

Opinion

Gulf Breeze NEWS

Gulf Breeze News
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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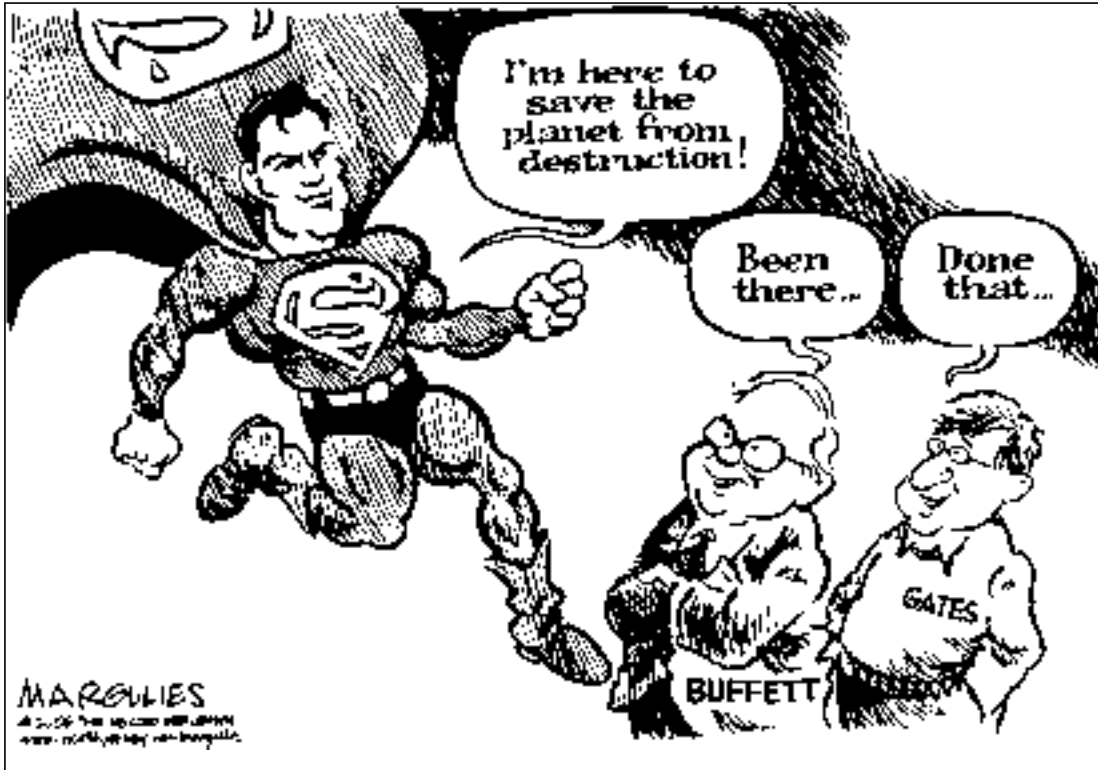
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Let's make the city a Sphinx

I created an online quiz for my friends recently, and one of the questions was "What is one thing that I have not seen in person?" The multiple-choice selections included Trump Tower, snow, The Great Sphinx of Egypt and Janet Reno. This got me thinking about my trip to Egypt in 2000 (now you know which one I have seen).

I learned recently that Egyptologists aren't 100 percent sure who built the Sphinx because all recorded information was either destroyed or never recorded. Some experts believe it predates the wheel and was built by the 4th Dynasty King, Khafre (2558-2532 BCE). Don't worry, you're not going to be quizzed.

The truth is, it's a shame that we don't know more about this "Wonder of the World." The Sphinx is revered as the icon of Egypt. Who would have thought 7,000 years later, it would remain a symbol of achievement and culture?

Each day, we are faced with our own decisions that may become an icon of achievement. Currently, the Gulf Breeze Emerging Leaders



From the Editor's Desk

B.J. Davis

(GBEL) are working diligently as a group of young area leaders, hoping to bridge the gap between established values and city progression.

We've been meeting for the past few months through a great program called "Lunch and Learn." At these luncheons, businesses leaders and educators graciously set aside time to inform the GBEL of current issues including everything from environment to public safety. These activities are nothing short of preening our young minds to understand the impact we can have on this city.

Luckily, we have support and guidance from the newly appointed leadership at the Gulf Breeze Area Chamber of Commerce, Meg Peltier. In her short tenure thus far, she has already shown that with the

proper motivation and tools for learning, such as GBEL, leaders, young and experienced, can leave lasting legacies, much like the Sphinx.

I implore those yearning to make an impact on the area to do so. For some, it's another name on a board or entry on a list of benign accomplishments. However for others, it is truly a way to make a difference.

This is an exciting time to be a part of a city with our redesign and implementation of stormwater utility. Just as in the history-making dynasties of Ancient Egypt where leadership is everything, let us not be deterred in striving to make our city a Sphinx of its own by following that leadership.

