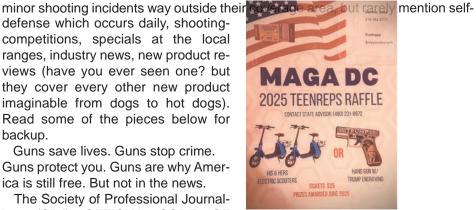
Experience has shown that their work in this field (and some would say in other fields) is typically erroneous, shallow, misunderstood, editorialized, plagued with errors of omission, confusing, self contradictory, poorly edited, and replete with bias, deliberate distortion, slant and spin, bigotry, agenda-driven ideology and anything they can use that will give you the wrong impression. I'm not making this up -- I've been analyzing such work for more than two decades. They'll cover even

defense which occurs daily, shootingcompetitions, specials at the local ranges, industry news, new product reviews (have you ever seen one? but they cover every other new product imaginable from dogs to hot dogs). Read some of the pieces below for backup.

Guns save lives. Guns stop crime. Guns protect you. Guns are why America is still free. But not in the news.

The Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) OFFICIAL CODE OF ETHICS is largely ignored by the news media, if their reporting is any measure.

IDEA - Copy and send them relevant parts of their own ethical code when writing to them about errors and bias you find.



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# AREA FOOD RESOURCES Online resources: azfoodhelp.org If you don't need assistance please donate or volunteer.

Kingman Area Food Bank 2930 E. Butler Ave 928-757-4165

Monday 8 - noon Last number given out at 11:45 am

Tuesday 8 - noon Last number given out at 11:45 am

Wednesday 8 - 11 Last number given out at 10:45 am (VETERANS ONLY)

Thursday 8 - 11 Last number given out at 10:45 am (SENIORS ONLY) Thursday 4 - 7 Last number given out at 6:45 pm

Friday 8 - noon Last number given out at 11:45 am

**St. John's United Methodist Church - Nana's Pantry** 1730 Kino Ave Every Friday from 9am - 12:00 noon

**Kingdom of God Church - King's Cupboard** 4435 N. Shadow Rd, Kingman 11:30 - 1pm Fridays contact Eric Ross (360) 201-0794

**Cornerstone Mission** 3049 Sycamore St 028-757-1535 ext 1001 Monday - Saturday 9 - 5

**Kingman Adventist Community Services** 3180 White Cliffs Rd 928-757-2614

Tuesday 8 - 11 am and the second and fourth Sunday 13:30 - 2:20 pm

**Central Christian Church** 519 Beale St 928-377-0709 The fourth Wednesday of each month 10am - noon

**Salvation Army Kingman** 543 A E. Andy Devine Av 928-718-2600 Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm closed major holidays

**Kingman First Southern Baptist** 3120 Hualapai Mountain Rd 928-753-3238 Tuesdays and Fridays from 9am - noon

Golden Valley Community Center 3341 Adobe Rd

Every Friday after the first Wednesday of the month from 9:30 am - 1pm, then alternating Fridays from 1pm - 4pm, calender for each month available

Chloride Town Hall 4990 Pay Roll Ave First Thursday of each month from 9 -10:30 am

**Dolan Springs** Community Council, 15195 N. Pierce Ferry Rd The third Thursday of each month at 10 am St. Vincent De Paul 15385 Pierce Ferry Rd starting at 8am

**Meadview** VFW parking lot 210 E. Meadview Bvld The second Tuesday of each month at 10 am

# Off The Grid

#### How to survive in a modern world

A recent power outage across three nations in Europe created a crisis that left grown men literally crying because they were stranded and couldn't charge their cell phones. Three elderly people in Galicia, Spain, died from suspected carbon monoxide poisoning after using generators to power medical equipment, which highlights the risks of improper generator use.

The avoidable blackout, apparently caused by over-dependence on so called "green" renewable energy, should be a wake up call for people in all developed nations that have become dependent on electricity and digital monetary transactions. London, England, also just suffered a massive power outage. A 2013 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) study, cited in multiple sources, concluded that disabling just nine key interconnection substations could cause a nationwide blackout in the US, lasting up to 18 months. Could you survive a week, or several, if the power went out?

Do you have a backup generator, and enough fuel on hand to power it? Remember that propane or diesel stores a lot better and longer than gasoline, something to consider when making this important purchase. If using gasoline, rotate your fuel frequently by using gas cans to top off your vehicle and put fresh gas in you cans. I say top off because it's best not to let the vehicle you need to drive fall below half a tank. Buying any type of fuel is impossible when electricity is down.

What about solar generators? The tech has come a long way, but a good system isn't cheap. Do your homework. How many watts of solar can it input, and what is the output? A decent set up should be able to power your refrigerator, especially if you shut it off at night and cyle it (run it every other hour) during the day. It will definitely keep your cell phone charged and make a pot of coffee, as well as charging compatible lights, flashlights, stove igniters and other handy things such as power packs for rechargeable power tools. It won't run an air conditioner, but it will run a box fan on the low setting. Just hope you don't have several cloudy days in a row.

Even if you have food, how will you cook it? Are your kitchen tools electric or do you have some of moms old manual ones? Do you have enough propane for the grill or do you plan on a campfire or "rocket stove"? Solar ovens are handy, and

you can improvise one with a pane of glass placed over a black metal cooking container. More on that topic in next month's issue.

What about cash on hand? That bank ATM or credit card is useless in a grid down situation.

As you go through your day, think about what you can do to be prepared-for this situation. Summer monsoons can cause the power to go out, and it often takes a day or two before crews can restore electricity.



# Home Cookin'

#### CROCK POT TATER TOT CASSEROLE

1 lb ground beef, browned

1 can of ROTEL diced tomatos and chilis, or similar

16 oz package of frozen tater tots

can of cream of chicken soup

1 small onion, chopped

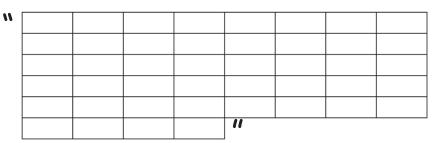
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese.

Add chopped onion and Rotel to browned beef. Pour into crock pot and mix in cream of chicken soup. Top with tater tots and cook on low for 2-3 hours. 30 minutes before serving, sprinkle cheese over the tater tots.

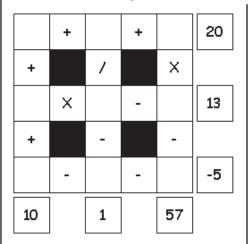
#### It's all fun and games in the end...

#### Unscramble the tiles to reveal this Thomas Jefferson quote

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Try to fill in the missing numbers.



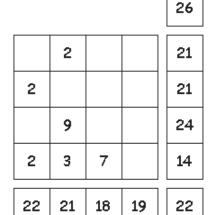
Use the numbers 1 through 9 to complete the equations.

Each number is only used once.

Each row is a math equation.

Each column is a math equation.

Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.



The missing numbers are whole numbers between 0 and 9.

The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right.

The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom.

The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right.

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