Oh, and I've never seen snow.

Is Florida at a moral crossroads?

Political campaigns have a great way of revealing deeper truths about a society, and Florida's gubernatorial election is no exception. After years of observing cultural trends, listening to stump speeches, considering candidate records, and speaking with Floridians across the state, it is clear that Florida is at a moral crossroads.

When Gov. Ronald Reagan left California to lead our nation, Californians faced a stark choice between two visions for their state's future. To put it simply, they chose a culture of instant gratification, promiscuity, and secularism over a culture of principle, family, and faith traditions. They made the wrong choice, and are paying for it with high rates of abortion, drug use, divorce, crime, and school dropouts.

Now Florida faces a similar alternative in choosing its next governor. Issues such as taxes, education, and insurance are important and should be debated vigorously. But politics is about more than who gets what. Nothing is more crucial to the destiny of a people than its cultural heritage. Social issues define us as a people and a governor sets the moral tone and climate for a state. Floridians cannot afford to make the mistake of California -- to vote without first considering the character, principles, and lifestyles of its leaders.

Tom Gallagher will stand up for the basic conservative values and institutions that Floridians cherish. Charlie Crist will not. Tom Gallagher will protect traditional marriage, defend life and work to end the scourge of abortion, and defend family values. His record, character, and personal testimony speak to these con-

VIEWPOINT
By John Stemberger
Former Florida GOP
Political Director

victions. Charlie Crist's principles arise out of political expediency.

Today, the most basic human institution of our society is under attack and needs defending. Marriage between one man and one woman is not merely a lifestyle choice. It is a sacred bond and an essential institution for raising children that is recognized and celebrated by every major religion and culture in history. The stakes are high for everyone when activist judges violate the will of voters and write gay marriage into law.

Tom Gallagher is an adamant supporter of traditional marriage and Florida's families, and he has the real life experience to back this up. He proudly supports a ban on gay marriage. Charlie Crist refuses to come clean about his position on the issue. He offers lip service in support of traditional marriage, and then flip flops under pressure from the left. Just last year Charlie Crist said that there was no need for a constitutional amendment to define marriage as the union between one man and one woman.

On the abortion issue, the difference between Tom Gallagher and Charlie Crist is just as clear. Tom Gallagher is 100% pro-life. He is a proud father who understands the sanctity of life and is willing to defend it. On this issue as well, Charlie Crist is a political opportunist who is unwilling to clearly reject a practice that has killed more than 45 million American unborn children.

On the Spot:



WHERE WE PUT PEOPLE "ON THE SPOT" TO ANSWER A QUESTION "ON THE SPOT."

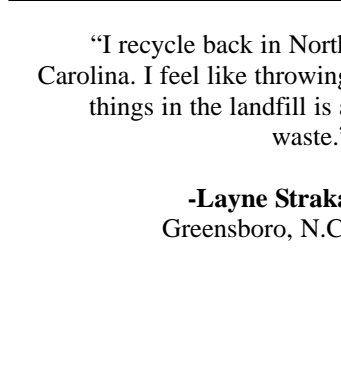
By Franklin Hayes

Do you recycle? Why or why not?



"Yes. It's helping the environment and it's become a normal procedure for us because we've been doing it for 15 years."

-Valerie Rossi
Gulf Breeze



"I recycle back in North Carolina. I feel like throwing things in the landfill is a waste."

-Layne Straka
Greensboro, N.C.



"I recycle. It's a waste not to recycle. We're a country that uses way too many resources and we have to cut down. The way to do that is to recycle as much as possible."

-Sandy Johanson
Gulf Breeze



"Partially. I recycle at my office but not at my home, mainly because of convenience. They picked it up at the curb where I'm from originally, and they don't do that in the county."

-Will Clause
Gulf Breeze



Don't toss your butts

Thank you to all the firefighters, neighbors, and passersby who came to help put out the fire in Plantation Hill in Gulf Breeze on June 30. We do appreciate it.

It is thought that the fire, which destroyed almost an acre of woodland, was caused by a cigarette thrown near lawn clippings that had been piled in the woods. Please think before tossing your cigarette butts; make sure they are totally out and then dispose of them properly. Please also dispose of yard waste properly as well.

Although there was not much property damage or human injury, several animals died and more lost their homes. And if it had not been for the above mentioned people putting out so quickly the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

rapidly spreading fire, it could have been a lot worse.

Thank you again to the Gulf Breeze, Midway, and Pensacola Beach volunteer and employed firefighters, the Gulf Coast Arbor Care owners who were just passing by and saw the smoke and came with their chain saws to help, the neighbors who called 911, neighbor Rob Butner who got up on our roof to hose it down, and all the others who came to assist. You're the best.

Ann Livingston
Gulf Breeze